

Omemeë & District Horticultural Society



President: Heather Grassie
705-328-0342
hgrassie@cogeco.ca

Newsletter

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<http://www.omemeeblooms.ca>
omemeë@gardenontario.com



Secretary: Barb Morrison
705-745-8738
lakehouse@eastlink.ca

Greetings

From

the Pres



It's a

Celebration!

Happy 75th Anniversary !

After months of planning we have finally arrived at the beginning of a year of celebration.

-1939 - 75 years ago! What was that world like? What would our forefathers think of our world now?

Did you know that in 1939

- a gallon of gas cost 10 cents
- an average new car cost \$700
- Bobby Hull, & Tina Turner were born
- Judy Garland sang her hit - 'Over the Rainbow'
- Gone With the Wind Premiered
- World War II broke out in Sept of 39
- food, clothing and gas were all rationed

The world has changed. Gardening styles have changed. But the common denominator continues to be Horticulture. We all love to see things grow into beautiful plants or healthy food for our tables. In 1939, the members wanted to learn more while at the same time beautifying the neighbourhood and their homes. That has not changed in 75 years!

However, I think we have a lot more fun doing it now!



Welcome and Happy New Year to all Omemeë Horticultural members and friends.

The winter wonderland now covering our world like a blanket of sparkling *jewels* reminds us of the 75th Anniversary, our *Diamond Jubilee* that we are starting to celebrate. We have many *gems* in store for you to discover so please read your newsletters and e-mails regularly. Special meetings, tours, workshops, plant sales, competitions, fund raisers, dedications and our first public garden tour will provide opportunities for all our members to become involved. To make all our plans and activities a success we are counting on our enthusiastic members to volunteer their time, talent and energy. Your hardworking Executive has been busy preparing the 2014 yearbook, booking speakers for the new year, writing reports for the OHA, as well as the completing the many end of the year tasks.

Despite the cold and snowy weather we promise to warmly welcome all of you to our first meeting on Sat. Feb. 15th for a pot luck luncheon and guest speaker. Following (Feb. 2) Ground Hog Day there will be ONLY 46 sleeps until (Mar. 20) the First Day of Spring!

President Heather

So let's celebrate 75 successful years while thanking those who worked before us, to lay such a sound foundation. **Let the Celebration Begin!!!**



Meanwhile...

Back to November

Our November meeting was a busy evening, packed full of business, announcements and lots of laughter.

Annual General Meeting: Since this was our AGM, we took care of the official business first. Minutes and Financial Reports were approved. Dianne Westlake, our Assistant Director carried out the election and the induction of the officers for 2014. These are listed opposite. All reports from the 2013 Board were previously emailed to the members with hard copies available if desired.

Photography Show: Aron Muscutt was presented with the trophy for the most points in the photo competitions for the past 12 months. (See photo) This night's competition began a new year of points. Check out your new year book and start taking photos. The classes are listed for 2014 and 2015. There are also some special categories related to our 75th. Get those cameras dusted off and get shooting! Let's give Aron a run for his money! Congratulations to AnnaMarie O'Neill for winning "Best Picture in Show". Well done!

Holiday Decor Design: Winners of this competition were 1st Mary Read, 2nd Donna Hunter and 3rd Diane Webber. All of the entries were amazing!

Door Prize Winners: Norma Evans won the Lug and Mug prize, and Mary Read won the Plant of the Month. Congratulations the 6 lucky winners of the door prizes.

Christmas Designs for Your Home: We ended the evening by being wowed with some amazing ideas from the very creative Toni Sinclair. No one wanted her to stop! It was a very fitting ending to a wonderful 2013 year of Horticulture and fun.



Toni Sinclair
(left)

Mary's
1st
place
design



Your Elected Officers for 2014:

President: Heather Grassie

Past President: Carol Mitchell

Vice President (1) Joanne Windrem

Vice President (2) Diane Webber

Directors: 2 years

Germaine Kleiss

Sue Lajeunesse

Barbara Muscutt

Gaynor McMullen

Jen Routledge

Directors: 1 year

Donna Hunter

Christa Marton

Mary Read

Chris Miller

Suzanne Seryck

Youth Leader: Linda Jenkins

Honorary Directors (4): Brigitte Losberg,
Ruth Arndt, Pat Burritt, Norma Evans

Archivist: Carol Mitchell

Appointments:

Secretary: Barb Morrison

Treasurer: Darlene Hunter

Appointed Auditors:

Jill Cockerel and Suzanne Castell



2014 Executive and Directors (above)



Aron receiving the Photography Trophy. Ooops we forgot the trophy- SO substitute a tea pot - no problem!!!



.... and then came

The Santa Claus Parade! Ho! Ho! Ho!

