



# Streetsville Blooms



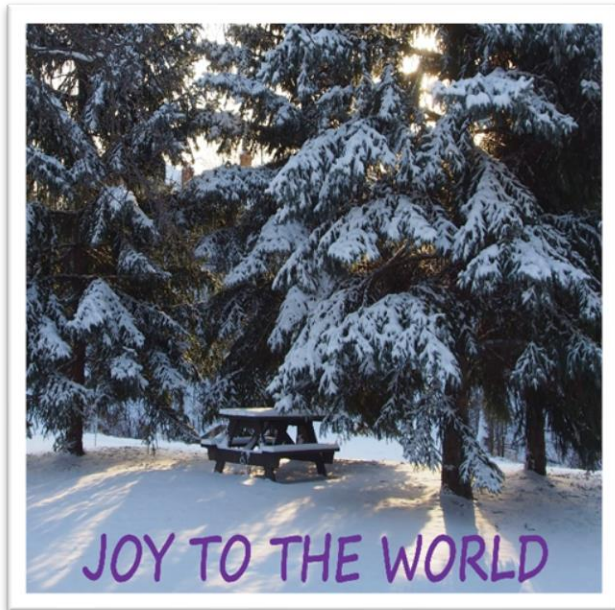
Streetsville Horticultural Society

*Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association*

Volume 30, Issue 5

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

January 2023



## Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>

Streetsville United Church

In Heritage Hall

274 Queen Street South

Set up at 6:30 pm

Doors open at 7 p.m.,

Meeting starts at 7:30 pm

## Co-Presidents Message

Who would have thought that 22 years have already flown by since New Year's Eve 1999. Remember way back when we were afraid the clocks would stop, all the computers would crash, bank machines would quit etc. when the clock struck 12:00 taking us into the 2000's.

This is a time to reflect back on our gardens. Think about what you have in your garden, plants that have spread and taking up too much space. Or a particular plant that just might be in the wrong spot in your garden. Go back through any photos you may have taken of your garden over the past couple of years and start thinking about "weeding" out some of those unwanted plants from your garden.

Spring is really just around the corner and that, of course, means the Plant Sale. So now is the time to start planning what you can donate to the Society. In the past we have made quite a bit of money with the Plant Sale. It is, in fact, our biggest money raiser and helps us have excellent speakers, give premiums away to members, pay our rent, place plants in community gardens such as Rotary Park and the Log House. It's never too early to start planning your garden.... so check out your photos, grab a few gardening magazines and get started while the weather is too cold to be outside!



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We had to postpone the installation of the arbor at the Log House but once the weather is conducive to doing so, we will get it done. As you know, the arbor was to be our 50th Anniversary project but we had to wait for approval from Heritage Mississauga who have a say in whatever is put on heritage property. Thankfully it has finally all been approved, and we will get busy in the spring and have it completed before the summer.

We wish you all a very Happy New Year and please remember we are still looking for someone to take over the Draw Table, someone to take over Program (choosing what speakers and topics will be presented at our meetings) and also a Flower Show Chairperson. Our next flower show will be in May so there is plenty of time to acquaint yourself with how it is done and also, we have several past chairs who will be happy to share advice and tips.

**Carol and Monica, Co-presidents SHS** ✿

## **What do gardeners do in January?**

We remember or we try to remember what went well last year, we dream about what we have always wanted our gardens to look like for the coming year.

How do you do this? First look through any photos you have from last year, what looked great and unfortunately what didn't. Make notes, such as move this plant, divide this plant, don't buy that garish annual again, plant more or less of this plant, many vegetables didn't do well in 2022 due to excessive heat and little rainfall. Make a watering plan.

If someone asks me what I do in the winter, my answer is always 'Clean the house' and after the house is clean and tidy again, I have time for armchair gardening. Armchair gardening can be done all year round, but it is most often a winter activity. You need an armchair, hopefully a fireplace, a cup of tea or something stronger and the most important ingredient, a stack of garden catalogues. They could be for seeds or bulbs, perhaps for perennials, roses or garden tools.

January is the time when new catalogues are available, many seed catalogues are still available as printed documents. Even though a paper catalogue is not very environmentally friendly this process works better if they can be touched, flipped backwards and forwards, left in a heap open at the right page or the corners turned down while you eagerly check out the next one. Trying to do this online is just not the same. Old catalogues can be a marvelous source of inspiration, the pictures and information in them last forever. I even have catalogues from companies that no longer exist like Cruikshank's and Garden Import bulb houses. Stoke's seed catalogues are packed with useful information.

Pre-order annual seeds for vegetables and flowering annuals, plus summer flowering bulbs like dahlias, gladioli, freesias, crocosmia, tuberose.



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What else can you do in the winter? Learn something new about plants, or garden design, how to build raised beds or a cold frame. A good source for how to's is the Horticulture Magazine website <https://www.hortmag.com/> there are hundreds of articles on every gardening related subject. If you sign up to receive their newsletters

Fine Gardening has many great articles and videos, but I think you now need to be a subscriber.

Perhaps you would enjoy garden related videos, there are thousands on You Tube, all you need to do is search for an interesting topic.

