



STREETSVILLE BLOOMS

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 19, Issue 8

MAY 2013

NEXT MEETING: TUES., MAY 14

PREMIUM NIGHT

CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH
2630 Inlake Court

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: DAN COOPER

Topic: "Gardening From A Hammock"

Speaker Bio: Dan is a Master Gardener and co-author of "Gardening From A Hammock", a book on low-maintenance gardening featuring the gardens of 17 well-known garden experts, landscapers and designers.

He is a landscape designer who specializes in shade gardens and organic gardening and the owner of Green Gardens and Tours, a company that provides garden design advice and tours to exotic gardens.

An avid world traveler, Dan is a published travel writer and photographer who has visited, written about and photographed gardens in North & South America, Southeast Asia, Australia, China and India. His photos can be viewed at www.istockphoto.com/coopermoisse and his travel blog at www.moissecooper.blogspot.com

Dan will show members how to create their own low maintenance gardens and still find time to relax in the hammock. Sounds like every gardener's dream..... Don't miss it!

Sue Harshman, Program Chair

"Every thought is a seed. If you plant crab apples, don't count on harvesting Golden Delicious."

~ Bill Meyer

President's Message

As a volunteer, charitable organization whose mission is to provide leadership and assist in the promotion of education and interest in all areas of horticulture, SHS has made a commitment to a wide range of projects over the years (Rotary Park, Leslie Log House etc). We have an expansive network with proven experience to draw upon. We have a supportive environment for gardeners of all ages.

Fostering the growth of our society and encouraging the use of eco-friendly horticultural practices to promote the beautification of our community and the conservation of our environment will continue through branching out to other projects. One of the objectives of Horticultural Societies is to encourage the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers on public and private grounds. Horticultural Society volunteers are busy each year with local community beautification projects across the province. Keep Ontario Beautiful projects include a wide variety of activities like beautifying local parks, planting boxes in downtown areas, and creating and maintaining public gardens around public and private buildings.

Below is a small sample of possible projects that have been presented to the Board:

- Community Garden
- Leisure World Long Term Care Residence beautification
- Carolinian Forest – Leslie Log House site

I am confident that conversation circles can expand on these ideas, include additional ideas and help them grow. . . something we do very well. Let's get the process started.

Sue Hutton, President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 1** **Rotary Park Garden Clean Up & Topsoil spreading.**
Volunteers needed. 6:30 pm
Rain Date: May 2, 6:30 p.m.
- May 4** **8:30 am Potting up for Plant Sale***
- May 5** **8:30 am Potting up for Plant Sale***
- May 5** Hardy Plant Sale at Toronto Botanical Gardens
- May 11** **SHS PLANT SALE – 8:30 am**
Portuguese Cultural Centre
- May 26** Garden Tour of Lorne Park – by Canadian Cancer Society of Georgetown/Dufferin \$15.00 advance or \$20 day of. Contact 905 608-8411 for info & tickets.
- May 26** Historical walking tour of Streetsville
- May 28** **Rotary Park Annual Planting 2:00 p.m. Volunteers needed.**
Rain Date May 29 at 2:00 p.m.
- May 29** **Leslie Log House – clean up & annual planting 9:30 am**
- May 31** Bread & Honey Festival

**All potting up to be done at 6065 Montevideo Rd.*

FLOWER SHOW – MAY

The Flower Show Committee would like to thank all those who entered the April Flower Show and encourage all those who have not yet entered to give it a try. We have introduced a "Novice" category for this purpose. If you have any questions please contact Nicky Hall or Lynne Sereda.

DESIGN

- Class 1 "Tango" – a diagonal design showing movement
- Class 2 "Flamenco" – bold, bright colours

