

# Peterborough Horticultural Society

## Newsletter

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Editor Dianne Westlake

Email: [editor@peterboroughgardens.ca](mailto:editor@peterboroughgardens.ca)



P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7H6

[www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Paul Zammit created quite a stir at our September meeting. With his exuberant presentation style and his quick wit, rapid-fire delivery and good advice, he kept everyone's attention. Where does he get his energy? Just the thing we needed for our first meeting after the summer break. It was wonderful to see so many people attending.

### October Meeting

Our speaker will be Felicity Lukace, a Master Gardener and her topic for the evening is Rejuvenating an Old Garden – I did not say gardener! Come out as Felicity shares her tips and ideas for making the old garden, new again. Meet old friends and make some new ones over a cup of coffee. Please try to wear your nametag. If you do not have a lanyard, some will be available at the meeting.

### 50/50 Draw

The winner of the 50/50 draw at the September meeting was Marie Duchesneau, taking home \$132.03. This is by far the biggest prize we have had to date, and my thanks go to all those who bought tickets. Your enthusiasm and support makes this a fun (and lucrative!) event. We also had a number of donated prizes, for which I extend thanks: Hazel and Joe Cook at Blossom Hill: a beautiful peony, Dawn Tack: packages of bulbs, Omemee Horticultural Society: 6 potted peonies, Ernie Bockmann - a birdhouse, Anne Milne - "Ontario Gardener" magazine subscription and goodie bag, and a Botanix book.

A selection of bulbs were purchased from Rural Roots, and awarded to the "Red-Dot" ticket holders. If you have suggestions for other 50/50 prizes, or would like to suggest a prize theme for one of our meetings, please let Dawna know.



Look for Dawna to get your 50/50 tickets.

### Workshops

The peonies may have been done their flowering for the season, but ten avid gardeners came out to see how to dig and propagate them during the workshop at Blossom Hill on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Although the weather was not great, we were able to get out into the gardens as well as learning how to divide and replant. Thanks to Hazel, Joe, Amy and Amber!

No, we did not actually put the garden to bed (won't Paul be pleased!) On Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, six interested gardeners toured my garden with Beryl Harris who gave tips about what needed doing and what could wait till spring. We picked seeds, talked about how to leave the perennials for winter interest and for the birds and compared notes on over wintering geraniums and other annuals. The weather behaved so we were able to



wander through at our leisure. Thanks Corrine for the tubers! And many thanks to Beryl for her gardening wisdom and good humour.

Welcome new members:

Carol-Anne Albertson, Ruth Arndt, John Bottomley, Jocelyn Calvert, Joan Clairmont, Sue Campbell, Bonnie Ferguson, M. Heather Grasse, Maureen Moher, Susan Richardson, M. Dale Rodger, Ruth Hillman, Donna Nicholls

### Upcoming workshop

On Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Susan Buzuk will lead a workshop on Creating a Christmas Arrangement. Members will be able to make their own fresh arrangement, either for outdoors or inside. You will need to bring your own container filled with dirt (Susan suggests that we use soil instead of oasis for a more stable display) as well as any ornaments, dried flowers or ribbon you wish to use. We will use fresh greens, which will be provided. This workshop will be held in the basement of St. Albans Church (where we have our plant sales). Due to expenses, there will be a \$5.00 cost payable at the October meeting when you sign up for this workshop. Chris Freeburn

### Scholarship Committee

For the past several months the Scholarship Committee, on behalf of the Horticultural Society, has been working on establishing a permanent award at Trent University. We have set up a Trust through the Ontario Trust for Student Support. With a one-time commitment of \$12,500, which is matched by the provincial government, an annual award of \$1000 is given to a student in financial need with an average of at least 85%. Recipients are chosen through the Financial Aid Office at Trent University. The award is given through the interest earned on the original endowment. This endowment ensures that there will always be an annual award given at Trent University on behalf of the Horticultural Society. The prize, which will be listed in the Trent Handbook, reads as follows:

*"Peterborough Horticultural Society Award Established by the Peterborough Horticultural Society (founded 1861), to be awarded to a full-time undergraduate student in any year who is majoring in Environmental and Resource Sci-*

*ence/Studies and who has an interest in our natural world and its preservation."*

This award is not meant to replace our Scholarship Programme but to augment it. We will continue to award scholarships as long as we have the funds to do so.

