



Streetsville Blooms



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 30, Issue 2

www.streetsvillehort.ca

October 2022



Next Meeting
Tuesday, October 13th
Streetsville United Church
In Heritage Hall
274 Queen Street South
Doors open 7pm,
Meeting starts 7:30pm
Open House
Seed Swap
Bulb Sale

Co-Presidents Message

Our October meeting is a "Bring a Friend" night or "Open House". It is a great evening for friends or guests to come and participate as we talk about house plants, have a seed exchange and spring bulbs for sale. Chat with your neighbour and bring them along! Our October meeting also includes a Flower Show, the Flower Show Schedule in on the last page of this newsletter.

Our **Annual General Meeting** will take place at our November meeting. Time to elect the Board of Directors, review the 2021/22 reports and present awards and socialize. This year is our 50th Anniversary so we are planning a "special" AGM and also a Pot Luck Supper.

Just a reminder our AGM is not open to the public, all current members are invited to attend, you must have renewed your membership to vote on the various motions at our AGM. More information including the agenda will be available soon.

The annual flowers in our gardens are starting to fade and it is time to plant spring flowering bulbs, tulips, daffodils etc. You may also fill in some of the holes with asters, mums, rudbeckia and butterfly bush still available at some nurseries.



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Dig out your finished compost in your bin and spread it on the surface of your garden where the earth worms will pull it down. Take the fallen leaves and run them over with your lawn mower and rake them onto your garden. The worms consume leaves in tremendous quantities in the spring. Leave some spent flowers up over the winter for the birds and also for some winter interest in the garden. Sometime soon we are sure to have a killing frost so get out there and do your fall chores while the weather is still warmish.

The very first meeting of Streetsville Horticultural Society was held on Jan. 13th, 1914. 80 members signed up as members at the cost of \$1.00 per year. The first meeting was held in the Oddfellows Hall, still standing today on Queen Street. This society carried on until 1918 and then was re-organized again in 1922.

In 1928 the Horticultural members endeavoured to foster a personal interest in beautifying the village. Before arrangements could be made the presence of mumps and scarlet fever made public meetings not absolutely necessary things to be avoided. Membership still cost \$1.00

In 1937 there were still 80 members of the Society and they committed to planting flowers at the old cemetery, at the schools and other points. Flower shows were held during summer and fall, and prizes were given. Premiums of roses were given out.

1939 they were still carrying on the beautification of the century old cemetery in the centre of town. The society planted a garden on ground bordering Queen Street and generally renovated the grounds. Consideration was given to competitions and lectures for the school children and carried out a scheme of seed, shrub and bulb distribution. The first flower show was staged in Trinity Church parish hall with 133 exhibitors and several displays.

The new public school was the setting for the flower show in 1940 – 300 entries with 200 people present. Shows were held again in 1946, 1948, and 1951. The Society folded in 1954 until it was re-established in 1972.

Let's hope we have a great turnout in October and encourage people to join us so that we can continue to keep Streetsville Horticultural Society a vibrant club and continue on for the next 50 years!

Carol and Monica, Co-presidents SHS ❁

October Speaker



Our September speaker was Jeanne McRight, and her topic was "Seed Saving 101" She gave us a link to her handout for this talk and in case you missed it, here it is <http://www.bloomingboulevards.org/services-7>

Our next speaker is Darryl Cheng, and his talk is titled "An Engineer's Approach to Houseplant Care"

Darryl is the author of "The New Plant Parent" and creator of House Plant Journal. His passion for plants and engineering approach to plant care have turned him into one of the most trusted houseplant resources on the internet!



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What was initially a hobby Tumblr page has turned into an Instagram account with over half a million followers, a go-to website for anything houseplant related, his very own houseplant care book, and plant time-lapse videos that have gone viral.

Jon Eldridge, speaker chair ✿

From the Membership Desk

Thank you to the 48 people who have renewed their memberships thus far! September/October is when our new fiscal year begins, so if you haven't renewed yet, please take a moment to complete the updated renewal form and either bring it to the next meeting, email it, or send it by Canada Post to: Membership, 128 Queen St. S., Box 42048, Streetsville, Ontario, L5M 1K8 along with a cheque, cash, or e-transfer for the fee.

Membership has many benefits, one of which is the monthly newsletters full of lots of information, bulb sales, flower shows, monthly speakers, and community gardening. **Shelley Dodd, Membership Chair** ✿

Mother Earth we thank you



To be human being is an honor,
and we offer thanksgiving for all the gifts of life.
Mother Earth, we thank you for giving us everything we need.
"Thank you, deep blue waters around Mother Earth,
for you are the force that takes thirst away from all living things.
We give thanks to green grasses that feel so good against our bare feet,
for the cool beauty you bring to Mother Earth's floor.
"Thank you, good foods from Mother Earth,
our life sustainers, for making us happy when we are hungry.

~Chief Jake Swamp from "Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message" ✿



Chappell House Riverwood



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Seed Exchange

Don't forget to collect seeds in your garden prior to the October meeting. Make sure the flower heads are dry and cut the blooms and save the seeds.

