



STREETSVILLE BLOOMS



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 20, Issue 7

APRIL 2014

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 8TH

**CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH
2630 Inlake Court**

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Wolfe Bonham

**Topic: “The Gardens of BC: Rhodos,
Mosses & Mountains, Oh My!”**

Speaker Bio: Having had two previous careers, one as a music producer, and more recently as a jewelry designer, Wolfe never envisioned he would be involved in the horticulture world. Forced to build gardens around his booths at several of the medieval festivals he sold his jewelry at, he soon discovered he had both a knack and a passion for gardening.

In his spare time he began attending workshops and seminars at the RBG and TBG, as well as Mohawk College. He soon realized he was only a few credits shy of achieving his Honors Certificates in both Landscape Design and Horticulture.

To further his plant knowledge he worked for Fernridge Landscaping under renowned gardener Sean James, and then as a Nursery Manager for Terra Greenhouses. Following this he stepped out on his own to form his landscaping design/build company, Peace, Love, and Landscaping, serving clients in Burlington, Oakville, and Hamilton.

Several of his installations have achieved both garden industry and community awards. He is also one of the very few certified Dry Stone Wallers in Canada, and is a former member of the Board for the Oakville Horticultural Society. He has also had the opportunity to study Japanese Garden Design in Japan, and is a certified Feng Shui consultant.

It's sure to be an interesting and informative presentation. Make sure you don't miss it.

Dean Scully, Program Chair

President's Message

On Saturday May 24 we will hold the biggest event of our year and our largest fundraiser. This is the date for our Annual Plant Sale and this year we have changed our location. The Sale will be held at the Leslie Log House where we have created and maintained gardens for several years. In addition to our regular Sale, we plan to have a children's program and sell our Cookbooks.

For the Plant Sale, members contribute garden plants, which are potted up well prior to the date and then sold. We have lots of jobs for everyone. We need volunteers to pot up plants, transport them to the Sale, set up tables, help at the Sale and clean up. The old expression that “many hands make light work” fits our Plant Sale day perfectly.

April is a good time for you to think about the plants you could contribute to the Sale. Keep in mind most perennials thrive when they are split and replanted and spring is the ideal time to do just that. In our garden last year, for example, we divided a variety of our blue hostas for the Plant Sale. Within three weeks they had grown back so well we couldn't see what we had given to the Sale!

By the way, if you are planning to start some annuals indoors early, perhaps you might think about growing some for the Plant Sale. Annuals have sold very well over the years at our Sales.

The money we raise from the Sale helps to fund our programs so that we can continue to enjoy excellent speakers and workshops. In addition it funds local programs in our community.

So we suggest you start planning how you can contribute to our Plant Sale on May 24 and together we can make it the best one so far.

Debra Buckler is the hard working coordinator of the Plant Sale and would love to hear from you and how you can help us out on our big day.

Rob & Sue Harshman, Co-Presidents

RHODODENDRONS & AZALEAS SALE

Sunday, April 27 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Toronto Botanical Gardens – Floral Hall
777 Lawrence Avenue East

Featuring a large and unique selection of early, mid and late blooming Ericaceous plants, including Rhododendrons, Azaleas and companion Perennials, Conifers, Kalmia and Pieris.

Advice on placing, planting, maintenance & design

Soil amendments, including mulch and fertilizer

Go to www.onrhodos.com for more information about the sale and the Toronto Rhododendron Society.

SHS MEMBERS SUCCEED AT SUCCESSFUL GARDENING SHOW!

Congratulations to Greg Sereda who entered the Successful Gardening Flower Show for the first time and was thrilled to take home a Red Ribbon (First) for his interpretation of “Dancing Shoe” – he made the shoe from twisted grapevine.

→



Very ingenious Greg!



Nicky Hall took also took home a Red Ribbon for her interpretation of “Dancing the Night Away” – which had to be a black and white design. Her design was lovely and included a top hat, crystals and fresh white flowers.

← Dancing the Night Away

APRIL FLOWER SHOW

DESIGN

Class 1 Ikebana – style water reflecting

Class 2 Spring design using a bird accessory – Triangular arrangement (Page 9*)
medium size arrangement not to exceed 12” in any/all directions

MINIATURES

Class 3 “Spring Babies”

FOR MEN ONLY

Class 4 “Recycle” using a recycled/repurposed accessory or container

NOVICE

Class 5 “Easter Treat” centerpiece for Children’s party Horizontal design (Page 13*)

CULTURAL

Class 1 Amaryllis – any cultivar – in bloom

Class 2 Collection of cacti or succulents – 2 or more different cultivars in separate pots

Class 3 Crocus – 3 blooms

Class 4 Flowering bulbs – 3 in a pot – any cultivar – forced

Class 5 Gesnariad (ie. Lipstick plant) – in a pot

Class 6 Pelargonium (geranium) in a pot – any cultivar – in bloom

Class 7 Pot et Fleur – see page 75 of Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards

Class 8 Saint Paulia – (African Violet) – single crown in bloom

Class 9 Snow Drops – 3 blooms

Class 10 Topiary – any cultivar

*refers to SHS Flower Show Handbook – click on

Any questions please contact Nicky Hall, Flower Show Convenor at 905 858-2553 or email her at big nurse@bell.net

“If the bee disappears from the surface of the earth, man would have no more than four years to live.”