Sherry Booth, manager of Planned Giving and Leadership Gifts at Trent University will receive our cheque at the October General Meeting. Scholarship Committee - Gladys Fowler, Claire Sullivan, Jean McDougall, Julia Burch, Pat de Villiers

### Yearbook

I am starting to plan the yearbook for 2009 and would love to have some member participation. I am asking members to submit original garden stories, poems, or garden tips. If you have a story to tell about a garden you visited, an event that happened in your own garden or just a story of how your garden did this past summer, send it to me in 200 words or less. To encourage you to contribute, everyone who has something that is published in the yearbook, will be *entered in a draw for a beautiful floral arrangement* to be drawn at our January meeting. The editor does take the liberty to edit any submissions. Chris Freeburn

### For the Love of Gardening

2008 saw another successful and profitable Garden Show. The profit statement for the 2008 is done. It will be available at the general meeting. The profit for 2008 was \$39,438.58. Of this amount, the Master Gardener groups, who are our partners in organizing this event, received 40%. Thanks again for all the work our members put into making the 2008 garden show so successful. The 2009 Garden Show plans are well under way. Mailing of the application packages started on July 1<sup>st</sup> and exhibitors have started booking for next year. To date, 83 out of 188 booths have now been accounted for. If you have visited a Garden Centre or store with garden related products, who you believe would add to our show, please let me know and I will approach them. Niki Dufresne - 295-4953 or [njdu@nexicom.net](mailto:njdu@nexicom.net)

### Library

Thanks to Mary Lynn Clark and Sandra O'Toole for donations to our Library.



## Flower Shows

Mini Flower Show at our October meeting. Please place entries between 6:45 and 7:15

The following is the list of classes. The preserves will be judged and therefore must meet the criteria for entering. The Specimen and Design classes will be for display only but we will have comments and suggestions to help you for the shows in 2009.

Section A: PRESERVES - must be in 250 or 500 ml. preserving jars with 2 piece lids.

Note: unsealed jars will not be judged

- Class 1. Grape Jelly  
2. Raspberry Jam  
3. Sweet Pickles

Section B: SPECIMEN (Cut Flowers) (must be grown by the exhibitor)

- Class 4. Any late flowering annual or perennial, 1 stem in a vase, named if possible.

Section C: FRUIT/VEGETABLE (must be grown by the exhibitor)

- Class 5. Any fruit or vegetable, named if possible

*Fruit - Cluster - 1 stem; small fruit - 1/2 pint approximately; large fruit - 3 specimens.*

*Vegetables - small-3 specimen, large-1 specimen*

Section D: DESIGN (purchased material may be used)

- Class 6. Door Swag  
7. Table Arrangement

Beginning in 2009, flower shows will be held during the regular meeting nights in May and October. The rules and regulations, classes and point system will be inserted in the 2009 Yearbook. Please consider entering any or all of the classes listed. Copies of "Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards" Publication #34 will be available to borrow from the PHS Library.

## Donation Committee

### Victoria Quilts

We have recently received a letter of appreciation from Victoria Quilts for our donation.

### Riverview Park and Zoo

Riverview Park and Zoo sent along a thanks and reported that our donation of \$850.00 was used to purchase perennial plants for the garden on the

north side of the zoo entrance and annuals for the swan pond floral display.

## Hastings Public School Butterfly Garden

Joyce and Mike Higgs sent an update on the Hastings Public School Butterfly Garden. They are presently working on Phase 1. Last spring each class planted seeds (which had been harvested from a number of locations in Peterborough County.) During the first week of June, they planted the seedlings. You can imagine their surprise and delight when they returned to school in September to see the garden in full bloom. The plants not only survived, but also flourished during the wet summer. Planning of Phase 2 is currently underway. Again, thank you for your generosity - such a small endeavor has generated such far-reaching results!