The last week of November saw 16 members meet at the Hunters' workshop to decorate our 28ft. float for the Santa Claus parade. The theme was "A Garden Room". A resin couch and 2 armchairs, 5 small artificial trees, (thank you Joanne), 1 large Xmas tree, a red door with wreath, a fire pit (thank you Barb Muscutt), and an apron made to look like



icicles (thank you Barb Morrison, Marie and Ron) was hung. The float was then decorated.

On the day of the parade Ken Hunter drove the truck pulling our beautiful float and a record 20 members walked with the float. Audrey Wristen, a senior member was lifted onto the float by 3 handsome firefighters! I think we made her day because she kissed each of them! 5 children sat on the furniture with sticks with marshmallows on the end pretending to roast them on the fire pit. Although we did not win this year we were the only float with a photograph in the Lindsay This Week. It was promoting our 75th anniversary in 2014. I call that a success.



8 members helped to dismantle and store the props in no time flat. Thanks to all involved.

Gaynor McMullen (Parade Float Chair)



Christmas Fun!

Our annual Christmas get together was held at Donna & Ron Hunters' on Dec 8th. The group enjoyed the usual laughter and of course great SNACKS, but there was a unique highlight this year! We were treated to a program of great music which began and ended with Christmas carols. A huge thanks to Barb and Al for this special addition!



...and on to our 75th year ...

Our February Meeting

To start off our new year, our Feb meeting will be held on Sat Feb 15th **-instead of** the Monday evening. It will be a lunchtime pot luck, followed by a long time favourite guest speaker- Cathy Dueck : "Homes for the Homeless: Helping our Birds and our Bees" Cathy will have hands on examples with concrete ideas of things we can make ourselves - as well as the usual wonderful photos. Don't forget to renew your 2014 membership and purchase a daylily. :)

So, don't miss this meeting! Please bring your cutlery, plates and mug along with a generous portion of your favourite dish. It is a hot and cold lunch -so salads, hot dishes, sandwiches etc are suggestions to accompany the usual fantastic desserts that arrive!! Tea, coffee & water are provided.

Time: Social @ 12 and eat at 12:30

Place: Christ Church Anglican -S side of Hwy 7, E of the bridge

To honour the holiday, try to wear red, white or pink.



From our Green Team....

Thank you Barb, Ron & Aron!!!

As a group we are very proud of our accomplishments and our hard working volunteers. Our group was very fortunate to have Aron, Ron and Barb Muscutt as leaders and hard working members of our evening Green Team. Aron's gardening expertise and leadership has given the village, beautiful gardens that we can all be proud of. The Muscutt's have organized the evening garden sessions for a number of years and the time has come for them to step back and take a well deserved rest from the village gardens to concentrate on their own beautiful property. They will be missed. Thank you Aron for your expertise and Barb and Ron for your added assistance! This committee will miss you.

A Message from our Green Team

This year is the 75th Anniversary of the Omeme and District Horticultural Society. There are many exciting activities planned in the village and it is especially important that we honor our commitment to community beautification by having this year's gardens looking their best. Several of our planned activities should see an influx of visitors to our beautiful village and we want to leave a positive impression of community pride and beautiful gardens. It may seem a little early to start thinking gardening when winter still has us in its grip but perhaps this would be a great time to think of flowers, sunshine and fun. *Read on.....*

Help Needed!!!

The ODHS garden committee has the task of planting and maintaining the gardens in the village. The numbers of volunteers helping with our weekly garden sessions has been dwindling. We need everyone's help to keep our gardens looking beautiful! We realize that our members have busy lives **BUT if every member could sign up for ONE evening (or morning) gardening session, we can do it!!!** If you are perhaps intimidated by lack of gardening experience, don't be. We are a fun loving friendly group who love to help each other; share ideas and techniques; and generally have fun. This is a group you will want to belong to. The sign up sheets for the garden committee will be available at the April meeting and I would like everyone to please consider their schedules and agree to sign up for **one** of the time slots. You will be very much welcomed!!!
PS If you can spare 2 evenings or mornings ... we won't turn you down! LOL

Joanne Windrem, Garden Committee Chairperson



Introducing...

Our first public garden tour of Omeme gardens



Saturday July 5th, 2014

10a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tickets: \$20.00 including a light lunch

Showcasing 14 spectacular gardens in Omeme and surrounding district. Many types of gardens will be featured including sun and shade gardens, large estate gardens, smaller retirement gardens, & gardens by the lake. You will see ponds, water features, many unusual plants, garden art and unique landscape features. Garden art and music will be featured in some gardens.

For tickets: Contact Donna Hunter: 705-799-5685
dphunter@sympatico.ca



Our Junior Garden Club

The Omeme and District Horticultural Society (O.D.H.S.) sponsors a Junior Garden Club, which provides an opportunity for children to learn about taking care of the earth by planting, growing and caring for their own garden patch. Our juniors will kick off their gardening season on Sat May 10th from 1:30 to 3:30 at the Coronation Hall. This involves a session of crafts and activities and getting seeds and plants to take home. The yearly membership fee is \$5.00 per child or \$15.00 for the family, which includes the parents. Registration forms will be in local school offices the last week of March with the final date to register on May 1, 2014. Pre-registration is required.