MINIATURE

- Class 3 "Ballet" – using fresh flower material

FOR MEN ONLY

- Class 4 "All That Jazz" – diagonal design

NOVICE

- Class 5 "Mother's Day Arrangement" in a teacup with saucer

CULTURAL

- Class 1 Lily of the Valley – 3 or more
- Class 2 Brunnera – 1 stem
- Class 3 Corydalis – 2 stems
- Class 4 Flowering Dogwood – 1 branch
- Class 5 Fritillaria – any cultivar – 1 stem
- Class 6 Helleborus (Lenten rose) – 1 stem
- Class 7 Hyacinthus (hyacinth) – 1 stem
- Class 8 Muscari (grape hyacinth) – 3 stems
- Class 9 Narcissus/Daffodil – AOV – 1 stem
- Class 10 Narcissus/Daffodil – double – 1 stem
- Class 11 Narcissus/Daffodil – large cup – 1 stem
- Class 12 Polygonatum (Solomon seal) – 1 stem
- Class 13 Tulip – double – 1 bloom – cut with no more than 2 leaves on the stem *
- Class 14 Tulip – lily – 1 bloom cut with no more than 2 leaves on the stem *
- Class 15 Tulip – parrot/fringed – 1 bloom – cut with no more than 2 leaves on the stem *
- Class 16 Tulip – single – 1 bloom – cut with no more than 2 leaves on the stem *
- Class 17 Wisteria – 1 branch under 36"
- Class 18 Small spring flowers in a vase – 3 or More

** To encourage next years' bloom*

All cultural exhibits and houseplants to be grown by the entrant and must have been in their possession for 90 days.

For further information consult the SHS Flower Show handbook (on our website) or call Nicky Hall (905 858-2553) or Lynne Sereda (905 819-1287).

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

SHS Membership Chair - we need a volunteer to fill this position starting in September. Two to three additional volunteers per meeting will also be needed to assist the new Membership Chair.

Flower Show Convener Nicky Hall is seeking an assistant so that she may listen to the speakers when a flower show is taking place.

If interested in any of the above positions, contact our Secretary, Lynn Merritt 905-826-3281 or lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca

PLANT SALE

At the time of writing, the weather has not been very co-operative and the first potting up day had to be cancelled. By the time you read this we'll have had several potting up days and lots of plants to show for our hard work.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Check your garden for perennials that are getting too big or popping up in places you don't want them. Dig up what you don't want, bag it or pot it, label it and drop it off at 6065 Montevideo Rd. Please drop off plants no later than our last potting up day – May 5th.

The best way to label your plants is to place all the information along with your name and phone number in a plastic Ziploc bag.

LABEL INFO:

Beebalm Pink. Height 36" sun to part shade
Flowers in summer to fall. Deadhead to prolong blooming.

If you need help digging up your plants contact me at 905 567-4803 and we will arrange to have someone come and get the job done.

If every member donates 10 plants we will have over 1,500 plants!

I hope to see you all on the day of the sale supporting the Society. Remember, we want this year to be our best plant sale and it can only be done with your help!

Debra Buckler, Plant Sale Chair

FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP – Aug.

The tentative Basic Flower arranging Workshop that was to be held in April had to be cancelled due to insufficient numbers signing up to make it financially feasible.

There is space for 20 people and there will be a nominal fee to cover costs of \$10.00 - \$15.00 depending on the number attending.

If you are interested in attending a Flower Arranging Workshop during the last week of AUGUST please contact Lynne Sereda 905-819-1287 so we can book the church and the Presenter. (we need to give 3 months notice).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers for **Leisureworld** long-term care (formerly **Chelsey Park**) on Bristol Road in Streetsville.

The project is to re-do the garden in the rear patio area. Leisureworld will be supplying all soil and plant materials; we will be doing the weeding, planting etc. We are anticipating 2-3 hours twice during the year.

Anyone interested please call Anita or Alex King at 908-826-8208.

STREETSCAPE MISSISSAUGA 2013

Yes, it's that time of year again and we're in high gear preparing for the contest.

There are some quite dramatic changes this year. In response to requests, we have shortened up the contest period to four weeks from six. Judging will start on July 2, 2013.

Team structure will remain the same, but each team will be judging two groups of mixed gardens during the first three weeks of July. Final judging will take place the last week of the month.

Brand new judges will be required to attend a workshop, in early June, prior to judging.

We also still have the Small Business Contest and the Alternative Gardens class. If you are interested in working on either of these please email Roger & Maureen Ricker at rogerricker@rogers.com.

With two new prizes for "Garden of the Year" and "Best Display of Colour", and exciting plans for our Awards Event, 2013 is shaping up to be a great year.

We look forward to working with you all and don't forget to enter your own garden in the competition.

