

# *Oakville Horticultural Society*

The society aims to further the knowledge of Horticulture,  
stimulation an interest in gardening in our community's youth and encouraging the beautification of  
both public and private properties since 1957

December 2014

NEWSLETTER

## Welcome to the Annual General Meeting and Pot Luck Supper

It is that time again when we members gather in fellowship and conduct the business of the OHS. It is time to elect the Officers and Directors who will carry forward with the good work of the Society. Possibly one of those people could be YOU! All the positions are open to any member in good standing of the OHS

Positions include President: Secretary: Garden Tour: Library: Newsletter Editor: Program: Publicity: Set Up: Telephone Committee: Web Site:

### **Executives and Directors for 2015**

Each year all positions on the Executive, Director and Committee levels become available. All positions are considered open from President to Web Master.

New members bring new ideas and make our society more vibrant and more enjoyable for everyone. All executive committee members are elected at the December AGM. The usual commitment to the executive is two years, except for the past president whose commitment is one year. Nominations will be accepted for all positions on the executive and for all Directors positions. You can also volunteer to serve on any of our committees.

To submit your nomination or obtain further information please contact Veronica Heiderich or Stuart Gough.

Please give serious consideration to Joining the leadership of the OHS. You will have more fun than you thought possible and get a much greater appreciation for the work the Society does. Many hands make light work.



*Celebrating Horticulture in Oakville  
Since 1957*

## *And now Ladies and Gentlemen, the Fun Stuff*

On Dec the 8th we will also be celebrating our society with a Pot Luck Supper. Now is the time to show off your Culinary abilities by bringing your favourite dish to the evenings event. Be it a desert or main or appetiser Everyone should have been contacted by phone by now. If you have not E mail Elizabeth Thompson (E mail address in this newsletter) and let her know what you would like to bring Remember to bring your own plate/bowl, cup and cutlery Every year there are some of the most interesting things you have never tried before.



Just one quick request

If your delicacy contains any of the common allergens such as Wheat, Nuts or Dairy please take a moment and write it on a small card to place in front of your dish. Just in case

There will be tables set up around the outside of the room for you to place your contribution. The doors will be open at 6:30 You may want to be there right on time to preview all the wonderful dishes prepared so you can preplan your selection. I prefer to try a little bit of everything for the complete culinary experience. This is by far my favourite meeting of the year



**Mailing Address:**

Box 69605  
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**President:**

to be elected Dec 8th  
president.ohs@oakvillehort.org

**Membership:**

Elizabeth Thompson  
membership.ohs@oakvillehort.org

**Newsletter Editor:**

to be elected Dec 8th  
editor.ohs@oakvillehort.org

**Mailing:** Joan Paris

**Secretary:** to be elected Dec 8th

**Treasurer:** Florenda Tingle

**Website:** www.oakvillehort.org

**DECEMBER MEETING**

**MONDAY DECEMBER 8TH**

**AGM AND POT LUCK SUPPER**

**Location**

Knox Presbyterian, MacMillan Hall  
89 Dunn Street

**Hall SetUp (9:00am)**

John Raynor, Helen Stepenson,  
Rosanne Swalwell

**Clerking**

Mary Cameron  
Elizabeth Schleicher

**Hospitality**

Mary Cameron, Rosanne Swalwell, Florenda  
Tingle

**January Meeting:**

Monday, January 12, 2015



**Even as Winter approaches we  
welcome New Members.**

Today it is my pleasure to announce the arrival of  
Anne Merchant and Mary Rose  
as new members to our society. Please take a  
moment to welcome them when you meet them at  
out December meeting.

Sadly, however, we have lost one of our fellow  
Gardeners. With great sadness we have seen the  
passing of Betty Kinmond on Saturday, Nov 22.  
On behalf of all members of the Oakville  
Horticultural Society I would like to extend our  
Deepest Sympathy to David and her family.

**And now for something completely different**

Feeling a little bored already as winter tries to  
make up its mind what it will throw at us this  
season? Well relief is at hand. On page 52 of the  
Oakville Parks and Recreation Book you will find  
Introduction to Residential Landscape Design.  
For a mere \$151.87 you will learn all about how a  
professional would give your land a complete  
makeover. It covers a great deal of ground over  
the 8 weeks of the course. But you can spend as  
much or as little time as you like on the parts that  
do not interest you. You will learn about  
construction materials. How to measure depths  
and distance and where to measure from. If you  
happen to have a survey of your personal  
property so much the better. But if not you get to  
use one that is provided. That and about 25  
dollars worth of material will lead you on an  
interesting journey into how these things are  
done. Even if all you want to do is build a new  
bed this will be an interesting way to spend a  
Thursday night.

