



**Ontario Horticultural Association District 9
Annual General Meeting
Saturday, April 5th, 2025**



The meeting was called to order by Lisa DeYoung, Acting D9 President, who welcomed everyone. O Canada was sung and the Land Acknowledgement was read.

Greetings were brought from Fort Erie by Councillor Darren Flagg. Darren Flagg noted that the Town of Fort Erie is lowering their use of insecticides and pesticides. They are establishing bee hives in the town and have an agreed on Tree Preservation Plan.

Greetings were also brought from Fort Erie Horticultural Society President, Laurie McDowell. Laurie noted that Fort Erie Club agreed to host in November 2024.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, April 27th, 2024

The minutes were read by Maggie Corner.

MOTION: that the minutes from the Annual General Meeting of April 27th, 2024 be approved.

Moved by Susan Lusted and seconded by Linda Olsson. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Tami Lyons, District 9 Treasurer reported on the revenue and expenses for District 9 for the 2024 year, as attached.

MOTION: that the Treasurer's report for 2024 be approved.

Moved by Ruth Vold Markle and seconded by Shannon Boles

CARRIED

MOTION: that the Financial Reviewed Report and the Reviewer's Report by approved.

Moved by Ruth Vold Markle and seconded by Connie Perry

CARRIED

MOTION: that Dwayne Romaniuk and Lori Muller be appointed to be the financial reviewers for 2025 be approved.

Moved by Susan Lusted and seconded by Deena Errampalli

CARRIED

Old/New Business – Lisa DeYoung

- The new logo was shared and the winner announced - Tami Lyons from the Thorold Garden Club. Tami and the Club will each receive \$100 from District 9.
The winner was chosen by someone from outside District 9, but within the OHA.
- District 9 is continuing to work on their Constitution.
- Community Engagement Grant from District 9 for 2024. The following clubs have received \$200, Pelham, Lincoln and Garden City Gardeners. The applications 2025 are on the website.
- Annual Reports: From the Clubs/Societies submitted OMAFA and OHA reports the District membership has increased from 1307 to 1374 members. The District put forward a total of

22,238 volunteer hours.

- Dunnville, Port Colborne and Thorold all celebrated their 95th year in 2024. Grimsby celebrated 60 years.
- Vegetable Gardening Journals are available at \$20
- The District 9 table at the Niagara Home and Garden Show from April 11 – 13th, 2025 still needs some volunteers.
- Dubois Agrinovation was highlighted. Once the club is registered, members can make purchases with a 10% reduction. The Club and the OHA both get 2% of the purchase.
- Purchases at Rice Road Nurseries on May 13th will receive a 20% reduction.
- Earth Day is April 25th. The OHA is holding a Webinar on that day
- There is no colour of the year, Communities in Bloom went with a theme “Edible Gardens”.
- OHA website is open for the Convention, this year online. Clubs have received information on their number of votes.
- Through Regulation 16 the Agricultural and ONCA Act clubs/societies achieving 100 years will be given a grant of \$1,500. The requirement is that there is a commemorative structure.
- The OHA website lists all the Awards and Grants available.
- Cooperators Insurance has a FAQ section for clubs/societies. The application for events must be done on-line. If children are to be present the club/society must talk with Co-operators. There is an OHA grant for police checks.
- Fall Forum will be held in Dunnville, September 27th, topic: Water in the River.
- Trillium Magazine, editor Laura Masterson. Issues every quarter.

Roll Call of District Societies

Recording Secretary, Maggie Corner took the roll call

Dunnville	5
Fort Erie	10
Grimsby	2
Lincoln	0
Niagara Falls	9
Niagara-on-the-Lake	0
Pelham	17
Port Colborne	7
Ridgeway & District	3
Garden City Gardeners	1 (formerly St. Catharines)
Smithville	0
Thorold	7
Welland	7
TOTAL	68

Nominations Report

Susan Lusted provided the Nominations Report. There are two vacancies on the District 9 Board and a request to members was made to join the Board.

There were no volunteers.

MOTION: that the Nominating Committee Report be approved.

Moved by Susan Lusted and seconded by Deena Errampalli.

CARRIED

Information from the OHA

Vicky Culbert, 1st Vice President brought greetings from the OHA President.

- the OHA AGM in July.
- The rewards on being on the District Board.
- Family Scholarships for \$1000.00 are still available
- the OHA AGM will be held in Oshawa in 2026.
- There is a new position of Resolutions Chair at the OHA filled by Charles Freeman.

Installation of Officers by Vicky Culbert, 1st Vice-President, OHA

District 9 Director Lisa DeYoung

Assistant Director Susan Lusted

Assistant Director

Assistant Director

Treasurer Tami Lyons

Secretary Maggie Corner

All members were elected and installed.