Streetscape Action Team

Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets. So, love the people who treat you right, forgive the ones that don't, and believe that everything happens for a reason. If you get a chance, take it. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said it would be easy!

LIFE MEMBER EILEEN LAMBERTON

SHS was saddened to learn that Life Member Eileen Lamberton passed away after a brief illness on January 26, 2013 at her home in Elora, Ontario.

Eileen was a long time member of Streetsville Horticultural Society and was awarded a life membership for her work. She was an avid gardener up until last year. Always a volunteer for all aspects of the society's projects, flower shows, planting and conventions, she entered art shows and flower shows and won awards for her contributions. She helped with the membership table, door draws, potluck suppers and garden tours.

Upon her retirement to Meaford, then Elora, she remained very interested in SHS and attended occasional meetings with her sister Mary Gilbert (past president and life member) when she visited Streetsville.

She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

STREETSVILLE HORT SOCIETY 2013 FUNDRAISER!

Now that "spring" has arrived and we've all started working in our gardens, muscles are achy; dirt seems to be permanently imbedded on our hands and the sun will soon be getting unbearable.

Our solution, top quality Botanically Based natural products to relieve achy muscles and revive dry scaly hands perfect for any gardener after a long day of digging holes and playing in the dirt...

MEMBERS & GUESTS WILL ENJOY A 24% DISCOUNT

**15% WILL GO TO SHS IN SUPPORT OF
FUTURE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

Samples and more information will be available at the plant sale on May 11th and both the May and June general meetings

AMAZING ORGANIC WEEDKILLER SPRAY

1/2 gallon of Apple Cider Vinegar
1/4 cup table salt
1/2 tsp Dawn liquid dish soap

Mix and pour into a spray bottle Spray weeds thoroughly. It makes 1/2 gallon for around \$6.40 Works better than Round Up - kills the weeds on first application. The Dawn dish soap strips the weed of its protective oils so the vinegar can work with deadly force. Safe to use in yard used by pets.



LESLIE LOG HOUSE

Once again we will be looking for volunteers to donate a couple of hours over the summer working the gardens at the Leslie Log House.

Last year we had 25 SHS members who volunteered their time – we rotated the weeks so some members worked a 3 hour shift twice while other members worked once.

Clean up of garden beds and planting of annuals will take place on **May 29th at 9:30 a.m.**

A sign up sheet will be available at the May meeting for volunteers this summer and I hope you will consider "giving a little back" to your community.

If you need further information, please contact Carol Ashford at 905 858-0748 or bashfo2586@rogers.com.

"When the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence, it may be that they take better care of it there." - Cecil Selig

ROTARY PARK CLEAN UP & TOP SOIL SPREADING

Once again it's time to tidy up Rotary Park (in Streetsville next to Library). We have arranged to have a load of top soil dumped and will require a few strong backs to help move and spread it. If you can help we will begin at 6:30 pm on Wed. **May 1st**.

Please bring rakes, shovels, gloves, wheelbarrow (if you have one) etc. Rain date is scheduled for May 2nd at 6:30 p.m.

Planting of Annuals will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, **May 28** (rain date May 29 at 2:00).

Volunteers are needed for both events!

Ruthanne Beehoo, Rotary Park Chair

SHS GARDEN TOUR – July 7

**MARY, MARY QUITE CONTRARY
HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW???**

SHS is seeking member gardens for our Annual Garden Tour to be held on July 7.

We are anxious to see just what you have growing in your backyard and how you have it laid out. It, by no means, has to be perfect; just a place that you feel comfortable in and are proud of and want to share with your peers. *Big or small, we want them all!*

Don't be shy..... talk to us at the next meeting or give us a call if you need further information. Contact Rob or Sue Harshman at 905 607-2802 or rpageh@yahoo.ca

Your Green Yard Workshop – May 9, 2013 at River Grove Community Centre, Mississauga

Do you live in Streetsville? If so, join Credit Valley Conservation for this free workshop and discover how to add colour and diversity to your yard with native plants. Learn about gardening to attract birds and butterflies, low maintenance lawns and other sustainable choices for your yard. Take home design ideas, fact sheets and other resources.

