Welcome to Streetsville Horticultural Society!

We are delighted you have decided to join our Society. We are a group tied together by gardening, with a desire to make a positive difference in our community. We garden together, learn together, socialize, and have FUN together.

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:15 p.m. (doors open at 7:00 p.m.) from September to June, at Streetsville United Church, 274 Queen Street South, Streetsville. We hold ten meetings per year with knowledgeable speakers discussing a variety of topics or participating in hands-on workshops.

Introduction

Streetsville Horticultural Society (SHS) originally ran from 1914 to 1954 and was re-established in 1972. The SHS is in District 15 of the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) and is a City of Mississauga registered community group. Horticultural societies are incorporated by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Agribusiness (OMAFA) as non-profit, volunteer organizations to promote horticulture. The Society is governed by an elected Board of Directors. SHS has a constitution, bylaws, code of conduct, and a conflict-of-interest document. Copies of these documents are included on our website and in your welcome package; please take a few minutes to read them.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors consists of up to twelve elected Directors. At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in November, the members elect from among themselves, Directors for a term of two years. The elected Directors are eligible for re-election at the end of each term. The Board of Directors (Board) consists of the President (or Co-Presidents), Vice President, Past President (or Past Co-Presidents), Secretary, Treasurer, and the elected Directors. In the event that the President (or Co-Presidents) role is not filled, the Society is run by committee with the duties shared among all Directors.

Officer Descriptions

Co-Presidents (or President): The Co-Presidents chair the meetings, sign contracts and rental agreements, and ensure all forms and reports are submitted on behalf of the Society. The Co-Presidents are key figures in SHS activities and programs. They provide leadership by coordinating and delegating tasks and ensuring they are completed. The Co-Presidents present a review of the year's work at the AGM and attend OHA District meetings and provincial conventions when possible.

Vice President: The Vice President assists the Co-Presidents and prepares to become President by chairing committees to acquire a thorough understanding of the Society. The Vice President assumes the role of the Co-Presidents in their absence. The Vice President also attends the OHA District meetings and provincial conventions when possible.

Past President (or Past Co-Presidents): The immediate Past President (or Past Co-Presidents), is an executive officer and contributes their knowledge gained from experience with the Society. The Past President is a member of the Board and serves on Committees.

Secretary: The Secretary is appointed by the Board, and attends all meetings of SHS, records minutes of the meetings, and handles correspondence. The Secretary also keeps a record of all business transactions, all resolutions passed, amendments to the by-laws, a list of members and their addresses, all reports of committees, all annual statements, financial and auditor's reports for the Society. The duties of the Secretary may be divided between two people.

Treasurer: The Treasurer is appointed by the Board, and maintains proper records of account, records of income and expenditures, receives all monies paid, and deposits them in a bank, keeps securities in safe custody, writes and signs cheques along with (one of) the Co-Presidents or Secretary, and prepares the annual financial statements for the Society. The Treasurer arranges for the financial books to be audited.

Committee Descriptions

Archives: The archives are a record of society activities and events and include newspaper articles, letters, and photos. Photo albums are kept and put on display at meetings to illustrate our members' participation in the programs we offer. Pictures and articles are used in the newsletter and on the website to acknowledge awards, ribbons, and trophies, as well as for publicity. The coordinator maintains and stores the archives and takes photos of SHS events.

Community Planting: Public beautification is one of the important objectives of every horticultural society. A team of volunteers plants and maintains gardens in and around Streetsville each year. Activities begin in April or May with a clean-up of sites and clearing or cutting back plants. Perennials are planted early in May and annuals in late May or early June. Gardens are weeded, watered, and tidied regularly over the summer. Fall activities include planting bulbs and preparing the gardens for the winter. We are currently beautifying three sites: Leslie Log House (south of Eglinton on Mississauga Road), Rotary Park (beside the Streetsville library), and Jon Clipperton Park (on Church Street north of Bristol).

Draws and Door Prizes: Garden themed gifts are raffled off at some monthly meetings. Members can donate garden-related items for the draw table, and AGM door prizes. The proceeds fund society activities. The convenor(s) stores the items, creates prize packs, sets up the draw table at each meeting, sells tickets, and draws the winning tickets.

Flower Show: The flower show schedule is produced for the year and is available on the SHS website. The schedule includes the flower show dates, horticultural categories, and design theme for each show. Flower shows are usually held at the May, June, September, and October meetings. The convenor (and helpers) sets up the space for the flower show and arranges for a judge.

Fund Raising: Fund raisers are organized each year to raise money for club activities. Past fund raisers included fall bulbs, worm castings, and the plant sale.

Membership: Our membership year is from September 1st - August 31st. An individual membership is $25, and family memberships (2 adults and children under 18 living at same address) are $40. Guests pay $5 for a single meeting, except for the annual Open House. Membership fees support member services and expenses such OHA dues and insurance, meeting space rentals, speaker fees, judging fees, our mailbox, and refreshment expenses. The membership table is found near the door each meeting, and everyone is asked to sign in and wear their name tag. Our membership list is updated each month. Please let the

membership coordinator know if you change your address, phone number, or email address. **We do not publish or sell our membership list.** It is used for sending email communications to our members.

Newsletter: *Streetsville Blooms* is published 10 times a year and emailed to members. Members without email access can pay $10 to have the newsletter mailed monthly. Submissions (articles, stories, poems, photos, recipes) can be sent to the editor who is responsible for creating the newsletter.

Photo Contest: A formal photo contest judged by an expert photographer is held in September and a member-judged contest is held at the March meeting. The official photo contest entry categories and rules are posted on the website and placed in the newsletter. All entries are displayed at the November meeting, and prizes are awarded to the top 3 entries. The photo contest coordinator organizes the photo show, finds the judge, delivers the photo submissions, and sets up the photos at the meetings.

Plant Sale: The plant sale is held annually the second last Saturday in May and it is our largest fundraiser. Everyone is invited to participate by donating plants, transplanting plants, making labels, transporting plants, and assisting on the day of the sale. We always need more pots (6 inches in diameter and larger). The Plant Sale convenor organizes all the planting activities and volunteers for the sales.

Premiums: Every year, the Society distributes a free plant to all paid members in attendance at the May meeting.

Program: Education is an important part of every society. From September to June, a speaker is invited to each meeting to discuss a garden related topic. The Speaker coordinator organizes (finds, books, confirms, reminds, introduces, thanks, and pays) the presenters.

Communications: Email is the primary mode of communication regarding SHS activities. Please ensure that the membership coordinator has your correct email address. All events are also listed on the Events Calendar on our website.

Volunteer Coordinator: Every benefit, activity, and event are the result of the generosity of our SHS volunteers. All members are encouraged to volunteer their time, talent, skills, expertise, ideas, and suggestions during the year. You can help at meetings by setting up and putting away chairs. The coordinator keeps track of all volunteer hours and submits them to the OHA yearly. The number of hours spent volunteering impacts the provincial grant received from the OHA, so please remember to record ALL of your volunteer hours. You can either complete the volunteer form found on the website, or email the volunteer coordinator.

Social Media: Check out our website at www.streetsvillehort.ca and follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/Streetsville-Horticultural-Society-101876555345008/. Contact us by email at streetsvillehort@gmail.ca.

Coffee Clubs: During the warmer months, members are invited to attend social gatherings to discuss gardening, share seeds, and socialize at the lovely Leslie Log House property.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions because we are always working to improve our Society.

Happy Gardening from the SHS Board of Directors!