



STREETSVILLE BLOOMS



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 21, Issue 1

Sept. 2014

NEXT MEETING: SEPT. 9TH

**CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH
2630 Inlake Court**

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

PHOTO CONTEST DEADLINE

Speaker: Dugald Cameron

Topic: "Plant a Spectacular Spring Garden Now"

Speaker Bio: Dugald's gardening career began at an early age in his English Grandmother's garden where he'd occasionally help with weeding & digging. He must have "caught the bug" then, because he's been interested in plants and gardens ever since. Lynn Pashleigh, his Father and Dugald started Gardenimport in 1983 because they couldn't find the quality or selection of plants they wanted for their gardens. Since that time they've had the pleasure of introducing many plants, bulbs and seeds to gardeners all across Canada. Their constant search for new or scarce garden plants has led to close relationships with many of the worlds leading plant breeders and gardening authorities.

An earlier career in advertising together with a degree in biology and several years of photography at The Ontario College of Art were a perfect preparation for the mail order nursery business.

He was on the board of directors at The Toronto Botanical Garden from 1996 to 2009 where he continues as a volunteer working on programming and special events. Dugald also speaks and teaches on many subjects to Horticultural Societies. His current gardening passions are tuberous Begonias & Clematis, Daffodils and Tulips.

Dugald and his wife both work in the business where, with the help of an invaluable and dedicated staff of people who love bulbs and plants, supply the latest in new bulbs, plants, vines and shrubs all across Canada.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Autumn is one of the great seasons for beauty in our gardens. The asters, rudbeckia and chrysanthemums are at their peak and many annuals are more beautiful than at any other time. SHS is also starting up another busy season.

In October you will have an opportunity to bring along your friends and neighbors to our October Friend Day. The guest speaker for Friend Day, Jack Kent, is outstanding. We want to grow our gardens as well as our membership.

The fall is also a great time to divide perennials. With the end of the growing season in sight, it is time to plan ahead. Some of your perennials may have outgrown their current location and need to be divided. Monarda (bee balm), perennial salvia, peonies and yarrow are just a few examples of plants that can be divided at this time of year. As you are doing it, think about setting some aside in a part of your garden where they can be kept for the Plant Sale next May. We need lots of healthy plants!

As you divide your perennials, think also about sharing some with neighbors so that they can enjoy them as well. A number of our members regularly give divided perennials to those living around them. What a great way to brighten up a community. If you do have an opportunity to share plants with others, you can also provide some advice on growing them successfully.

The autumn is also a time to do some planning for next year. Are there areas of your garden that need a splash of color? This is your chance to move some plants to a place in your garden that may look a little dull or one that lacks color at a certain time of year.

During all of your gardening work remember that whenever you have questions, we have members who have expertise in all areas of horticulture. Don't hesitate to ask for advice. That's part of what being a volunteer is all about.

Rob & Sue Harshman, Co-Presidents

DESIGNING A GARDEN – THE NEXT STEP

Last month we discussed the importance of a site assessment to a successful garden. Today we are going to look at the next steps to a winning garden. We will look at setting goals, establishing a budget for money and time, maintenance, and making a plant list.

When setting goals, the first question you must ask is why. Why do I want a garden? Once you answer this question, you are well on your way to creating a garden that pleases you. Reasons for wanting a garden are many and varied, such as: attracting butterflies, birds and wildlife; creating interest or “curb” appeal; entertaining; providing fragrance and a steady supply of cut flowers; hiding eyesores, cooking with herbs in the kitchen; and for self-esteem to name a few. Come up with two or three reasons for having a garden and when it is completed you will be able to judge whether or not it is a success. Remember too many reasons makes creating a garden complicated.

Establishing a budget is the next step in creating a successful landscape. The costs of garden design, soil preparation, purchasing materials and maintaining the garden vary widely. In addition, the gardener will need a long-term budget to maintain the garden annually.



Not only does the gardener need to budget money, she needs to budget her time. How much time do you have to maintain the garden? This answer will help with the decision-making process on the style and size of the garden, as well as the number of high-maintenance plants used.