The raffle prizes were drawn.

Speaker: Adam Sneek, The Mill, Ridgeway

Spring Flowers

Established in 2007.

Grow 85-90% of inventory

Employ local people

Started a Maker Market for local craftspeople in April

Uses a seeding soil, rather than potting soil.

Peat moss is sustainable in Canada

Designing a hanging basket - bigger container

- sun mix – white Bacopa, Red Verbena, Black Petunia and Yellow Bidens
- shade mix – New Guinea Impatiens, White Bacopa, Creeping Jenny, Blue Moon Torenia.
- Every two weeks pinch a few leggy plants, water and fertilize.
- Start with healthiest plants
 - Good quality soil, good size container and drainage
 - proper temperature, airflow and sun
 - water soil – not plant
 - Fertilize regularly
 - pinch tips to encourage more branching and flowers

For indoor plants make sure there is proper drainage – put the pot in a pot.

Cool Wave pansies will re-seed every year.

Use Hydrogen Peroxide in water, will give extra oxygen to the water for the plants.

Lisa thanked Adam for his presentation and for the donation to the raffle table.

The attendees enjoyed a lovely lunch and checked out the flower and photography show.. Some of the draws took place. Tickets were also sold for the stained glass “Trillium”, generously donated by Lyons Stained Glass and Tami Lyons.

Awards and Presentations

The Doris Lightheart Award, given for the largest percentage increase in membership, was presented to the Thorold Garden Club.

The District Award was presented to Kriena Thielking from the Fort Erie Horticultural Society.

Flower and Photography Show Winners

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

Speaker: Adam Kozoil, Earthgen, Wainfleet Native Trees and Air Pruning

Air Pruning stops roots from going down and further pruning will stop roots from lateral growth. When planting trees never cover the root collar with anything including mulch.

Adam highlighted several native trees:

Cherry Birch – a rare tree in Canada, found near Port Dalhousie in the Carolinian area. Has a smooth black bark, a strong wintergreen smell and produces an edible syrup.

The following trees were also highlighted:

Canada Plum: a rare 8-10ft tree with flowers,

White Pine and Jack Pine,

Black Spruce – likes wet feet

Swamp White Oak – does well in both water and drought,

Freeman Red Maple and

American Sweet Chestnut, once a very dominant tree, but wiped out with a blight.

Some trees, pines, birches, oaks, chestnuts etc. can be inoculated with mycelium which will produce truffles.

The truffles have different flavours which does not come from the use of different trees.

Dogs and pigs are trained to find truffles without damaging the trees.

Soil has to be specific – high ph, sandy/loamy soil is best. The truffles are found at approximately one foot depth

Lisa thanked Adam for his very informative talk and his donation of a Cherry Birch to the raffle table.

The meeting ended with the raffle of the Garden Clubs/Societies door prizes and the table centres.

Lisa DeYoung thanked the Fort Erie Horticultural Society for hosting and doing a great job. Lisa distributed a little Easter Egg to all attendees as a special thank you. Lisa also distributed envelopes for each Society.

Lisa noted that the Fall Forum will be held on Saturday, September 27th, 2025 and will be hosted by the Dunnville Horticultural Society.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Maggie Corner

District 9 Spring Competition Results April 5th, 2025

Class 1 Spring Blossoms	
Place	Name
1 st	Deena Errampalli
2 nd	Rose Scales
3 rd	Russ Boles
HM	Kriena Thielking
Class 2 Peace Bridge	
Place	Name
1 st	Rose Scales
2 nd	Barb Blythin
3 rd	Deena Errampalli
HM	Russ Boles
Class 3 Peace Talks	
Place	Name
1 st	Rose Scales
2 nd	Russ Boles
3 rd	Kriena Thielking
HM	Barb Blythin
Class 4 Niagara River Water Viewing Design	
Place	Name
1 st	Barb Blythin
2 nd	Rose Scales
3 rd	Russ Boles
HM	
Class 5 Old Fort Erie Arrangement in a Tea Cup	
Place	Name
1 st	Maggie Corner
2 nd	Barb Blythin
3 rd	Rose Scales
Class 6 Horticulture Tulip	
Place	Name
1 st	Barb Blythin
2 nd	Tami Lyons
HM	
Class 7 Horticulture Narcissus	
Place	Name
1 st	Tami Lyons
2 nd	Russ Boles
3 rd	Barb Blythin
HM	Barb Blythin /Kriena Thielking
Class 8 A Horticulture Plant Grown For Foliage	
Place	Name
1 st	Marlene Sobie Stepien
2 nd	Barb Blythin
3 rd	Russ Boles