Local neighbours will have an opportunity to sign up for a free tree or shrub! This is a free event, but registration is required. **Contact:** Stewardship hotline at 905-670-1615 x 221 or info@creditvalleyca.ca

ZONE 5 ANNUALS - TRIED & TRUE PERFORMERS

Annuals are plants that germinate from seeds, grow, flower, produce seeds and die in one season. In the Zone 5 garden, annuals begin to flower in early summer and continue to bloom until killed by freezing weather.

Select them carefully and they will fit almost any situation in your garden. They are great for edging, accents, a cutting garden, containers, and fillers in your perennial garden.

Here are some good performers:

- * **Vinca** - Look like impatiens, but loves the sun. My plant of choice for "brown-thumb" types or beginners. Easy to grow, low maintenance, and comes in a variety of colors.
- * **Zonal Geraniums** - What's not to love! Just remember to deadhead so they keep blooming all season.
- * **Lantana** - Drought tolerant, very colorful and attracts butterflies.
- * **Petunias** - Easy care and the wave, trailing varieties look great cascading down the sides of containers or window boxes.
- * **Coleus** - Grown for their colorful foliage, so many stunning combinations! Look great in the garden or in containers.
- * **Calibrachoa** - Fantastic colors plus hummingbirds and butterflies love them.
- * **Scaevola** - Trailing types are great in pots and hanging baskets. Lavender-blue ones paired with yellow and orange flowers look fantastic.
- * **Dahlia** - Vigorous, upright, mounding plants in a range of colors. Good for cutting and cold tolerant.
- * **Begonia** - Great bloomers all season, like well drained soil.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to **Dipika Nayyar** and **Janet Shaw** who joined the SHS as new members in April. Remember say a special hello to these new members and share with them the details of our upcoming premium night in May, as well as our garden tour and potluck in July.

Adele Gibbins, Membership Chair

BOGFEST 2013 – SAT. MAY 25 9 am to 1 pm

Creditview Wetlands Park, Mississauga (View Map)
(1360 Willowvale Garden -Creditview & Bristol area)

Participate in the 2013 Bogfest at Creditview Wetlands Park. Help steward this beautiful natural area in Mississauga and learn the importance of the bog. The tree planting and clean up start at 9 a.m. and other activities will follow. Equipment will be provided, but if you have your own shovel please bring it.

A free BBQ will be offered to those who participate in the stewardship activities.

Contact: Gary Mascola, Creditview Wetlands Committee; Lindsey Jennings, CVC at 905-670-1615 x445 or mascola.gary@rogers.com

IT'S SOON DANDELION TIME.....

First of all, we encourage you all to check out the ingredients in whatever you use on your lawn. Would you feel comfortable with your children running around with bare feet soaking up chemicals? There are even stories of the dangerous cancer causing effects it can have on our animals. Now Fido is important to you right? Or the effects it has on our wildlife and streams?

Ok, now that we have probably got your attention, let's get back to learning how to get rid of the dandelions naturally.

First and foremost, you can PULL them out. Just make sure you get as much of the root as possible. There are also handy-dandy tools to help you accomplish this.

Secondly, you can discourage their growth by mowing often, also go around and pick off the heads before they seed. As you are likely aware

there can be thousands of seeds from one flower.

The third way is the most amazing. Pour boiling water over the center of the stem. You can literally watch them lose their green color and turn brown. If you have lots of dandelions you could probably spent close to 3 or 4 hours boiling water on the stove and bring each pot outside pouring the water over each and every dandelion one by one.

Ok we agree, this isn't the most efficient way to rid of dandelions but it is natural. Someone has probably already come up with a tool of some sort that heats the water the perfect temperature and is held in some kind of tank or something. All you have to do is wheel it around and spray each dandelion with hot, boiling water.

Here is the magic ticket:



HOT VINEGAR

- Boil Vinegar on the stove. Not sure how bad it is to inhale so don't boil long and use ventilation.
- Pour hot vinegar in a spray bottle. Use an old one because the bottle might disfigure a little due to the hot vinegar.
- Spray the dandelions with about three or four sprays of the hot vinegar. Doing this on a sunny day works better. Let the vinegar soak in and do its thing.
- Watch the dandelions turn brown and die....YEAH!!!

Questions, concerns, ideas, want to **volunteer** call

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