The third step to think about is maintenance. Who is going to take care of the garden? What is their experience level and how many hours per week are available to be spent on maintenance? There are a number of ways to reduce maintenance time in the garden. According to Tracy Disabato-Aust, garden designer, gardens should be made up of at least 70 per cent lower-maintenance plants. A gardener should look for plants that have at least four of the following six traits: long-lived; insect and disease resistant or tolerant; noninvasive; minimal

pruning requirements; minimal division and staking requirements; and minimal fertilizer requirements. As the gardener's confidence and skill level grows, higher-maintenance or specialty plants may be added.

Lastly, the fourth step to successful garden design is making a plant list. Make a list all of the

Gaillardia grandiflora Blanket Flower

Flower: disc;
orange, yellow,
and red bands
Habit: 12 – 36"
Blooms:
midsummer to
frost

plants that match the environment you noted in your site assessment. Select an assortment of plants that fit your budget and match your gardening abilities and will fulfill the goals that you established for the garden.

Fortunately, when you purchase plants from a reputable dealer or nursery, each plant comes with a tag that bears important plant information, including sun, water and soil requirements. If the plant does not seem suited for your conditions, do not

consider buying it or you will be disappointed in the long run.

Once you have finished the plant list, choose about 10 plants with which you would like to start. Keep to about 10 plants at a time so as not to be overwhelmed. Happy planting!

By Debra Lemire

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

Fall signals the time for your **membership renewal** in SHS. Please fill out the attached membership form and bring it along to our meeting in September or mail it in to the address on the form. Every member is encouraged to complete the survey section on the back of the form since the executive uses this valuable information to make decisions about the future direction of all aspects of the society. Also situations change and you may wish to volunteer for different activities this year. Save time by using a return address sticker for your information. Please check to make sure we have your **most up-to-date email address**, which is only used to communicate SHS information.

I am asking that you make an extra effort to **pay your dues in September**, if not in person then

by mail. Please try to have **exact change** or write a **cheque**. Last year this renewal took several months and I would like to speed up this process.

The sign in desk will be simplified to make the line up easier to manage. There will be a line for last names ending in A - G, H - P, Q - Z and another line for Life members along with our newest members who just need to pick up their new membership cards.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members who signed up in June at our "Bring a Friend" evening. Single members are **Wendy Arrighi, Louise Brown, Bonnie Killen, Julie Marchand, Janet McCarthy, Suzie Tonkin, Quang Tran, Barb Umphrey and Renate Wust**. Family members are **Alex & Karen Jordan and Brian & Jessica Patterson**. Please reach out to these new members and make them feel welcome!

I am also looking for help throughout the year on the membership desk to help other members with their tags and signing in. I will have a clipboard available at every meeting so that you can volunteer. What a great way to get to know other members in our society!

I appreciate all those who helped me over the past year, **Pat & Mike Salisbury, Heather Tregaskes, Marg Rowan, Marie Kothari, Shirley Boyes, Christine McEwan, Martha Whitney, Cathy Sanderson, Diana DiBiase and Elizabeth Sbrocchi**.

Grace McElhinney, Membership Chair

ROTARY PARK

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped out during the summer. Anyone who has not been to the park, the change to a more sculptured garden is amazing. We have planted rhododendrons, more hydrangeas and a magnolia tree. I was there on Saturday and there was a couple sitting on the lawn reading and just enjoying the park.

The next step is to change the plants beside the library. There are many old bushes to be removed this fall so that this spring we can plant hydrangeas and nicer hostas.

Also there will be some dramatic changes taking place shortly as the City opens up the west side of the park with another entrance and also the inclusion of planters and watering system.

