

## Monica Bibby



Monica Bibby is the face (heart and soul) of the Guelph Horticultural Society.

Monica joined the Board of Directors in the mid 1970s and was mentored by Herb Markle, known at the time as Mr. Guelph Horticulture. Monica was an excellent mentee because in her over 40 years as a Board member, she has served in many capacities:

- GHS President for 2 years in the mid-1980s and 1995 to 2000
- Director of OHA District 7 in the early 1980s
- Organizing Committee for OHA Convention 2000 in Guelph
- Ambassador for GHS at many annual OHA Conventions
- Chair, Winning Contributor, Volunteer every year at our annual Summer's Glory Flower Show at Quebec Street Mall
- Founder of the Garden Showcase Tour in 1995 as a committee of one
- Chairperson of the Youth Program at Victory School
- Single-handedly produced the annual Yearbook at the last minute one year
- Co-ordinator of the annual trip to Canada Blooms on the opening day so the flowers are at their freshest,
- Recent Program Chair to provide us with interesting speakers at our monthly meetings,
- March Potluck Dinner Organizer and Head Decorator
- Penny Table Organizer at our November meetings
- Mentor to many, many members

Of all Monica's achievements, she is especially proud of her work with the young gardeners in the Youth Program, a position she held during the 1980s and 1990s. Anyone interested in co-ordinating this program, will find Monica a great resource.

In 2011 the GHS planted a tree in Markle Park to honour Monica and her husband, Les, for their dedicated service to our society. It is interesting that Monica and her close friend, Ronika Corbett, were instrumental in the city of Guelph establishing this park in Herb Markle's name.

Monica has decided to step down from the Board and we will miss her greatly. Thank you, Monica, for all you have given to the Guelph Horticultural Society. We know that it will be difficult to fill your shoes! We look forward to celebrating your retirement in person when we are allowed.