



**ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL MEETING, July 18-20, 2014  
Nav Centre, Cornwall**

*"A River Runs By It"*

**FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2014**

Registration desk and vendors' area were open before the start of the convention for delegates to visit. An early bird draw was held prior to the start of today's session.

The meeting opened at 9:00 a.m. in the Bombardier Room of the Nav Centre, Cornwall.

**Convention Theme:** *"A River Runs By It"*

**Opening Ceremonies:**

The Parade of Colours and Executive of the Ontario Horticultural Association were piped in to the Bombardier Room. We opened the convention with O' Canada. Charles Freeman introduced James Graham, President of the OHA. James acknowledged and welcomed the Dignitaries, Executive, District Directors, and Past Presidents of the Ontario Horticultural Association. Patricia Stachon, District 1 Director welcomed everyone to Cornwall.

**OHA President's Welcome:** James Graham, OHA President welcomed everyone to Cornwall and provided the President's Welcome.

**Invocation:** Nancy Serrick provided invocation.

James introduced our special guests and dignitaries to the 108<sup>th</sup> Convention. Greetings were received from Helen Scutt - Agriculture Organization Specialist, Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs on behalf of Premier of Ontario Kathleen Wynne and MPP Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Greetings were brought by MPP Jim McDonnell, Robert Kilger, Mayor of Cornwall, Martha Walsh, Landscape Ontario, and Shawn LaPalm, Co-operators Insurance.

**In Memoriam:** Penny Stewart, District 3 District Director was introduced and read a beautiful poem for those that we have lost since the last convention. The names and many pictures were highlighted on the screen by district.

**Roll Call:** Kelly Taylor, OHA Secretary was introduced and called on each district director and district to be recognized.

**Minutes of the 2013 Convention:** The minutes of the 2013 OHA Convention were made available on the OHA gardenontario website and have been provided on everyone's table this year. OHA Secretary, Kelly Taylor noted that the minutes will not be read out loud this year and indicated that this may be something districts and societies could consider moving to.

**MOTION 14-28:** **That the amended OHA Convention Minutes of July 19-21, 2013 be approved as circulated. M/S: Kelly Taylor, District 10/Ian Robson, District 14. Carried.**

**Nominating Committee:** James Graham introduced Past President and Nominating Committee Chair, John Sellers who presented the report of the Nominating Committee and introduced the candidates as follows:

President	Jeff Blackadar
First Vice-President	Suzanne Hanna

No other nominations were put forth from the floor at this time. The elections will take place on Sunday, July 20, 2014

**Hasty Hort Humdinger #1:** Garry Brenner, District 19 Director

**Hasty Hort Humdinger #2:** Jane McDonald, District 7 Director

**Speaker:** Mr. Jim Brownell spoke on "History of Lost Villages".

**Announcements** – Pat noted that the flower show and competition rooms will be open for viewing from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., various bus trips will be departing promptly at 1 p.m. and various seminars would be available in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30 and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Pat reminded judges that they were only expected to attend one of the Judges Update Sessions on Friday and/or Saturday. Delegates were reminded of the evening banquet and to join in on the fun of the silent auction.

**Banquet Highlights:** Highlights for tonight's dinner include a Bistro in the Bombardier Room with trivia, silent auction and live entertainment.

### **SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2014**

Registration desk, vendors' area and competition rooms were open before the start of the convention for delegates to visit.

James Graham welcomed everyone back to the convention.

### **NOMINATIONS:**

John Sellers asked for any nominations from the floor. No nominations were put forth from the floor at this time.

**TREASURER'S 2013 FINANCIAL REPORT:** Sharon thanked the many people that assist with the OHA business through the year. Sharon Hill, Treasurer, presented the audited financial statements to the delegates, reviewed the Statement of Operations and Fund Balances. Sharon indicated that due to the statute of limitations for claims, we need to hold the STBI account until January 2016. We need to start thinking of how we will distribute it.

**Revenues from 2013:** Membership - \$88,113, Convention/AGM \$59,571, Insurance - \$49,946, Fundraising/Other - \$18,146, Donations - \$13,742, Gain on Investments - \$9,624, Supplies - \$7,518,

**Donations from 2013:** General - \$6,298, Societies - \$4,696, In Memoriam - \$1,380, Conserv & Enviro - \$700, Community Garden Grants - \$500, Website \$176.

**Expenses from 2013:** Convention - \$76,855, Insurance - \$51,628, Fundraising/Professional/Office - \$51,195, Meetings/Projects – \$44,871, Awards/Bursaries/Grants \$12,014, Education, Promotion, Publicity - \$7,112.

For 2013, the OHA realized a profit of \$2,985.

**MOTION 14-29:**           **That the Treasurer's Report be approved for 2014 as presented. M/S: Celia Roberts, District 6/Wayne Pfeffer, District 8. Carried.**

### **SECRETARY'S YEAR 2014 ACTIVITY REPORT**

Kelly Taylor provided hard copies of the Secretaries Report on each table.

The OHA membership numbers reported for 2013 were 284 societies with 28,958 members. The membership number has increased by 143 members from the 2012.