Due to the cooler weather we have changed the "clean up" time to Mondays at 2 pm – 4 pm each week. ***We need help please***

Ruthanne Beehoo, Rotary Park Chair

PHOTO CONTEST 2013-2014

Hope you all had a wonderful summer and were able to capture some pictures of this beautiful world of ours. Here are the categories for the contest again in case you misplaced them:

Class 1	"Footprints"
Class 2	"Kids and Nature"
Class 3	"Old Barn or Shed"
Class 4	"Clouds and Sky (only)"
Class 5	"Your Best Photo (Nature)"
Class 6	"Scenic Trail"
Class 7	"Spring Blossoms"
Class 8	"Over the Edge"

Photo Contest Rules

- **Closing Date is Sept. 9th 2014 meeting.**
- All pictures must have been taken by the competitor and be nature related.
 - Colored photos, no larger than 4" x 6".
- One entry per class per single membership.
- Two entries per class per family membership.
- If photo does not meet category it will be rejected.
- Previously submitted photos not allowed.
- Pictures to be taken this fiscal year.

We will be collecting entries at the SHS September 9th meeting.

Write the number of the photo class on the back of the picture applying to that particular category. This way the judge, or judges can't see who the photo belongs to. Please put your photos in an envelope, with your name on the outside.

If there is a category or categories you would like to see in the 2014-2015 photo contest, please submit them to me: h-schouten@hotmail.com. We will select the best eight categories and post them in the October newsletter.

Henry Schouten, Photo Contest Chair

SHS WEBSITE Coming soon! Watch for details on SHS's brand new website.

SEPTEMBER FLOWER SHOW

DESIGN: THEME – MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

- Class 1 “Duet” a design using 2 containers
Class 2 “Barn Dance” – a floral design using vegetables or fruit

MINIATURES

- Class 3 “Solo”

NOVICE

- Class 4 “All That Jazz” – a design using colorful flowers

CULTURAL

- Class 5 Antirrhinum (snapdragon) 2 spikes – same cultivar
Class 6 Any annual not listed – 1 bloom or spray
Class 7 Any perennial not listed – 1 stem or spray – named
Class 8 Aster – Callisterplus chinesis – 2 stems
Class 9 Cleome – 2 blooms same color
Class 10 Coleus – 2 stems
Class 11 Cosmos – 3 stems – same cultivar
Class 12 Dahlia – 6”-8” – 1 bloom – at least 1 set of leaves
Class 13 Dahlia – AOV – 1 bloom – at least 1 set of leaves
Class 14 Dahlia - cactus – 1 bloom – at least 1 set of leaves
Class 15 Dahlia – single or novelty – 1 bloom – at least 1 set of leaves
Class 16 Echinacea – 2 blooms
Class 17 Gladioli – 1 spike
Class 18 Marigold – French – 3 blooms – 1 cultivar
Class 19 Nasturtiums – 3 or more blooms – with or without leaves
Class 20 Pelargonium (Geranium) – 1 to 3 blooms – foliage attached
Class 21 Peppers – bell peppers – 1 cultivar – 2 specimens
Class 22 Petunia – 2 sprays – any variety
Class 23 Phlox – 1 stem
Class 24 Plant grown for foliage – 2 stems – excluding coleus
Class 25 Rose – Florabunda – 1 spray
Class 26 Rose – hybrid – 1 bloom
Class 27 Rose – miniature – 1 bloom
Class 28 Rose – most fragrant – 1 bloom
Class 29 Salvia – 3 stems – same cultivar

- Class 30 Vine – 1 bloom or spray – less than 30”
Class 31 Zinnia – 2 blooms – over 2”
Class 32 Zinnia – 2 blooms – under 2”
Class 33 Apples – 1 cultivar – 2 specimens
Class 34 Cucumber – 2 – same cultivar
Class 35 Tomato – heirloom variety – 2 specimens – same cultivar – calyx on
Class 36 Tomato – red – 2 specimens – same cultivar – over 6 2.5” – calyx on
Class 37 Tomato – small fruited – 1 truss
Class 38 Vegetable – AOV 1 – 3 specimens – same cultivar

All cultural exhibits to be grown by the entrant and must have been in their possession for 90 days. All entrants must be on the table by **7:30** p.m.

For further information consult the SHS Flower Show Handbook on our website at : http://www.gardenontario.org/site/s260/2013_shs_ownershow_handbook.pdf or call Nicky Hall (905 858-2553) or Lynne Sereda (905 819-1287).

