



**Ontario Horticultural Association District 9
Annual General Meeting
Saturday, April 27th, 2024**



The meeting was called to order by Niagara Falls Garden Club President, Russell Boles, who welcomed everyone present.

O Canada was sung.

Greetings were brought from Niagara Falls Mayor Jim Diodati.

Greetings were also brought from D9 President, Leslie Daniels.

Leslie highlighted:

- an upcoming competition, redesigning the D9 logo. Information will be sent to all societies shortly and hopefully the new logo will be on the D9 new banner in time for the OHA Convention in July.
- D9 and all Societies need to update their Constitutions. Once the D9 Constitution is updated members of D9 will assist societies in updating their Constitutions.
- Susan Lusted, Assistant Director, proposed that, as per the vote taken at the Presidents Meeting on April 6th there will be a District 9 Society fee increase from 50c per person for each society to \$1 per person. This is based upon the Annual Report submitted for 2023. All present at April 6th approved the above motion.

Proposed Susan Lusted, Seconded Hazel Soady-Easton

THAT, as approved at the Presidents Meeting regarding the fee increase, this be voted on at the Spring AGM by all members present. This change will be in effect for the fiscal year 2024.

All Approved and MOTION CARRIED

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, April 22nd, 2023

The minutes were read by Maggie Corner.

MOTION: that the minutes from the Annual General Meeting of April 22nd, 2023 be approved.

Moved by Lisa deYoung and seconded by Tami Lyons The motion passed.

Roll Call of District Societies

Recording Secretary, Maggie Corner took the roll call

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Dunnville | 6 |
| Fort Erie | 0 |
| Grimsby | 1 |
| Lincoln | 3 |
| Niagara Falls | 25 |
| Niagara-on-the-Lake | 3 |
| Pelham | 14 |
| Port Colborne | 6 |
| Ridgeway & District | 3 |
| Garden City Gardeners | 7(formerly St. Catharines) |
| Smithville | 0 |
| Thorold | 8 |
| Welland | 10 |
| TOTAL | 86 |

Treasurer's Report

Alan Daniels, Treasurer, highlighted the financial report from 2023 which included the cost of the Fall Forum 2023. The 2023 Financial Report was audited by Patsy Ingoldsby and Bertha Power who are two members of the Thorold Garden Club.

Alan noted that the District 9 bank balance was very healthy and funds needed to be dispersed back to the Societies.

ACTION: Society Presidents were asked to check with their clubs to see how these funds could be used.

Alan noted that he is stepping down from the Treasurer's position. Tami Lyons will assume the position of Treasurer for District 9.

MOTION: That the Financial Report from 2023 be accepted as presented.

Moved by Betty Beck, seconded Tami Lyons.

CARRIED

Election and Installation of Executive

Leslie Daniels introduced Marian Heil, OHA Treasurer and member of Stoney Creek Garden Club.

Marian Heil brought greetings from Sharlene Desjardins, OHA President, and highlighted the ongoing work of the OHA.

- The OHA Scholarship will be for a family for \$1,000. More information to follow.
- Co-operators Insurance will give a \$20 gift card for a quote on car and home insurance. This expires on April 20th, 2024.
- The OHA Strategic Plan Review is ongoing.
- The 50/50 raffle is very successful, with the next draw in July.
- OHA is working with a lawyer on their Constitution and D9 will work with this Constitution to update the D9 Constitution. ONCA (Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporation Act), is in effect this year.
- The OHA Code of Conduct has been completed.
- The OHA Garden Journal on vegetables will be completed this year and the Journal on Flower Gardens will be available in 2025.
- Dubois Agrinovation https://duboisag.com/ca_fr/ is an on-line retail store. They sell many products including greenhouse products and there is a 10% discount for all garden club members. There is a code to use that can be found on the Garden Ontario website. The club will receive 2% of sales back to them and the OHA will also receive 2% on all sales.
- Waivers for photographs, the garden tour form and the incident reporting form have all been distributed. Please no children's faces.
- Respect and kindness are requested when members are dealing with OHA staff, especially the computer/technical staff.
- The 2024 OHA Convention will be held in Guelph, July 12-14th. Registration is now open at \$300 for 2.5 days.

The Nominating Committee put forward the following names

Installation of Officers by Marian Heil, OHA

| | |
|--|----------------|
| District 9 Director | Leslie Daniels |
| Assistant Director and Corresponding Secretary | Susan Lusted |
| Assistant Director | Lisa DeYoung |
| Assistant Director | Alan Daniels |
| Treasurer | Tami Lyons |
| Recording Secretary | Maggie Corner |

All members were elected and installed.

Speaker: Elizabeth Schleicher

Growing Beautiful Roses

Roses are one of the oldest flowers having been around for 35 million years.

Pink is the colour of the oldest species most common in northern hemisphere.

When planting roses planning is most important, i.e. space required, conditions, type of garden. Most roses need 4-6 hours sunlight depending on variety

Roses have pollen but produce no nectar.

When a rose is purchased “bare root”, with no soil, the bud union must be planted below the soil. The bottom of the bud union is usually a wild rose with the species rose grafted on. Growers are currently trying to get roses for the northern hemisphere to grow on their own root stock.

Roses like a neutral to slightly acidic soil PH7 or 8, they hate wet feet, with a sandy/loam soil being the best. Mycorrhizal fungi is good to put in the soil.

Once planted water well, 1” per week in the morning.

Cut plant back the first year in the early spring, keeping the centre of the plant open with 5 stems.

When fertilizing do not let the fertilizer touch the stem and do not feed your roses after July.

Insects: be vigilant and nip bugs early. Use 1 pt hand soap to 40 parts water.

Diseases: for black spot use liquid lime sulphur and keep the plants open.

for powdery mildew 1 part milk to 10 parts water, coat the foliage and repeat.

The different series of roses were highlighted, including the artist and the explorer series.

Russell thanked Elizabeth for an excellent and informative talk.

Awards and Presentations

The Doris Lighthouse Award, given for the largest percentage increase in membership.

Presented to the Port Colborne Garden Club with a 49% increase in 2023.

Flower and Photography Show Winners

All the winners were highlighted and prizes given out. Congratulations to winners. The list is attached to these minutes.

Lisa DeYoung updated the group on all gardening events coming up in the Region. Please send your event/s to Lisa for inclusion.

Speaker: Jessica Solanki, Viticulturist

From Vine to Wine

The Solanki family produce Liebling Wines and they are responsible and sustainable growers.

The family farms approximately 1000 acres in Niagara for the production of wines.

Plants take 5 years to reach full maturity and all vines are trellised.

December – April – the vines are dormant and pruned

May – September – the buds break, leaf growth, flowering, fruit set and harvest

When harvesting in the Fall – the fruit is hand picked for sparkling wine. Machine picking removes everything from the grapes.

Harvest in the Winter – Icewine, the fruit is netted and the grapes are picked by machine at night.

Production and Fermentation – The harvest is crushed and pressed, fermented with yeast, blended, stabilized, aged and bottled.

The wine then matures.

The by product from the crushing and pressing is all used as compost and fertilizer.

Pests: the spotted Lantern Fly is the most recent pest with no none predators. The industry is working on a spray.

The meeting ended with the drawing of the Garden Clubs door prizes, the penny sale raffle and the table centres were given away.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Maggie Corner