Put the seeds in a paper envelope, coin envelope etc. Mark the front of the envelope with what kind of seeds they are and a bit of information as to colour of flowers, how to plant etc.

For example:

CLEOME / SPIDER PLANT

- Sprinkle seeds on surface of prepared soil after last frost.
- Do NOT cover them.
- Should be placed in moist soil when starting.
- Sun or semi-shade.
- Purple Flowers



Bring your seed packets to the October meeting and exchange with other members for different type of flowers.

Carol Ashford 🌸

Coffee Club Social



Our SHS Coffee Clubs have proven to be popular during the beautiful September weather! Members have enjoyed gathering at the Leslie Log House to see the spectacular gardens and to share stories about their gardens and travels. Around 16 to 18 people have attended each gathering. If the weather co-operates, we may extend the Coffee Club socials into October. Welcome to new members Kathy, Beverly, Lisa, Veronica, Marg, Rena, and John.

Shelley Dodd 🌸



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September 13, 2022, Flower Show Points Awarded

Anita King:	50
Sue Harshman:	42
Pat Salisbury:	37
Monica Schouten	26
Mary Gilbert:	22
Ursula Evanoff:	18
Shelley Dodd:	16
Rob Harshman:	14
Steve Fenech:	10
Grace Nelham:	4
Judy Kokis:	3

The Best in Show was Anita King for her hydrangea. The Judges Choice was Pat Salisbury for her vegetables





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BLAST FROM THE PAST - OCTOBER 2001

THYMELY TIPS

Week of October 1: Plant Narcissus, lilies and the small early spring blooming bulbs such as snowdrops, crocus, glory-of-the-snow, grape hyacinth, and scilla. Use garden compost and a dusting of bone meal to enrich the soil.

Week of October 7: Peonies can still be planted. Dig geraniums. Shake off most of the soil. Place in a paper bag. Slip another paper bag over the top. Store in a cool, not too moist space, such as a basement, until mid-February. Or dig young plants, trim roots cut back top- growth to 6 inches. Pot up in a sandy potting mix, keep on the dry side over the winter in a sunny window. Plant out in May.

Week of October 14: Photograph garden for records. Outdoors rake and pick up all rose leaves. Do not compost them as they may be diseased. Plant dormant roses as soon as you get them. Generously manure peonies if not done earlier. Place on ground around plants, making sure that stems are not covered.

Week of October 21: Outdoors plant shallot bulbs, garlic cloves and spring-blooming bulbs, such as allium, hyacinths and tulips. Cut off stalks of peonies about 2 inches above the ground. To prevent disease do not compost.

Week of October 28: Let the worms do your fall digging of your clay soil over the winter as follows: much soil with shredded leaves up to a foot of more and cover the leaves with a thin layer of horticultural sand (like fine gravel) to keep them from blowing away. Use a gas or electric trimmer to shred the leaves 12 inches at a time in a garbage can.

CNE AWARD - Monika Schouten

Congratulations to Monika Schouten! Monika planted up a beautiful planter and entered the CNE Garden Show window box class on behalf of Streetsville Horticultural Society. We were thrilled to learn that Monika's planter placed 2nd.

Not only is this a wonderful achievement for Monika, it is also rewarding for Streetsville Hort. Last year we also captured 2nd prize with a window box submitted by Ursula Evanoff.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Creamy Pumpkin Soup

16 ounces Pumpkin (canned or fresh pureed)
2 cups chicken broth
1 large onion
2 carrots (wheels or diced)
2 cups half & half or evaporated milk
1/4 cup sour cream
1/8 tsp pepper
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/3 teaspoon (or less) salt
4 teaspoons artificial bacon bits

In large pot add chicken broth, onions, carrot, salt & pepper. Simmer uncovered 10 - 15 minutes until carrots are soft. Optional: Put vegetable and broth into a food processor or blender & blend until smooth. Return to pot. Add pumpkin and half & half. Simmer uncovered for 10 minutes. Pour into soup bowls - 6 servings.

A perfect warmer-upper for a late fall day.





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Leslie Log House

Volunteers and an elderly gentleman enjoying the LLH gardens. Photos by Grace Nelham 🌸

The season is coming to an end, and we are slowly getting the gardens put to bed for another year. Seeds are being collected from the Echinacea, Cleome, Zinnias, Amaranthus, Veronica etc. hopefully to be used for the seed exchange and also for starting new plants in the beds next spring.

Work has yet to start on the arbor. We are still waiting to hear from the City regarding the digging of the post holes and until the time that happens, we are basically at a stand-still.

The left-over plants have been given the once over and the raised bed has been cleaned up, perhaps to take more Echinacea seedlings over the winter to be used in our 2023 Plant Sale.