LESLIE LOG HOUSE

Thanks to the many volunteers who came out this summer the gardens at the Leslie Log House are looking beautiful. We also have been blessed to have a rep. from the Museums of Mississauga on hand every Wednesday as well, to prepare coffee for us and ensure we have the use of the washroom.

Volunteers who participated: **Grace Nelham, Janis Farris, Dean Scully, Monica Ross, Ruthanne Beehoo, Michelle Bettig, Janice Ward, Lorena D’Arsie, Joan Chin, Diana DiBiase, Rob & Sue Harshman, Mary Hachey, Enza Lafratta, Mary Bernier, Eleanor Minnes, and Alex & Anita King.** Some came out more than once and some even came out every week! Since Sept. 2013 we logged **263** volunteer hours at the Leslie Log House Property!!! Thank you, Thank you!!

One Wednesday, 7 of us (all women) gathered rocks and placed them around the round garden at the front of the house to give the bed definition. Amazing work ladies!!

We had many of our perennials seed themselves out this spring and in that regard we decided to create a nursery bed to house the plants

this winter. Hopefully the offspring will make a great addition to our spring Plant Sale. We also undertook to build a 2-bin composter and I would be remiss if I did not give a special thanks to **Robb Dods, Monica Ross, Dean Scully** and **Monika Schouten** for their efforts in this regard.



The fall is a great time to visit the Leslie Log House property. Drop by on a Wednesday or Sunday afternoon to check out the interior of the house or anytime to take a walk around the property. Who knows what you might come across!

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log Chair

VOLUNTEERISM

Thank you to all our members who volunteered their time over the past year - there are so many ways to lend a helping hand: Annual Plant Sale, Community gardens, Flower shows, School Outreach, being a Board member / Executive member. At the General meetings: greeters, refreshments, helping set up / clean up, and more...

As a SHS member, find ways you can contribute your time for the betterment of our society. It is greatly appreciated.

Submit your hours to me at (905 303-4491) or gattescohouse@rogers.com

Eleonora Roberts, Volunteer Chair

GARDEN TOUR

On Sunday, July 13, over 50 members and 9 guests enjoyed our annual Garden Tour. Thank you to all of our hosts/hostesses for opening

up your gardens for the tour this year. Also, a thank you goes out to everyone who assisted me with the preparation work involved in organizing this event: **Michelle Bettig, Nigel Roberts, Sue & Rob Harshman**.

The pot luck was held at the Harshman's garden immediately following the garden tour. There was a wonderful assortment of food for everyone. Thank you **Amgad Boles** and **Nigel Roberts** for preparing the meat dishes (paid for by the society). Draw prizes, provided by the society, included a Bird House, a tuscan-inspired Mirror, an outdoor Patio Lantern and various other smaller prizes. Plants were donated by **Mary Hachey**.

I invite you to open up your garden to the tour in 2015. Every one of us approaches gardening in their own way - and it is great to share your style, expertise, ingenuity or creativity with your fellow SHS members. Please consider showing your garden off in 2015. We would love to see it.

Many of us who showed their garden this year said how wonderful it was to have a reason to "get their garden in order". Sometimes we put off dealing with a certain section of the garden, but committing to the garden tour somehow gets you going on that corner you've been neglecting. It's such a great feeling of accomplishment to finally get it done, spurred on by the fact that it will be "on show". As you can see by the variety of gardens, both large and small, we all have something a little different to offer.

On a side note, I had a comment from one of our guests on how wonderful it was to meet "actual gardeners" on the Tour.

Here are the highlights of the gardens...

Garden #1: Hosts Eleonora & Nigel Roberts SHS members since March 2010. "Tuscan Garden"

We visited this garden again, now that the back half has been addressed. Strong hardscape design, gravel walkways, stone patios & eating "al fresco" are all elements of the "Tuscan Garden."



Garden #2: Guest Garden: Hosts Christine & Steven Murphy. "Three Wishes Garden"

The formal garden at the front of this historic Georgian & Regency home suits its symmetrical design - the front door is flanked by Hydrangeas, Euonymus & Spirea. The back garden, however, is informal and there was a non-traditional use of a garden shed.