In lieu of reading the remainder of the Secretaries Report, Kelly discussed the Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation and provided a high-level overview of best practice for societies. The presentation slides and information will be uploaded to the OHA website for members to review.

**MOTION 14-30:**           **That we retain Takalo & Burt as our auditors (Chartered Accountants). M/S: Jeff Blackadar, District 2/, Sharon Nivins, District 8. Carried.**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** James noted the many anniversaries, tree plantings and AGM's he attended this year as president were wonderful. James noted that we have had excellent results with Cooperators Insurance

and are building a wonderful relationship. James emphasized the need to keep your meetings moving. Try simple, no cost things, like move the coffee to one side of the room and the snacks to another. This will encourage members to move about the room and will inevitably have members talking to one another. Shorten your business portion of the meeting by distributing the material in advance so it can simply be motioned and passed. These simple suggestions will help to make a more successful meeting.

#### **CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS – CHARLES FREEMAN:**

**Resolution 14-2:** Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association express appreciation to the Province of Ontario for the assistance provided to Horticultural Societies and to this Association by means of grants and by the continued review and implementation of policies aimed towards the promotion of interest and participation in horticulture. **Carried.**

**Resolution 14-3:** Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association convey to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, her Deputies and Staff, our thanks for the support, assistance and co-operation accorded this Association by Ministry Personnel. **Carried.**

**Resolution 14-4:** Be it resolved that: the Ontario Horticultural Association extend its thanks to the Director, Assistant Directors, Societies and members of District 1 who worked to plan and conduct the 2014 Convention, and to all others who had any part in contributing to its success. **Carried.**

**Motion 14-31:** That the resolution be amended to reflect the changes regarding “Be it resolved that sections 1 and 2 be amended from the following present wording. M/S: John Sellers, District 4/Ian Robson/District 14. **Carried.**

**Resolution 14-5:** Be it resolved that sections 1 and 2 of: By-Law 13.1 DISTRICT ORGANIZATION Be amended from the following Present Wording:

13.1 The Province shall be divided into Districts as follows:

1 - Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont

2 - Grenville, Lanark, Ottawa, Renfrew

*To read*

13.1 The Province shall be divided into Districts as follows:

1 - Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Stormont, Grenville and the eastern portion of the city of Ottawa composed of the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland.

2 - Lanark, Renfrew and the portion of the city of Ottawa excluding the former municipalities of Gloucester and Cumberland. **Carried.**

**Hasty Hort Humdinger #3 – Kathy Lindsay, District 2 Director**

**Hasty Hort Humdinger #4 – Rose Odell, District 4 Director**

**SPEAKER:** Carol Dunk, OHA Past President presented a talk on “A New Kind of Garden”.

**Announcements** – Pat noted that the flower show and competition rooms will be open for viewing from 1:00 – 4:30 p.m., various bus trips will be departing promptly at 1 p.m. and various seminars would be available in the afternoon from 1:30 – 2:30 and 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

#### **GALA DINNER & AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS:**

Highlights for tonight’s gala dinner included Key Note Speaker Larry Hodgson who presented on “The Crazy Things Gardeners Do”.

District 15 Director, Carole Spraggett, announced the following awards to honour OHA members for their contributions to their society and OHA.

**Community Improvement Award** presented to Anne Bossart, Parry Sound & District Horticultural Society, District 18. This award is a plaque provided by the Ontario Horticultural Association. It may be given to an

individual, organization or company that, in the estimation of the Awards Committee, has enhanced the beauty of the landscape and/or added to the quality of life of a community with a horticultural project.

**Youth Leader Award** presented to Dorothy Shier, Georgina-Brock Horticultural Society & Garden Club, District 17. This plaque is presented to a person who has been a Youth Club leader for a minimum of 5 years.

**Environmental Ward** presented to Goderich & District Horticultural Society, District 8. This award is a framed certificate and is given to an individual for notable contributions to the programs of the association or a society.

**Award of Merit** presented to Lillie Haworth, Grimsby Garden Club, District 9. This award is a framed certificate and is given to an individual for notable contributions to the programs of the Association or a Society. The Awards Committee may elect to present more than one Award of Merit in a given year.

**Honour Roll** presented to Anne Clark-Stewart, Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga, District 15. Nominations should be for members of a horticultural society with at least fifteen years of service to one or more societies, should have made a contribution of horticultural service to the community, district or association and should have given outstanding service at the society and district level.

**Silver Trillium/Fir Award** presented to Marie Hynna, Thunder Bay Horticultural Society, District 14 and the late Peter Phillips, Orangeville & District Horticultural Society, District 7. This award as designated in 2009 is given to the 2 most worthy candidates who have given outstanding service to horticultural societies and to the Ontario Horticultural Association.

**Silver Medal** presented to Eileen Hewitt, Grimsby Garden Club, District 9. The Ontario Horticultural Association Silver Medal, with its associated framed certificate, is the highest award of the Association. The award is given for outstanding work in the advancement of horticulture in accordance with the aims of the Association.