The national Garden Bureau has many options <https://ngb.org/garden-videos/>

✿ Monica

## Membership Desk

It was great to see everyone who attended our in-person meeting in December. Welcome to Judy Castelino and Angela Van Elswyk who joined the society, as well as one other member who renewed her membership bringing our total to 90. Thank you to Sandra, Faulene, and Maureen for their help at the membership table and for making our new members feel welcome by touring them around the venue. ✿ Shelley Dodd

## Refreshment Table

Thank you to our members who contributed to the refreshment table, by leaving a cash donation, we donated the December cash contributions to the Eden Food Bank in the amount of \$ 31.15.

Thank you, also, to the members of our Board of Directors for providing refreshments, along with other members who donated to the goodie table, either treats or providing a crock pot for the delicious apple cider and mulled cranberry/rasp hot drinks. And to Liz Menard, and Marcia Spear (non-Board members).



Please remember to sign the sheet if you contribute to the refreshment table, I would like to be able to make an acknowledgment in our newsletter. See you In January!

✿Martha Witney and Vivianne Holmes. Refreshment Coordinators



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## Food Bank Donation



Thank you to everyone for the very successful and fun meeting, the last of the year!

We raised \$342.15 for the Eden Food Bank. \$191.00 from the raffle table, \$31.15- from the refreshment table, and \$120.00 from the bulb demo.

We made the deposit and Martha kindly offered

to deliver the cheque to The Eden Food Bank.

Hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with friends and family! Enjoy! 🌸 **Mare-Ann Brown**

## Speaker of the month

The speaker on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, is Mr. Jim Lounsbery, founder and owner of Vineland Nurseries in Beamsville. His topic is "Dwarf and Unusual conifers in the landscape"

Jim is a certified Arborist and he founded Vineland nurseries 35 years ago. The nursery specializes in unusual plants, including but not limited to: evergreens, Japanese maples, bamboo, rhododendrons, and heathers.

He is a past instructor of horticultural landscape and design at Mohawk College, Niagara College and Humber college, and a lecturer on garden topics throughout Ontario and the US.

He has appeared on TV at Gardener's journal and Calling all Gardeners. He has also been supervisor of the Arboretum trail system at RBG Hamilton. 🌸 **Jon Eldridge**







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## TWO FRAULEINS A HIT

As predicted, Ursula Evanoff and Monika Schouten delivered a wonderful presentation at our December meeting. Monika and Ursula have been delighting SHS members with their talents since 2000 when they dressed in their native costumes and amazed us with their stunning creations. This year was no exception. Monika dressed up as "The Elf on the Shelf" which brought many smiles to our members.

Ursula donated three centerpieces to the draw table, plus the one she made during the meeting, and Monika donated the lovely centerpiece she made as well. Members were thrilled to win such beautiful arrangements that will grace their homes over the holidays!

Thank you so much for your fun-filled demonstration Monika & Ursula!!



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## 50+ VOLUNTEER HOURS

Shirley Boyes receives her 50+ Volunteer Hours certificate from Carol Ashford. Shirley donated more than 50 hours to the plant sale by potting up and painting beautiful garden signs.

Unfortunately, she was absent from the AGM due to sickness so did not receive her certificate with the others who were recognized. 🌸 **Carol Ashford**



## Bulb Forcing

At our December meeting, about 20 people participated in the bulb-forcing workshop. Pots, soil, and a variety of tulips bulbs and crocus were provided by SHS.

We look forward to seeing the results in March. If you participated, please take pictures of your bulbs as they grow and bloom.

Also, if you bought bulbs and have not had time to plant them outside, its not too late, you can still plant them in pots and bury them in your garden, or put them in the garage or a cold cellar

🌸 **Monica Ross**





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## Rare Species: The corpse flower

*Amorphophallus titanum*, the **titan arum** has the largest unbranched inflorescence in the world. Is native solely to western Sumatra, where it grows in openings in rainforests on limestone hills. However, the plant is cultivated by botanical gardens and a few private collectors around the world.

Due to its odor, like that of a rotting corpse, the titan arum is characterized as a **carrion flower** and is also known as the **corpse flower** or **corpse plant**. The odor ("fragrance") resembles rotting meat, attracting carrion-eating beetles and flesh flies that pollinate it.

The inflorescence's deep red color and texture contribute to the illusion that the spathe is a piece of meat. During the bloom, the tip of the spadix is roughly human body temperature, which helps the perfume volatilize; this heat is also believed to assist in the illusion that attracts carcass-eating insects.

Each year, the old leaf dies and a new one grows in its place. When the corm has stored enough energy, it becomes dormant for about four months. Then the process repeats.

The titan arum generally requires 5 through 10 years of vegetative growth before blooming for the first time.

*The Corpse Flower*, a book written by Swedish author Anne Mette Hancock follows journalist Heloise Kaldan and homicide detective Erik Schäfer as they try to locate a missing woman named Anna Kiel. Readers may love it; it is interesting, as the plant where it takes its name, as well and it is available at Mississauga Public Library. 🌸 Nury Garzon





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## PHOTO GALLERY



Members Judy Castelino and Pat Salisbury with their arrangements