Please pass this information on to any potential junior members via parents and grandparents. Contact Heather Grassie at 705-328-0342 or e-mail hgrassie@cogeco.ca

Our Anniversary Yearbook Keepsake

A huge thank you to Diane Webber who has produced another picturesque and informative yearbook. In honour of our 75th, we sold advertising to supportive individuals and businesses in order to provide a more colourful edition. Please take note of these businesses and please support them; tell them you saw their ad; and say "thank you!" Also, thank you to MP Media and the Castell family for helping with the cover and getting our books printed within our budget! This is indeed a 75th Anniversary Keepsake!

Book Mark/Rack Cards

Our 2014 rack cards will be available at our February Pot Luck meeting. Please take one for yourself to post on your fridge and several more to keep in your purse or glove compartment to distribute to your friends and neighbours! It is by your word of mouth that we will gain the most new members and future friends! If you know of any businesses that would take a few for display, please take some for them as well.

Our Spring Plant Sale

Our plant sale is approaching faster than we might believe (as we continue to look out onto our winter wonderland of drifts and huge snow piles!) There is no better way to cheer up than to get your hands in that dirt by starting some slips or seedlings. When you do - make sure you plant a few extra for our plant sale.

Other things you can do to end the winter blahs....

- look through your photos of last year's gardens while taking note of which plants look overcrowded and in need of dividing this spring. Make a list so that you will be ready to dig!
- plan a new garden and make a list of what you would like to purchase at our sale
- Check out those seed catalogues. They are like a breath of spring air

Have faith! Spring will arrive **and won't we be grateful this year!** I don't know about you, but I have made myself a promise to **never complain, not even once, about how hot it is this coming summer!!!!**

Out and About.....

Spring into the Garden Speaker Series:

Once again the Northumberland Big Brothers and Big Sisters are hosting 4 wonderful speakers. This year's line up includes: Mar 6 - Kevin & Olga Elchuk (Everything you wanted to know about Hostas: Mar 13 -Darren Heimbecker (Building Canada's Whistling Garden: Mar 20-Lana Taylor Mills (Passion for Peonies): Mar 27 Paul Zammit (Elements of Great Gardens) Cost: \$40 for all 4 sessions. There is already one car load from Omemee signed up. We carpool and have a wonderful month getting revved up for Spring! Contact Heather if you would like to join us.

Master Gardeners' Garden Tour:

To celebrate their 25th Anniversary, Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners will present a Garden Tour on June 21, 2014.

Ten gardens will be featured within the city of Peterborough. More detailed information can be found at <http://peterboroughgardens.ca/index.html> (then click on the link)

Master Gardeners' Introduction to Gardening Course:

Check out the above site for information. These sessions cover a wide range of topics for all levels of gardeners. Although the course has already started, you can still catch some of the future sessions.

"Save the Date" Anniversary Highlights

These dates were listed in your Nov newsletter, but here they are again, just in case you need to review them. :)

Your Anniversary Committee has many exciting things planned for 2014. Details will follow but you might want to use this as a **SAVE THIS DATE.**

- **Sat Feb. 15th** - Our first meeting to kick off our 75th year will be on a Saturday Afternoon with a pot luck at noon and a dynamite speaker. Cathy Dueck is speaking on the topic: Homes for the Homeless: Protecting our Birds and Bees.
- **May 19th** - our spring flower show & Silent Auction
- **June 16th** -on site visit to Dawn Golloher's 'Garden's Plus' (more shopping! Yea!)
- **Sat June 28th** - Cake Cutting & dedication of our new garden art projects (following the Pancake Breakfast during Pioneer Days)
- **Sat July 5th** - **Omeme Blooms Garden Tour** - 8 to 10 gardens (still in the works) - Cost \$20 (includes a light lunch) Tickets will be on sale soon. Don't miss out! Spread the word to your friends! We will also need lots of volunteers to make this a success! We are counting on you to help!
- **Oct 20th** - our Fall Pot Luck with Awards -Speaker: 2013-14 OHA President James Graham
- **Nov 17th** - our AGM, Photo Show & lots more
- **Little Anniversary extras** - more pages in our yearbook and also the addition of some colour pages (thanks to the advertising from our local businesses)
- Garden Art - the obelisk in the LCBO bed plus one more surprise soon to come!

So don't miss out on the fun!! See you at the Pot Luck on Saturday, noon, at the Anglican Church on Hwy 7, south side, west of the bridge. Fingers crossed that the snowbanks get removed this week which should make parking easier!