**OHA Tree Grants:** The following societies received tree grants, up to \$200, in 2014.

Bobcaygeon & District	Mount Albert Garden
Toronto Region Rhododendron	Belle River & District
Tavistock & Area	Madawaska Valley
Woodstock	Teeswater Culross
Amherstburg Fort Malden	Sarnia
Barrie Garden Club	Parry Sound & District
Assiginack	Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga
Minden & District	Kingsville
Kemptville	Elmvale & District
Russell and District	St. Joseph Island
Leamington	Lake Simcoe Shore

**OHA Special Project Grants:** To assist Societies in meeting the objectives of the Ontario Horticultural Association, the board will provide a Special Project Grant to a maximum of \$500.00 for each project.

Minden & District, District 4	Wingham & District, District 8
Russell & District, District 1	Sarnia, District 11

**Community Garden Grants:** The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) encourages its member societies to create or contribute to community gardens whether urban or rural. OHA will award a grant of \$500 to assist in the funding of a new community garden or the upgrading of an existing community garden.

St. Joseph's Island, District 13	Harriston & District, District 7
Spanish, District 13	Guelph Township, District 7
Swansea, District 15	Thornhill Garden, District 15

**OHA Membership Challenge Trophy:** Kathryn Lindsay, District 2 Director presented a trophy, donated by Fines Flowers of Ottawa. This is a trophy to be awarded to a District with the highest percentage membership

increase overall for the year. This year it was awarded to District 19. Gary Brenner, District 19 Director accepted the award on behalf of the District.

## **SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2014**

James Graham, OHA President welcomed everyone back to the convention.

### **FINAL NOMINATIONS:**

The slate of Officers as received by the Nominating Committee was presented on the first day of the Convention. Final calls were made for further nominations. Nominations were closed.

### **CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTION COMMITTEE CON'T...– CHARLES FREEMAN:**

**MOTION 14-32:** Be It Resolved that the wording of Resolution 14-1 be amended from:

'Be it Resolved that By-Law 5.8 **be changed to remove** "A Retiring District Director shall attend the Pre-Convention Board Meeting and the OHA Convention at the expense of the Association." '

to

'Be it Resolved that By-Law 5.8 **be amended to delete** "A Retiring District Director shall attend the Pre-Convention Board Meeting and the OHA Convention at the expense of the Association." M/S: Jeff Blackadar, District 2/Penny Stewart, District 3. Carried.

**Resolution 14-1:** By-Law 5.8 be amended to delete "A Retiring District Director shall attend the Pre-Convention Board Meeting and the OHA Convention at the expense of the Association." **Carried.**

**MOTION 14-33:** That members of the Executive/Officers and the Board of the Ontario Horticultural Association be absolved of all liabilities incurred through errors, inaccuracies or omissions in the performance of their duties during the past year. M/S: Jeff Blackadar, District 2/Ian Robson, District 14. Carried.

**THANK YOU TO RETIRING DIRECTORS:** James thanked the retiring directors for their years of service and dedication to the OHA. Thanks went out to Kees Stryland, District 12, and Sandy Rakestrow, District 17.

### **ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS – JOHN SELLERS/CHARLES FREEMAN:**

The slate of Officers as received by the Nominating Committee was presented on the first day of the Convention.

Suzanne Hanna was declared, by acclamation, to be the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for 2014-2015.

Jeff Blackadar was declared, by acclamation, to be the President for 2014-2015.

John Sellers performed the installation ceremony for Jeff and Suzanne.

**WELCOME TO NEW PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT:** Retiring President, James Graham, introduced the in-coming President, Jeff Blackadar.

**OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S SPEECH:** James noted that this has been a great year and felt that he has had the great privilege to visit many societies and meet many wonderful people.

**CHANGE OF OFFICE:** James presented Jeff with the OHA Chain of Office and introduced the new President, Jeff Blackadar, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Suzanne Hanna.

**PAST PRESIDENT'S AWARD:** Jeff presented James with the Past President's Pin.

**INCOMING PRESIDENTS SPEECH:** Jeff thanked everyone for their support and noted that he is looking forward to an exciting year as President of the Ontario Horticultural Association.

**Hasty Hort Humdinger #5 – Nancy Serrick, District 5 Director**

**Hasty Hort Humdinger #6 – Kathryn Lindsay, District 2 Director**

**SPEAKER:** Bruce Henbest, presented a wonderful talk on “Upper Canada Village”.

**CLOSING CEREMONIES – PATRICIA STACHON:** Pat thanked everyone for attending the convention and thanked everyone who displayed their photographs, floral, and art as well as thanked all those who participated in seminars and bus trips.

The association flag was given to District 6 Director, Donna Hussey.

**INVITATION TO 2015 OHA CONVENTION – DONNA HUSSEY:** Donna announced the 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention which will be held in Ancaster July 3-5, 2015 at Redeemer College, Ancaster, Ontario. Donna noted that there would be tours, and much more made available to the delegates.

**CLOSING CEREMONIES – JEFF BLACKADAR:** Jeff Blackadar, new OHA President, reviewed the events of the Convention and thanked the delegates for attending. He expressed appreciation to Patricia Stachon, and the many volunteers for making this convention a memorable event.

The 2014 Convention was declared closed.

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Signature of President