We have had a good year, aside from the lack of rain, working with a core group of people who have given their time tirelessly. Many thanks to: Grace Nelham, Janice Ward, Judi Kokis, Monica Ross, Vivienne Holmes, Shelley Dodd, Marg Rowan, Nury Garzon, Vicki Cook, Shirley Boyes, MaryAnn Brown, Rob Dods, Steve Fenech, Sue Harshman, Eleanor Minnes, Marcia Spear, Martha Witney, Janet Shaw, Don Helsdon, Brent Hopkins, Mike and Pat Salisbury, Barry and Pauline Tippet. Thank you all for your contributions!! **Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair.** 🌸





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Native Corner - Jack-in-the-pulpit – *Arisaema triphyllum*



Jack-in-the-pulpit is such a strange plant, yet so compelling it's hard not to want to touch it. The perky little Jack (the spadix) sits straight up in his pulpit (the spathe). Jack-in-the-pulpit in the wild is found in the company of bellworts and wild geraniums in a shady forest in rich damp soil. The word triphyllum means three-leaved. *Arisaema* comes from a Greek word (aima) meaning "blood red" - a good description of the amazing red berries.

It grows one to three feet tall in open places or semi shade. It has three leaflets up to 6" long and 1 1/2 to 3" wide; the greenish spathe often has purple stripes. Inconspicuous flowers produce fruits that ripen into bright red berries. The corm is turnip shaped.

It is one of six members of the arum family, which includes 150 species throughout the world with relatives such as skunk cabbage, philodendron, bread fruit, and calla lily. Jack-in-the-pulpit, either tuberous or rhizomatous, is a herbaceous perennial living in swamps, bogs, and damp woods. There are three forms: A. triphyllum, which has a three-part leaf and is found in wetter habitats; the woodland B. *atrorubens*, which is dark red with a two-part leaf and is considered a

separate species; and the northern Jack-in-the-pulpit, C. *stewardsoii*, which is found in bogs in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The spathe is the sheath-like membrane with dark purple or brown stripes. It curls around the club-like spadix (Jack). Hidden beneath the sheath are two kinds of flowers: sterile and fertile. These inconspicuous flowers lurk deep inside the plant at the base of the spadix. The females are tiny green berries; the males are threadlike shedders of pollen. In autumn, the bright red berries are one of the identifying marks of the plant. As the berries ripen, the sheath shrivels up, opening the seed to heat and light.

Jack-in-the-pulpit has a remarkable way of adapting to its environment. The spadix can develop flowers of either sex. The root, a fleshy corm slightly bigger than that of a crocus, is bisexual- either a female or a male plant can rise from it- and each corm produces a single stem with distinctive points on the basal leaves. Which sex the plant will be depends on how much food is available. The female, because it develops the seeds, needs more food than the male. If there's too little food, only one leaf comes out in spring, and the plant keeps its major energy for root survival. Somehow, over the following year about equal numbers of male and female flowers emerge.

Although this isn't one of the insect-eating plants, the lower chamber, where the sex organs are located, acts as an insect trap. The unsuspecting creatures can get in but can't get back up the slick walls and past the flap to escape. The insects, especially fungus gnats,





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are attracted by the plant's rather erotic fungusy smell. Jack also has fierce chemical defences. Both the foliage and the corm produce calcium oxalate, a chemical so caustic most insects avoid eating its foliage. Humans and animals should also avoid eating this plant, which at best burns the mouth (I have first-hand knowledge of this!), and at worst causes such violent irritation to the stomach that it can be fatal.

It's a mystery how people ever found uses for this poisonous plant. Native peoples were very aware of its toxic effect. They made very dilute infusions for a sore throat or as an eyewash. The roots were pounded into poultices for headaches or boiled and mixed with a meal to help bring boils to a head or heal abscesses. Iroquois women used the rhizomes in an infusion as a form of contraception. Later, when horses were introduced to North America, the boiled plant was ground up and added to a mare's feed to induce pregnancy and reduce listlessness.

I hope to see you out and about exploring! Happy spotting!

As always, never dig up plants from the wild, and don't buy from nurseries that do. **Heather Marchment** 🌸





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Flower Show-

Class Horticultural

- 1 Aconitum (Monkshood)
- 2 Branch showing Fall colour - not over 36" from top of vase
- 3 Branch showing fruit - not over 36" from top of vase
- 4 Cactus or succulent - any variety, 1 pot
- 5 Chrysanthemum - single - 1 spray
- 6 Chrysanthemum - double - 1 spray
- 7 Coleus - 1 cultivar, 3 stems
- 8 Collection of garden flowers, may include branches and grasses - minimum 5 different cultivars

1 entry per exhibitor

- 9 Herbs - 3 stems, one each of 3 different cultivars
- 10 Ornamental grass - 1 cultivar - 3 stems
- 11 Sedum - any cultivar - 3 stems
- 12 Zinnia - 1 bloom
- 13 Any other perennial not listed - 1 bloom or stem
- 14 Any other annual not listed - 1 bloom or stem
- 15 Any vegetable - 1 large or 3 small specimens, Same cultivar, on a plate
- 16 Any fruit - 3 specimens, same cultivar
- 17 3 different seed stalks

Design Theme: All Hallows Eve

- 18 Welcome to my nightmare - a design using a Halloween Character such as a ghost, skeleton, or bats
- 19 MEMBERS CHOICE
A carved or decorated pumpkin of any theme
Entries will be judged by members