Albert Einstein

PHOTO CONTEST

We have just experienced four months of a long winter, where most of us didn't venture outside too much to make photos for fear of our cameras freezing. Spring and summer are just around the corner, and you will want to share some of your photos of the beauty of nature with us.

The deadline is Sept. 9th. Here again are the categories for the photo contest:

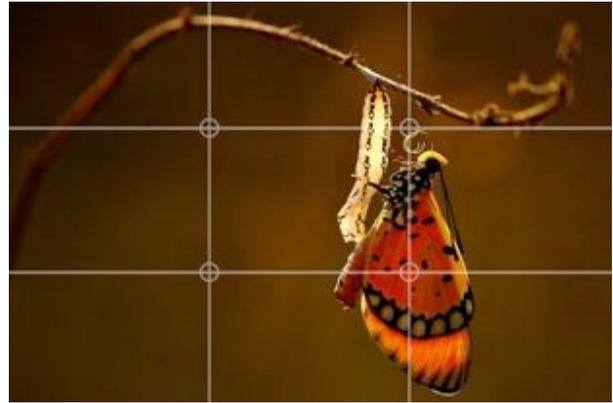
Class 1	"Footprints"
Class 2	"Kids and Nature"
Class 3	"Old Barn or Shed"
Class 4	"Clouds and Sky (only)"
Class 5	"Your Best Photo (Nature)"
Class 6	"Scenic Trail"
Class 7	"Spring Blossoms"
Class 8	"Over the Edge"

Following are a couple of good photographic tips. I will be adding a few more tips in future newsletters, which I hope you will find helpful in taking better pictures.

TIP #1 THE RULE OF THIRDS

To use the rule of thirds, imagine four lines, two lying horizontally across the image and two vertical creating nine even squares. Some images will look best with the focal point in the center square, but placing the subject off center will often create a more aesthetically composed photograph. When a photograph is composed using the rule of thirds the eyes will wander the frame. A picture composed by the rule of thirds is more interesting and pleasing to the eye. A focal point placed just to the left of center, for example, guides the eye to explore the remainder of the frame, where secondary information such as weather and environment can be used to round out the mood and fullness of the shot.

To get an idea of how effective off-centre composition is, glance at some magazine covers. You'll notice that the subject's head is usually in the upper right of the frame so that our eyes travel first to the face and then left and down.



TIP #2 FOCAL POINT

Every photograph has a point of interest, and that point should be clear to the viewer, without background clutter. The viewer's eyes should not roam aimlessly around the frame. They should be guided to the point of interest. But that point should not always be in the center of the frame. Such shots can seem static, and thus boring. An off-balance composition can be very entertaining to the eye and guides the eye to explore the remainder of the frame.

"Get closer" has become one of photography's mantras, and it usually holds up. Make the object of your shot stand out. If you can't move closer physically, use a longer lens. Always think about what you are trying to say with an image. If you are taking a photograph of an isolated farmhouse on the prairie, it must be large enough so that people can see what it is, but it shouldn't fill so much of the frame that the viewer loses the sense of its environment.



Henry Schouten, Photo Contest Chair

DRAW TABLE

Nice to see everyone at the March meeting. Maybe if we all did a sun dance at the same time the snow will go away till next winter. What do you all think?

I would like to thank Debra Buckler and Carol Ashford for their wonderful donations to the draw table this month, which I will use at a later date to make up gift baskets. Your purchase of draw tickets will turn into buying power for all the great projects coming up.

Thanks to all the members for buying draw tickets every month, hope to see some new faces at my table next month. Remember, it all goes to worthy causes.

Thank you all again for your support!

Mary Bernier, Draw Table Chair

ROTARY PARK

For quite a few years now SHS has planted and maintained the gardens at Rotary Park (next to Streetsville Library). The park is frequented by many Seniors and students who enjoy the park benches surrounded by the gardens we maintain.

With such a busy lifestyle we all seem to have, it's time to change course and make the garden more structured and easier to maintain. By planting more shrubs, hydrangeas, rhododendrons, azaleas, etc., the garden will be much easier to maintain and be even more beautiful. Of course, this will mean some hard work and we will need two or three work parties. I will ask Streetsville Rotary for a work party to help us as well. There are daylilies and hostas which will have to be removed, as well as a load of compost to be spread.

