



## 2012 ANNUAL REPORTS FROM DISTRICT 15 SOCIETIES

### District 15 Statistics from 2012 Reports

**Membership: 2,216 including 256 new members**

**Youth members: 29**

**Community Projects: 48 including 3 new projects in 2012 as reported**

**Funds spent on Plantings: \$29,000 as reported**

**Convention 2012 attendance: 29**

**Volunteer Hours: 34,935.25**

**Scholarships/Grants \$1800.00 approx**

I feel that 2012 was a most successful year for all seventeen societies in our District. All have stories to tell and congratulate all for continued success in building communities with your ideas, time, conservationism and love for horticulture and the environment. The growth of youth programs has been tremendous in 2012. The District supported those endeavours with \$50 grants and the awarding of the Baker Trophy and prize money, thanks to the Baker fund. High lights are too many to talk about. The planting of the Bur Oak at the Humber College Pre- School Development Centre must be at the top of the list. The appreciation from the college and the wonderment on the childrens' faces were great encouragement that what we do is special. The feeling of success when we worked hard to save a society, not because they did not have members willing to be on the board but because they did not have sufficient members, was rewarding. The last minute canvassing worked and they were pleased to be able to continue their long history of meaningful contribution to their community.

Two very successful Presidents meetings, which we are working to call "Fall and Winter meetings", provided a great opportunity for discussion on how to make change in the communications between the OHA, the District and probably most importantly societies. Out with the speaker or presenter and in with the talking, talking and more talking was the message the District board heard

### **Bolton & District Horticultural Society**

**51**

BDHS completed its 17th year. They held 4 Board & 8 general meetings. Membership decreased & meeting attendance declined despite an excellent speaker program. Three plant sales were held at members' gardens. Tours of the hosts' gardens were included for a modest entry fee. The website won 2nd prize in the OHA website competition. Grants and donations raised \$24,000 from organizations and individuals to plant native trees. Including Girl Guides in the work crews was very successful. An additional \$7500 was raised to support 2 children's learning centres to be established in 2013 at community gardens in Palgrave & Bolton.

### **Brampton Horticultural Society**

**151**

The Annual Garden Tour of private gardens in their community was well attended; selecting gardens relatively close together generated positive feedback. They modified the pre-orders offered as part of the Annual Plant Sale to include 1/2 and mixed flats of annuals and mixed herb and veggie packs; these were very popular. They found that continuing to offer a floral design course encouraged new flower show participants and renewed the inspiration of regular participants. To address a declining membership, they started an annual "Bring a Friend" night at a General Meeting, which included a gift draw for the member & friend.

### **Caledon Horticultural Society**

**52**

Additional advertising is helping increase membership. Several local gardening specialist have shared their knowledge with them at monthly meetings, helping to keep expenses down. Their new joint venture with Grade 3's at Belfountain Public School was exciting for both volunteers and students, while bringing interaction from other specialist groups. They ran an informal garden tour and a couple of hands-on workshops. Members want more options, they're making suggestions and volunteering to make things happen.

### **Chinguacousy Garden Club**

**108**

This year they were very proud of the work Susan Morley has done in updating our website. She allowed speakers to use her power point projector for presentations. They had wonderful flower shows during monthly meetings as well as their annual show held at The Greenbriar Rec. Centre. In order to prepare for the fall show they had Gera Koster teach a class for vertical design. They enjoyed many good speakers this year, such as Doris and John Brownlie on African Violets - Queen of Houseplants. They worked with the residents of Tall Pines Nuring Home each month doing crafts, flower arranging, planting containers, starting seeds to name some of the activities. They help The Historic Bovaird House raise funds by doing flower arrangements for their Mother's Day Tea and Christmas Tea.

### **Cloverleaf Garden Club**

**200**

The Cloverleaf Junior Program has undergone an exciting growth spurt in 2012. First of all, for the first time in its history, the Ontario Horticultural Association's (OHA) District 15 awarded Cloverleaf with The William Baker Youth Award in recognition of its excellence in Youth Programming. In addition, Cloverleaf received a second place award for its Youth Scrapbook. Now in six schools in Mississauga, with another one on the way, students from ages 5 to 12 years have had the opportunity to experience both indoor and outdoor learning.

### **Credit Valley Horticultural Society**

**174**

They planted 600 tulip and other bulbs at a local retirement home, partnered with Riverwood Conservancy, for two gardening events plus a \$1000 donation. They conducted successful Plant Sale, Bus Tour and Garden Tour. \$1000 CVHS Scholarship awarded to a student in horticulture at University of Guelph. Member Lorraine Robbins awarded the Liisa Wolfram Excellence in Horticulture Trophy for most points in the Horticulture division of CVHS flower shows. Conducted four Litter-Not -Walks of a local park trail. Over 100 poinsettias donated to 2 local hospitals and a women's shelter at Xmas