HM	April Mann
Class 8B Horticulture Plant Grown For Foliage	
Place	Name
1 st	Shannon Boles
2 nd	Deena Errampalli
3 rd	Linda Stoop
HM	April Mann/Kriena Thielking
Class 9 Horticulture House Plant Grown For Flowers	
Place	Name
1 st	Linda Stoop
2 nd	Barb Blythin
3 rd	April Mann
HM	Russ Boles
Class 10 Horticulture Bulb In Water	
Place	Name
1 st	Barb Blythin
2 nd	Russ Boles
3 rd	
HM	
Class 11 Horticulture Spring Flowering Branch	
Place	Name
1 st	Shannon Boles
2 nd	Barb Blythin
3 rd	Tami Lyons
HM	
Class 12 Horticulture Home Grown	
Place	Name
1 st	April Mann
2 nd	Tami Lyons
3 rd	Barb Blythin
HM	Kriena Thielking
Class 14 A Photography First Up	
Place	Name
1 st	Barb Blythin
2 nd	Joyce Millar
3 rd	Deena Errampalli
HM	Sylvia Fannon
Class 14B Photography First Up	
Place	Name
1 st	Barb Blythin
2 nd	Fran David
3 rd	Fran David
HM	Deena Errampalli

Ontario Horticultural Association District 9

Income Statement

For the Period Ended December 31, 2024

REVENUE:

Penny Sale Revenue	940.00
Membership Dues	1,100.00
Donations	71.00
Garden Journals Revenue	1,300.00
Stained Glass Sales	1,215.00
Eventbrite Ticket Sales	476.04
Door Prize Revenue	57.00
AGM Ticket Sales	2,826.00
Total Revenue	7,985.04

TOTAL REVENUE

\$7,985.04

EXPENSES:

Rent	350.00
Postage & Stationary	344.92
Donation	250.00
Speaker	975.00
Profit Split with Niagara Falls	473.50
Bank Charges	132.51
Garden Journal Expense	1,480.00
Awards	400.00
Advertising	120.29
Annual General Meeting Expenses	568.00
Catering	1,406.52
Supplies	77.75
Signage	100.00
Float	162.00
Judges	150.00
Total Expenses	6,990.49

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$6,990.49

NET INCOME

\$994.55



Ontario Horticultural Association District 9

Bank Reconciliation - December 31, 2024

Balance per general ledger, December 31, 2024	\$12,389.89
Total Receipts	\$7,985.04
Total Disbursements	\$6,990.49
Balance per general ledger, December 31, 2024	<u>\$13,384.44</u>
Closing Balance on Bank Statement December 31, 2024	\$14,062.19
Outstanding Deposits	
Outstanding Cheques	
	Cheque # Amount
L. Daniels	20 \$200.00
Pelham Garden Club	21 \$200.00
Thorold Garden Club	22 \$200.00
A. Daniels	23 \$77.75
Total outstanding cheques	\$677.75
Reconciliation Balance	<u>\$13,384.44</u>



FINANCIAL REVIEW CERTIFICATE

(TO BE USED IF NO AUDIT REPORT IS SUPPLIED BY OUTSIDE AUDITORS)

Society financial records must be independently reviewed for the protection of both the Treasurer and the Society.

One of the following must be submitted:

- Completed Financial Review Certificate with two signatures. Volunteer reviewers must NOT currently be on the Executive or Board, or related to one another, or related to the Treasurer.

OR

- Audit Review Report (not a Compilation, also known as, Notice to Reader) that has been completed by a professional firm/individual (CA, CMA, CPA, CGA). Please send a copy of the Audit Report and retain the original for your files. This usually has only one signature.

Note: Compilations, also known as Notice to Readers, will no longer be acceptable as formats for reviews. If your financial statements are in this format, please also supply the Financial Review Certificate signed by the professional firm (one signature), or the two volunteer reviewers appointed by society.

We certify that the statements of receipts & disbursements and assets & liabilities of the

Ontario Horticultural Assoc. Dist. 9, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024
(Name of Society)

are correct, and that our examination of the books and records of the Society included tests to ensure:

- all cash receipts were correctly recorded;
- all recorded vouchers were accurate and authentic;
- all investment and similar assets which were reported exist.

Date March 16, 2025

Financial Reviewer Deanne Romanuk

Signature Deanne Romanuk

Date March 16, 2025

Financial Reviewer Alger Muller

Signature Alger Muller

NOTE: Financial Review and Review Certificate/Report must be completed BEFORE AGM.

Any officer, director or auditor of an organization who makes a false statement in any report or information required under the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act* is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$2000, R.S.O. 1990, c. A.8, s. 16

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