Streetsville Rotary are having a light installed in front of their sign and if needed, will have a second one installed as well.

Providing the weather co-operates, work parties are scheduled as follows:

Wed. Apr. 16 2:00 – 4:00
Raindate: Thurs. Apr. 17 2:00 – 4:00

Wed. Apr. 23 2:00 – 4:00
Raindate: Thur. Apr. 24 2:00 – 4:00

Please bring shovels, rakes, pruners, garden forks, gloves, drinking water etc.

Ruthanne Beehoo, Rotary Park Chair

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DESK...

We did not have any new members join us in March so it was a little quiet in my corner. Please reach out to your friends and neighbours and tell them about our society and invite them to attend a meeting and see what its all about!

I would like to thank **Pat & Mike Salisbury** for helping me on the membership desk as well as my friends **Marie Kothari** and **Heather Tregaskes**. My helpers for the April meeting are **Christine McEwan** and **Marg Rowan**.

I am still looking for volunteers to help at the May and June meetings. We will also need extra hands in the fall when memberships for the next year are due. Please think about it and remember this counts towards volunteer hours.

A big thank-you to everyone for wearing your name tags and for handing them back in. I am seeing a little more socializing happening even if it's just from the time it takes to find your names hanging on the board. I am finding myself more familiar with everyone and I like it! So, please keep it up and let's enjoy our new friendships.
Cheers,

Grace McElhinney, Membership Chair

REMINDER: DISTRICT 15 AGM – APRIL 26

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER.....

The OHA District 15 AGM will be held on Saturday, April 26 at the Nobleton Lakes Golf Club. The theme for the day is "Live Life as a Garden".

There will be a flower show and Photo Contest and all those attending are welcome to submit entries. The Flower Show Schedule and Registration package for this meeting will be available at our meeting on April 11th and is also available on the OHA website. Vendors will also be on hand with gardening items.

Cost for the day for SHS members is \$15.00, which includes continental breakfast, lunch, speakers and door prizes. The original cost is \$25.00 per person - SHS is subsidizing \$10.00 per member. What a great day out for \$15.00.

See Lynn Merritt at the April meeting and bring \$15.00 cash or cheque to receive your package. Car pooling will be arranged at a later date.

PLANT SALE – May 24

Most of the snow in my yard is gone and some of my daffodils and tulips are peeking up. That means spring is around the corner and it's time to put the plant sale preparations in full swing. It can't be said enough, how much everyone's help is needed.



The sign up lists will be out again at the April meeting. Please see where you can help. The flyer/poster packages will also be available.

Here are a few things you can search your house for to bring to the April meeting:

- 4" to 6" plastic pots
- clean plastic slatted window blinds to make our labels

We will have a table set up at the Plant Sale to sell our cookbook. We will need some volunteers to cook/bake/prepare some recipes from the book to entice customers to buy the book.

If you can't make it to the April meeting and want to find out how you can help please contact me at: 905 567-4803 or

Debra.buckler@rogers.com

Debra Buckler, Plant Sale Chair

SPRING IS YELLOW

Spring is yellow Daffodils
Yellow sunshine in the hills,
Yellow chicks for Easter Day,
Dandelions for a sweet bouquet
Spring is yellow, filled it seems
With poems, songs and lovely
dreams.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Apr. 16	Rotary Park Work Party 2:00 – 4:00
Apr. 23	Rotary Park Work Party 2:00 – 4:00
April 26	District 15 AGM Nobleton Lakes GC
May 24	SHS Plant Sale Leslie Log House
May 31	Friends of Wabukayne Day

ONE MILLION TREES - www.onemilliontrees.ca

In case you missed our March speaker – here is a great website where you can find all kinds of great information on

- Landscaping to conserve energy
- Native plant growers
- Woodland Plantings
- Native Plant & Tree Database
- Deer & Rabbit resistant plants
- Bird Gardens
- Tips on Tree planting and care
- Plus many, many more informative topics

If you plant a tree or shrub on your property you should go to this website to have your numbers included in the proposed 1,000,000 the City of Mississauga is hoping to have planted by 2030.

Go to www.onemilliontrees.ca and check it out.

SUBMITTING VOLUNTEER HOURS

I know that there are many of you who have volunteered time to the SHS but haven't yet submitted that time...

