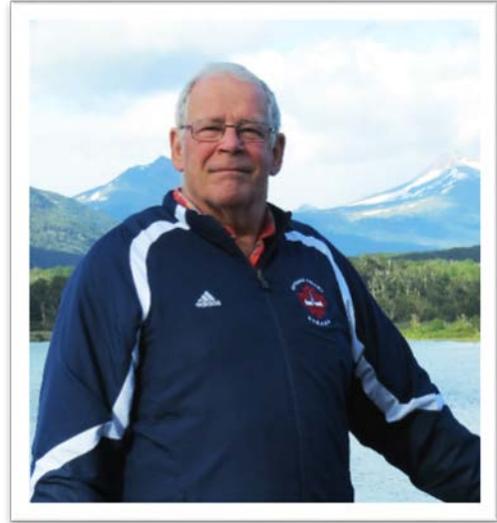


Charles Freeman for OHA Vice President

Good Day One and All,

I am Charles Freeman, Director, District #1. I have accepted the nomination submitted by Russell and District Horticultural Society for the position of Ontario Horticultural Association Vice President.

My wife, Louise, and I currently are enjoying our retirements: Louise after 45 years as a career Elementary School supply teacher and myself after 30 years as a Constable with the Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.). We take advantage of the opportunities when we can to visit our 2 sons and daughters-in-law and 4 grandchildren as well as visiting friends and travelling.



While working with the O.P.P. I was involved in many different rewarding endeavors outside of policing such as being a Cub/Scout leader for 11 years, chaperoning High School band exchanges for 10 years, running a summer softball league for 350 kids between 4 and 17 years of age for 11 years and being the treasurer and an organizer for the Ontario Special Olympics Hawkesbury Community for 12 years. I was also the Detachment representative for the O.P.P. Association for 20 years and the treasurer of the District #11 Branch for 2 years. I also started refereeing High School and Community basketball more than 35 years ago.

In retirement, I am still refereeing, sitting on the Constitution Committee and Discipline Committee for the Ontario Association of Basketball Officials, sitting as the treasurer for Seaway Valley Board of Approved Basketball Officials and helping Louise with her Ottawa Little Theater trips for 50 people 8 times a year. I now have the time, sometimes not enough, to look after our modest gardens, something I learned to enjoy when I met Louise, the florist's daughter, over 50 years ago.

I have been a member of the OHA for 12 years with the Vankleek Hill and District Horticultural Society. I have served as a Director with the Society, represented the Society as a member of the Organizing Committee for the 2014 Convention in Cornwall, been an Assistant District Director for 4 months and then the interim District Director for 8 months and, I am the current District Director having served 3 terms.

Horticulture is a wonderful science. Have fun with it, and above all, "enjoy just digging in the dirt!"

Sincerely,
Charles Freeman
Director, District #1