Garden #3: Guest Garden: Host Terry Wilson. "Olde Meadowvale Miniature Village"



Terry Wilson re-created the olde Meadowvale Village in his backyard, and at the home of his mother, Rosemary, who lives two doors down from him.

It's full of miniature buildings including a blacksmith's shop, a mercantile store, a schoolhouse and the Meadowvale train station. If you missed the garden tour this year, you can visit these 2 gardens as part of Doors Open Mississauga on September 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Garden #4: Host Monica Ross, SHS member since May 2013. "The Garden Lady"

A triangular garden greeted us filled with perennials. You couldn't miss the spectacular climbing Hydrangeas by the front door. An open-styled fretwork gate beckoned us into the back garden area.



Garden #5: Host Suzanne Mouradian, SHS member since May 2013. "The Cottage Garden"

A charming cottage garden awaited us where every little space was taken up with a mix of ornamental and edible plants.



Suzanne designs her garden like a painting, filling the space with balance and color.

Garden #6: Hosts Sabbas D'Souza & Dione Lemay. SHS members since 2013. "Whimsical Garden"

Adding lighthearted humor to the garden creates whimsy. This garden surprised us with the unexpected use of re-purposed objects.



Garden #7: Hosts Heather & Philip Walker, SHS members since 2011. "Garden of Ingenuity"

This garden is a mix of perennials, herbs and vegetables. Heather & Phil labeled their specimens, which was an added bonus.



Garden #8: Hosts Rob & Sue Harshman. SHS members since July 2004. "A Garden of Grandeur"

The beautifully designed garden by homeowners and SHS co-presidents, Rob and Sue is on a large lot, which allows for the creation of garden "rooms." Statuary throughout the garden adds a lovely formal touch.



Eleonora Roberts, Garden Tour Chair

EARTHQUAKES

The recent earthquake in California brought to mind some folklore I heard once upon a time:

“THE TREMBLING EARTH

Whenever the ground quaked and trembled, demolishing houses, uprooting trees and causing great abysses to open, it served as a reminder of the earth’s precarious position, for ancient lore made it plain that the world did not rest on firm foundations.

Some African storytellers said that all life sprouted from the head of a living giant. Trees, flowers and grasses grew as his hair, and people and animals were the parasites crawling on his scalp. Earthquakes occurred whenever the giant sneezed or twitched or turned his head too suddenly.

Elsewhere it was thought that a foul-tempered giant bore the earth on his back and sometimes fell to fighting with his equally enormous brothers – who themselves may have carried planets on their backs.

Yet some wise elders insisted that the giant was more affectionate in nature, when he and his wife embraced, they did so with such vigor that the whole earth quaked with their passion.”

REFRESHMENTS

The Refreshment Table could use your help. If you would like to bring some refreshments (squares, cheese & crackers, cookies, etc.) to the September meeting it would be greatly appreciated. **No Nuts** please as Church is a “Nut Free Zone”.



Call Mary Hachey at 905 858-8897 if you are able to volunteer. The refreshment table is a great place to meet other members and enjoy a little snack as well.

Mary Hachey, Refreshment Chair

SEPTEMBER GARDENING TIPS

- ✓ Stop pruning and fertilizing.
 - ✓ Bring summer vacationing houseplants back indoors while the windows are still open. Check carefully for hitchhiking pests.
 - ✓ Start fall clean-up in the flower beds, cutting back anything that has finished blooming or is diseased.
 - ✓ Take cuttings to overwinter indoors. Root cuttings from annual bedding plants such as begonias, coleus, geraniums and impatiens. These plants can be overwintered in a sunny window and provide plants for next years garden.
 - ✓ Rake up leaves, twigs and fruit from crabapple trees and dispose of them in the trash to help control crab apple disease.
 - ✓ Start winterizing your water garden.
 - ✓ Watch for frost warnings and cover tender plants.
 - ✓ Save seeds from favorite self-pollinating, non-hybrid flowers such as marigolds by allowing the flower heads to mature. Lay seeds on newspaper and turn them often to dry. Store the dried seeds in glass jars or envelopes in a cool, dry, dark place.
 - ✓ Photograph your gardens and containers for a record of successes and frustrations.
 - ✓ Perennial phlox can be divided about every third or fourth year. Divide big clumps of perennial phlox into thirds. Early fall or early spring are the best times to plant or transplant them.
 - ✓ Give the compost a last turn.
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DRAW TABLE