Please remember to submit hours on our new form on a monthly basis to me via email gattescohouse@rogers.com Paper copies of the form are available from me at every meeting or contact me for an electronic copy. You can also go to our website and get the form at: http://www.gardenontario.org/site/s260/shs_volunteer_hours_form.pdf

Eleonora Roberts, Volunteer Chair

DIVIDING PERENNIALS ISN'T DIFFICULT

WHY WE DIVIDE PERENNIALS

There are lots of reasons. The reasons can sound complicated but really it comes down to a few basics:

1. A plant is way too big, it is taking over space that belongs to other plants
2. It isn't flowering the way it used to and doesn't look good
3. Centre of the plant is dying
4. Weeds are growing all through the clump
5. You want more of this great plant to use in other places of your garden
6. To give to a neighbor or donate to a plant sale

WHEN TO DIVIDE PERENNIALS

The old rules say divide fall-flowering perennials in the spring and spring-flowering plants in the fall. The new rule says spring-flowering plants should be divided right after they flower so they have the

entire summer to settle into their new spots. Dividing when the plant is not flowering allows all of its energy to focus on regenerating root and leaf tissue. Late summer or early fall, when plants are still actively growing, is an excellent time to divide most perennials,

provided you finish the job at least 30 days before the first hard frost. That way, divisions will have an opportunity to send new roots into soil that is still warm. This is especially important in areas with early frosts, harsh winters and unreliable snow cover.

Very often we split plants when we have the time to do it and not when rules old or new say it should be done. It is often much easier to split a plant in the spring because the plant is smaller. If you only follow one rule it should be this one: to get the best results divide plants on cloudy days and make sure they are well watered a day ahead and for at least a week after.



HOW TO DIVIDE PERENNIALS

You will need a sharp spade, at least one garden fork, for very large plants a shovel can be helpful to pry the root ball out of the ground. For plants with dense, woody roots, a pruning or handsaw or even an axe may be needed to divide the root ball. Dig straight down in a circle around the entire plant. Use your tool to lever the plant out of the ground. Remove any loose soil so you can see the roots. Some perennials when dug from the ground will almost fall apart into pieces. Others will need a lot more effort to split.

Separate the plant into smaller divisions by teasing the roots apart or cutting them with a sharp knife or spade. Plants may also be separated by placing two forks in the center of the clump back to back and pulling them apart. Each division should have 3 to 5 vigorous shoots and a healthy supply of roots. Keep these divisions shaded and moist until they are replanted. Replant at approximately the same depth as the original plant. Add compost to the planting hole and water well.



PLANT SALE IS MAY 24th!
Donations of plants are needed

Monica Ross

FOSTERING THE LOVE OF GARDENING IN CHILDREN

This year our society is committed to increasing our volunteer hours in the community with respect to youth activities. Although we have had some volunteer hours submitted in this area in the past with Nicky Hall's involvement with tours given to school aged-children at Lake Wabukayne, we'd like to up this involvement – after all, children are the gardeners of the future. How many of you remember gardening with your parents when you

were young? I know my own parents' love of gardening definitely shaped my interest in it.

I have a 20+ years background in children's programming and have developed garden-themed children's stories, songs & interactive program for 4 to 6 year olds. We will be targeting public schools. Mary Hachey will be joining me on this, running the activity portion of this program. Recently, Nicky Hall & I spoke with Plowman's Park School to initiate this new program with kids in our community.

We will start by being involved with a Community Showcase evening (April 16th) at Plowman's Park. This showcase is aimed at providing information about various community organizations in the area. Please let me know if you'd like to join me for this event, promoting the society, selling our cookbooks, and promoting the love of gardening in children. Following that, Mary & I will meet with 5 kindergarten classes and 2 Grade 1 classes in May.

New this year: **YOUTH ACTIVITY AT THE PLANT SALE** May 24th – we'll offer a children's activity at this year's plant sale located at the Leslie Log House. What a great way to encourage the whole family to attend this event.

If you'd like to be part of this youth initiative, contact Rob or Sue Harshman.

Eleonora Roberts

GARDEN TOUR



In order to have a garden tour, we'll need gardens! Don't be shy! Please think about showcasing your garden for our annual garden tour in July. Please contact me at gattescohouse@rogers.com to submit your garden for consideration.

We are looking for all shapes and sizes and different approaches to gardens – Do you have a formal approach? A country cottage style, an interesting rock garden or a perennial cutting garden? We'd love to have you share your particular garden with fellow SHS members.

Photos are from previous year's garden tours.



Happy Gardening!

Eleonora Roberts, Garden Tour Chair

WRONG ANSWER

While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace listened to the instructor, 'It is essential that husbands and wives know each other's likes and dislikes.' He addressed the man, 'Can you name your wife's favorite flower?' Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, 'It's Pillsbury, isn't it?'

Questions, concerns, ideas, want to **volunteer** call Presidents: Sue & Rob Harshman (905) 607-2802

Editor: Carol Ashford (905) 858-0748

Email: streetsvillehort@hotmail.com

OHA website: www.gardenontario.org

SHS website: gardenontario.org/site.php/streets