

## Theresa McKenzie



Theresa has been a member of the ASA for approximately 8 years. She is currently serving on the Finance Committee, as a co-coordinator of the ASA Giant Indoor Garage Sale, as the coordinator of a book club, and as a Finance Administration volunteer.

Theresa's business experience was gained working in a range of functions, beginning with early work as a bank teller, and chequing/savings supervisor, prior to attending university. Following graduation with an honours BSc., she worked for Bell and Howell Ltd. for 17 years, where her career progressed from cost accounting, through customer service roles to National Sales Administrator, with responsibility for standard and special pricing, supervision of order processing and customer service, to Product Manager and finally Marketing Manager. She later moved to W. H. Brady as a Systems Product Manager, then Marketing Manager.

In her early fifties Theresa decided to make a change back to the field of biology, her original passion, and in which she held her degree. She first made connections in the field through offering marketing and strategic planning consulting to non-profit environmental organizations, while also volunteering in biological monitoring. She then secured a position with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, where she managed a biological monitoring program that engaged volunteers in conducting the field monitoring. She recruited, trained and supervised a team of over 100 part-time volunteers, managed and analyzed the scientific data and wrote reports on the results. Following 10 years of data collection she lead authored a scientific article on the program and its results, which was published in an international Ecology journal. She has also been a speaker at Ontario and International conferences.

Throughout her career Theresa was often simultaneously involved in volunteer work. She was a charter member, Training Director and served on the executive of her SCUBA diving club, pre-motherhood. Later, once her daughter was grown, she volunteered in terrestrial biological monitoring, bird banding, operating a bird research station that was part of a continent-wide initiative, coordinating the local Richmond Hill-Aurora area Christmas Bird Count for another continent-wide program, and contributing data to the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas project. The latter two volunteer responsibilities are ongoing.

Theresa has a wealth of experience managing budgets and people, working productively on cross-functional and upper management teams, leading departmental teams and in recruiting, training and recognizing volunteers. She is familiar with Boards of Directors and how they operate. She has attended ASA board meetings and is confident of her ability to contribute to the valuable work of the ASA board.