If you are in the process of cleaning house – reducing, reusing, recycling; how about considering regifting. The draw table is always looking for great finds to regift to members and raise a little money as well. Money raised goes towards room rental, speaker fees, community planting etc.

One member recently donated quite a few lovely baskets for the table. Now we need goodies to go in the baskets..... So, if you have some gardening books, candles, napkins, figurines, etc. you no longer want, please consider a donation to the draw table.

For further information call Mary Bernier at 905 821-8431. Thank you.

LIFE AFTER DEATH

When a tree falls in the forest, its second life begins. Perhaps it is ironic that dead trees may contribute more to their ecosystem than live ones. Snags (standing dead trees) provide invaluable nesting habitat and shelter for woodland creatures, but the role trees play in the forest ecosystem becomes even more important after they have toppled to the ground.

Wherever a rotting log happens to lie, it is location-central within the forest. Numerous organisms draw energy and nutrients from the wood; other critters consume the wood eaters. Still others shelter in, on, under or around the increasingly busy microhabitat the log has become. Timelapse photography would show the initially intact, hard log slowly disappearing into the earth.

In effect, a fallen tree undergoes reverse succession, from the initial crash to the forest floor to its complete assimilation into the ecosystem decades later. The first to arrive on the scene are the “pioneer” species, such as bark beetles and long-horned beetles which chew their way into the hard wood and possess cellulose-digesting enzymes in their stomachs. The tunnels the beetles create allow moisture to penetrate the log, softening it. Bacteria and fungi, which enter the log as hitchhikers on the beetles, thrive in the damp environment. Billions of fungal spores float in like tiny parachutists on the wind. Fungi are superb wood rotters. Their thread-like hyphae (filaments of the fungus that spread through rotting wood) permeate even the hardest wood, spreading along the lines of least resistance between the annual rings in the trunk and along vascular rays (narrow fluid-transporting tunnels that run the length of the tree).

Moss begins to grow on top of the log, causing it to retain even more moisture. Gradually – and this can take anywhere from several years to several decades – having been softened and tunneled out, the log becomes something like a longish sponge. This is the ‘nurse log’ stage, during which wind-borne tree seeds can germinate and thrive on its surface. Small animals shelter under it. Predators such as centipedes and salamanders are drawn by the abundance of life the log supports and the moist microhabitat.

The life forms that inhabit a dead tree vary with the seasons. If you were to examine a log in

wintertime, you might find a hibernating mourning cloak butterfly, hornet queen or moth cocoon. Autumn is the best time to discover fungal fruiting bodies and salamanders – which are also present in the spring. In dry summer weather, a host of invertebrates – including millipedes, centipedes, snails and slugs seek damp shelter within the “under log” environs.

Overturning a log to peek at the fascinating world beneath should be done quickly. Always replace the log exactly as you found it. When logs have been left upturned, the decades-old microhabitats underneath them are destroyed.

Some of the tenants: the creatures and organisms for whom death is simply the continuation of life..Brown Millipede, Five Lined Skink, Redbelly Snake, Red-back salamander, Snails and slugs, Turkey Tail fungus, Wolf spider Brilliant soot-ball, and Dew Worms etc.

Turkey Tail Fungus: one of the prettier fungi found on rotting logs, turkey tails grow in rosettes or in overlaps. The stalkless caps are semi-



circular with a leathery appearance and alternating bands of tan, brown, orange, amber and grey. The edges are often wavy. Turkey tails penetrate the wood, breaking down the cellulose fibre and lignin and releasing carbon dioxide.

Excerpt “On Nature” – Autumn 2005
Dan Schneider & Peter Pautler

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