Hastings Public School Butterfly Garden

## Tourism Visitor Information Centre

In case you missed it, the Peterborough and the Kawarthas Tourism Visitor Information Centre held a reception on Friday, October 3 to thank Peterborough Horticultural Society for their donation of \$1500. This money was used for perennial and annual plant material in the gardens around the building. Gary received a plaque on behalf of the Society and Audrey Caryi from Lang Pioneer Village made a presentation that included some of Catherine Parr Traill's original pressed flowers, from of the era of the society's inception. There was media coverage and refreshments.





## Coming Events

### Lakefield

Tuesday, October 14th at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Anna Wrublewskyj from Anna's Perennials, Succulents and Trough Gardens.

### Norwood

Monday, October 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – Dianne and Gary Westlake – Quebec's Quatre Vents Garden

### Omeme

Monday, October 20 at Trinity United Church, fellowship time from 7 to 7:30. Refreshments will be available at 7:15. Meeting begins at 7:30. Margaret Real from Cannington Horticultural Society will demonstrate how to make grapevine wreaths & baskets.

### District 4 Fall Seminar

Saturday, October 25 at Timberhouse Country Inn Resort Brighton. Registration: \$17.00 includes lunch. Speakers – John & Toni Murrell: Growing & Using Lavender and Don Davis: Monarch Butterfly Tagging. See Anne Milne for more details.

### Ecology Park

Sunday, October 26 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. at the Ecology Park. – Meet the Evergreens. Join Cathy Dueck to learn to recognize Ontario's evergreens and discover what they need to thrive. Pre-registration is not required.

### Millbrook

Wednesday, November 5 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church Hall, Centre St, Millbrook – Rachel Burrows – Decorating for the Holidays. \$2 Admission at the door

### This Month in the Garden – October Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

- Dig, dry and store summer-flowering bulbs and tubers.
- Prepare new garden beds. Incorporate nearly completed compost.
- Put ponds to bed.
- Cut off dead foliage particularly around hostas or lilies where pests can over-winter. Leave ornamental grasses.
- Continue to plant spring flowering bulbs.
- Rake leaves from lawn and garden and add to reduced compost pile.
- Plant amaryllis for Christmas bloom.
- Remove and distribute almost finished compost. Gather leaves and add to compost pile.
- Seed new lawns

**Have your gardening questions answered – The Master Gardener hotline is now open all year. Call 741-4905 or visit their website at [www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)**

### Tips and Techniques

At this time of the year, the volume of fallen leaves is overwhelming. We are no longer able to burn them but they still must be dealt with. So – what can we do?

One solution is to remove them from your property. Bag them and place at the curb for green waste pick up but do not rake and leave them to the curb. What a mess when drainage grates are covered!

If you are able to compost on your own property, run the lawn mower over the leaves to hasten decomposition. This is the only time of the year that we use the bag attachment on our mower. 'Cutting the grass' really means picking up the leaves and while the grass clippings do help to hasten the process, the main purpose is to pick up the leaves as quickly as possible. Some of these chopped leaves can be put on the beds. These leaves will protect the plants, and start to decompose before we are able to get into the garden. Avoid putting thick layers of leaves over plants that are evergreen or small.

Wire or wooden corrals can be temporarily constructed to store the leaves over the winter. Make sure there is sufficient moisture as dry leaves can sit for years without breaking down.

Put a thick layer on the vegetable garden. These may be dug in or left on top for the winter,

Don't forget to keep a small pile available so you can add them to your composter

Of course there is the benign neglect rule – in Gary's words 'He who rakes last, rakes least.'





## MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees for 2009 will remain at the current rate - \$15.00 for individual and \$20.00 for a family membership. Although not due until January, payment for your 2009 membership will be accepted beginning at the October and November meetings. Either a cheque made payable to Peterborough Horticultural Society or exact change would be appreciated.

If you wish to mail your membership fee, please complete the form below and pay by cheque.  
Do not send cash through the mail

### Peterborough Horticultural Society

P.O. Box 1372, Peterborough, ON K9J 7H6

[www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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I wish to receive my newsletter by Canada Post:  **OR** email:

**OR** I wish to receive email notification when the newsletter has been posted on the website:

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Single @ \$15.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Family @ \$20.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the names of members who are included in the Family Membership.