## In Other Exciting News

OHS January meeting  
January 12 2015  
Knox Presbyterian, MacMillan Hall  
89 Dunn Street Oakville

**February Meeting:**  
Monday, February 9, 2015

Stratford Garden Festival  
March 5 - 8, 2015  
Stratford Rotary Complex  
<http://www.stratfordgardenfestival.com/>

**March Meeting:**  
Monday, March 9, 2015

Greater Hamilton Home and Garden Show  
March 6-8, 2015  
Player's Paradise Sports Complex  
<http://www.thehomeshow.ca/sitepages/>

Canada Blooms  
"Let's Play"  
March 13 - 22, 2015  
Direct Energy Centre, CNE  
<http://canadablooms.com/>

OHA District 6 Annual General Meeting  
April 11th 2015  
Halton Region Building  
Bronte Rd

London Spring Home and Garden Show  
April 10 - 12, 2015  
Western Fair District Agriplex  
<http://londonhomeandgardenshow.com/>



## A motion of importance to be considered at the OHS Annual General Meeting on Dec 8th

### Motion to Revise Bylaws

- *Several years ago, the fiscal year end of our Society was changed to be October 31<sup>st</sup>. Based on recommendations from the OHA, we revised our bylaws to hold our AGM in November. However in practice it is not possible to have our financials properly audited and presented for a November General Meeting, which is typically less than two weeks after the year end. The executive of the OHS is considering putting forward the following change to the bylaws of the OHS*

WHEREAS, there is insufficient time to prepare an audited financial statement for a November AGM given the October 31<sup>st</sup> fiscal yearend.

RESOLVED, That the OHS Bylaws, Article 2 – Meetings, Section 2 – be amended to read:

The society shall hold its Annual Meeting during the month of **December** at which time:

- The Executive Committee shall be elected and installed
- The President shall present a report of the activities and the accomplishments of the Society during its preceding year
- The Treasurer shall present the audited financial statement for the preceding year, and the budget for the current year, for approval by the Membership.



## Where would we be without the volunteers?

I present one such person. She is not the only one of course but without her and other like her we would all be the poorer for it

"We only learn when we explore and we master when we share. We should pass on our often hard earned knowledge . The life of the Society is dependent on each member" Margaret Jefferies



**Volunteers having fun at the annual plant sale**

The above words were written by a very wise woman. (That is her on the left) She has dedicated her life to learning and to sharing her vast knowledge of plants and gardening.

Ms. Jeffries goes out of her way to be a part of both the Society and her Community She has been a intricate part of both the Anderson Parkette and the Society's bulb planting campaign

# We can all learn from Ms. Jeffries

If I may, I would like to tell you about the joys of volunteering.



First of all it is fun.

You get to work with a group of like minded people who are dedicated to keeping the club moving forward. Yes it can sometimes seem like the same people are always doing the same jobs. It may even be true, however they do those jobs because they need doing. There is nothing better for any club or Society than new volunteers. Be they on a Committee or become a Director or join as an Executive Member. They are important to the continued growth and sustainability of the Society.



How can you help? Easily. The phrase "Many hands make light work" has never been more true than when applied to a volunteer group. Many of you may think "Oh I could never be president or secretary or hold an important position " Well, actually, yes you could. For example the President does not have to do all the work. All he has to do is Run meetings, Contact people, Help others when they need it and make sure all the other volunteers get their work done. And he does that in a positive encouraging way. He is the Society's big brother/friend.

Now Stuart did a magnificent job as President. In fact, he was one of those who made darn sure things were not left undone. Those may seem like big shoes to fill now. However, if you are a manager or a problem solver, if you work well as part of a team, if you are someone who keeps her or his family under control and on schedule, if you have a day planner and keep yourself organised and work well with deadlines, then you could be presidential or other executive position material. And another secret about volunteering? The more you get involved the more fun you have. You work with like minded, can do people. You get a better feeling of belonging within your community. You start to recognise people in your town you never knew before. You get a strong feeling of accomplishment and the satisfaction of a job well done, So consider volunteering and you will see the OHS in a whole new way And that is a good thing.



happy smiling faces are common when you volunteer

# A year in review. The people and places of 2014

This year, after a difficult winter, the Oakville Horticultural Society came back with renewed enthusiasm. Once the Town had removed the dangerous damage to the Anderson Parkette the Society's volunteers went right to work and started making it as good as new. It remains a peaceful oasis in the downtown core.

The society celebrated some new winners of a variety of cups and awards. Perhaps you too should consider trying your hand at flower arranging. It is fun. Marie Decker (that is her on the right) and her fine staff of volunteers are happy to help a new person along and they do it with a smile.



The junior garden program was again a great success with both a Fun with Flowers event made possible by generous donations of flowers as well as the actual garden itself.

Of course there was the plant tour. A lot of effort went into securing some magnificent properties to view. Who knew just a block or two from the Main Street such tranquil gardens were being lovingly cared for. Such a pleasure to see.

The June weather did not cooperate but that did not dampen the enthusiasm for the annual plant sale. It has grown to the point that a new home may be necessary in 2015. Look for that on May the 16th next year

One thing to be very proud of is that the Society has planted over 4500 bulbs in the Town of Oakville.

These and so many other events took place over 2014. The OHS is a great organisation to be a part of. Now we did not do it alone. We have many people and organisations to thank for our continued success. But it remains the people of the Society that drive it forward their enthusiasm and commitment. Well Done.