

Russell Horticultural Society
Annual General Meeting – Monday, November 15th, 2021
Held at the Community Hall in Marionville, ON

Thirty-eight (38) people were in attendance at the meeting. President, Grace Stapper, welcomed everyone and introduced our visitor, Susan Ramsay, District 1 Director.

One of our members Madeline Kalinowski has lost her 20-25 year pin. If anyone possibly would have any information on the missing pin (possibly lost at Russell Meadows when our meetings were held there) could they please advise Grace.

Thanks to Carole Van Die for arranging the venue for tonight's meeting. Hopefully we will continue to be allowed to use this hall as outside admission is still not allowed at Russell Meadows due to COVID-19.

Secretary Connie Johnston apologized for not having the reports of the last year's activities to read (she forgot to bring them to the meeting). Lindley McPhail suggested that they be placed on the Society's website. Manager of the website, Jacqueline Wyss, said she would ensure that they were.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report will be distributed to all members once it has been audited.

We are need of volunteer auditors to review the financial records. They must not be any of the executive members or their family. Two names that were suggested were Susan Young or Lynne Rochon.

There are 4 rain barrels left at Manja's from the fundraiser at a cost of \$51.00 each plus another "ugly duckling" at \$35, if anyone is interested in purchasing them.

Elections: Carole Van Die, the Nominating Committee for 2021-2022 reported that the following would be the elected officers:

President:	Grace Stapper	
Co-1 st Vice-President:	Lindley McPhail	
Co-1 st Vice-President:	Pegi Holtz	
2 nd Vice-President:	Louise Houle	
Treasurer:	Manja Bastian	
Past-President:	Carole Van Die	
Secretary:	Connie Johnston	
Directors:	Peter Van Die	Julie Keravel
	Christine Lanthier	Linda Duhamel
	Diane Sharp	Susan Barr
	Marianne Vedder	Marilyn MacMillan
	Marie-Claire Ivanski	

Susan Ramsay, District 1 Director then installed the officers.

Thanks were extended to Jacqueline Wyss for her work in keeping the website up to date and for doing all the society's social media.

Pegi Holtz reported on the virtual sunflower show which was a huge success. The following are the winners:

Tallest:	Gloria Biickert
Largest Across:	Louise Houle
Most Flowers on Plant:	Louise Houle
Photo of Sunflower Visited by a Pollinator:	Grace Stapper
Group Display:	Pegi Holtz
Any other colour but solid yellow:	Erin Holtz
Arrangement:	Louise Houle
Painting/Craft/Garden Art:	Louise Houle
Poem:	Gloria Biickert
	Louise Houle and Gloria Biickert

Also, Louise Houle and Gloria Biickert tied for "An acrostic using the word TOURNESOL (An Acrostic is a form of poetry that is written vertically in capital letters. Please print "TOURNESOL" in 14 font in bold print with the rest of the poem in 12 font". Prizes of \$20. gift certificates to Beyond the House were awarded to the winners.

Thanks were extended to President Grace Stapper for keeping the members so well informed during COVID-19.

Carole Van Die reported that we had received a grant from the Township of Russell to cover the cost of the hall rental for this evening's meeting (Marionville Community Centre). She will inquire as to the possibility of using this venue for future meetings at no cost.

Grace Stapper reported that the District 1 Annual General Meeting for 2022 will be held in Martintown. There will be NO Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) Convention in 2022. The Convention for 2023 will be held in Kanata and 2024 in Guelph.

Susan Ramsay, District 1 Director reported that the 2022 OHA Annual General Meeting will be held virtually during the summer.

2022 will be "The Year of the Garden" and everyone is encouraged to use the colour red in their gardens.

We are hoping that the Russell Horticultural Society will once again hold a plant sale in May. Members are encouraged to prepare for the sale which is a major fundraiser for the Society.

Manja Bastian reported that she had bulbs for sale at this meeting for Crocuses, Daffodils and Siberian Squill. The proceeds from the sale of these bulbs will be donated to the Horticultural Society. Manja assured everyone that it is not too late to plant bulbs and that she has many to plant yet in her gardens. (She plants in excess of 325,000 tulips each year.)

Cathie Clarke, one of our members and a member of the African Violet Society, brought new plastic pots and saucers for anyone interested.

Manja Bastian and Linda Duhamel were selling memberships throughout the evening. The cost of a membership remains at \$10. One could also purchase a membership using e-transfer with the funds sent to Manja at accounting@russellgardeners.ca

The Living Locally Fair and “March It On Out” will not likely be held in 2022.

The meeting concluded with Louise Houle and Johanne St. Denis assisting in a craft session. Thanks to “Beyond the House” in Russell for donating birch bark frames that were used for the crafts.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Johnston
Secretary, Russell Horticultural Society