### **Etobicoke Horticultural Society**

**216**

The Etobicoke Horticultural Society experienced a very exciting year. They hosted the 2012 District 15 AGM at the Weston Golf and Country Club. This was due to the hard work of the planning committee and all the EHS volunteers on the day of the AGM. EHS also served its membership and community through its many activities throughout the year: excellent meeting speakers, the Annual Plant sale, the school program where students created Christmas centrepieces for their families, supported senior's activities and the local food bank, maintained community gardens such as the Dorothy Ley Hospice and the Eatonville Library. Many of their members were recognized for their volunteer work and contributions to the community by our local MMP Donna Cansfield

### **Nobleton & King City Horticultural Society**

**73**

This year saw a new president at the head of our society. They began the year as hosts of the winter's president meeting. The garden tour this year was their best one yet! The properties were amazing, with the community really supporting our event. They made the second most profit in the history of our society. Their AGM was a fun filled evening. They were thrilled to have Carole and Ron Spraggett in attendance, They held seven well exhibited flower shows this year.

### **The Horticultural Societies of Parkdale and Toronto**

**259**

The on-going core programme of support for local community gardens has continued  
The annual Plant fair served approximately 250 – 300 community participants. The annual Garden Tour enjoyed nearly 200 visitors.  
The maintenance and expansion of their website continues. The newsletter is now available electronically and a substantial number of members have chosen to receive it in this form

### **Richmond Hill Garden and Horticultural Society**

**259**

They had twelve general Meetings, excellent guest speakers. Youth group meetings, maintain several community gardens, seven flower shows, numerous plantings, Front Garden Recognition, barrel and basket planting are a few of their events. Bus trip, Garden Tour, photography contest, Plant Sale and Hobby and Craft show add to the list of numerous activities.

### **Roselands Horticultural Society**

**61**

Roselands was lucky enough to have two of their own member's present talks on "The Care Of Garden Tools" and "Propagating Dahlias".  
Aside from the three annual flower shows, they had a "Pot Luck and Penny Auction" evening. Great fundraiser and social evening for members. Community involvement includes supplying 10 schools and the Mount Dennis Community Association with tulip bulbs. Roselands also participates in a very active children's program with the youth in the neighborhood. They plant flowers and Christmas arrangements for West Park Long Term Care Centre.

### **Schomberg Horticultural Society**

**62**

Held 7 regular meetings with flower shows, had their Annual Plant Sale for Mother's Day, and Garden Tour in June. Planted and maintained 6 community gardens including a new one at the play park. Participated at the Schomberg , gave the children a sunflower seed in a peat pot to take home. Sold waffles at the Main St. Christmas event in town.

### **Streetsville Horticultural Society**

**179**

During the past 12 months, they continued to maintain Rotary Park and Leslie Log House gardens; had excellent speakers, bake sale, silent auction and Christmas Workshop, friendly competitions, their most successful plant sale ever. They continue to work with Museums of Mississauga maintaining the established gardens at Leslie Log House. They represented and actively participated in the Environmental Stewardship of Lake Wabukayne Project. They had an excellent garden tour and members served as judges for the Tecumseh Townhouse Garden Competition and Streetscape Mississauga.

### **Swansea Horticultural Society**

**73**

2012 was a memorable year for their society. They celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, had representation at the OHA Convention, a great Bus trip to the Lavender fields. Pot Luck picnic, plant and bake sales and a Christmas Party were well attended. Our involvement with the CNE patio planting, community projects and our volunteer outreach gardening continues to grow our aim to encourage increased membership.

### **Thornhill Garden and Horticultural Society**

**150**

They participated in planting and maintaining 5 local community projects. Donated time and planted many plants, bulbs, and seeds at a local home for physically disabled gardeners. They held Spring and Fall plant sales for general public, participated in Thornhill Village Festival to promote education in horticultural activities. Local students earned community service credits for helping at society's activities. An award is given to a local non-member garden during the summer months.

### **Westway Horticultural Society**

**52**

In 2012, they had many volunteer events planned and well attended by our Westway Horticultural members. This included Successful Gardening, Canada Blooms and a community event at the Cloverdale Mall the CNE Heritage Court Garden Volunteers' booth. In the Toronto's Best in the West Garden Contest, Westway they had 18 members participate as judges this year.

We won third place in the Yearbook competition and an honourable mention for your Speaker flyer at the District 15's Annual General meeting. Members who won awards included at the CNE, a member won a third place in the patio door container competition.

They participated in maintaining gardens: at the Richview Public Library, upgraded a garden at Dixon Grove Public School. An Elderberry Tree was planted in tribute to a former deceased member of Westway Horticultural Society.

Fundraiser events included: garage sales (including plants sold); at a community event a Westway member gave instruction to build a bee house. They held a Christmas Party and a Food Drive for local food bank.

### **Woodbridge Garden and Horticultural Society**

**85**

A year at a glance...Major bridges of Woodbridge were graced by flowing flowers in summer and delightful boughs to celebrate Wintertime. Annual Garden Tour was another great success. Continue to maintain two community gardens – Armstrong Park and The Historic Wallace House. Celebrating Easter time where again bridges and community gardens were decorated with bunnies and Easter eggs. They participated in significant tree plantings in the community. Yearend celebrations and awards night was a very special event, recognizing the achievements of our membership.