



Volume 20, Issue 2
October 2013

STREETSVILLE BLOOMS

Streetsville Horticultural Society

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



Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting,
Tuesday, October 8

Location: Christian Reform Church,
2630 Inlake Court



Time: Starts at 7:00 pm,
please arrive by 6:15

- **AWARDS**
- **ELECTIONS**
- **FLOWER SHOW**
- All members to bring finger food for **POT LUCK TABLE** (No nuts or shellfish, please)

Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Pot Luck begins at 6:30 and the meeting and judging begin at 7 pm.

Door prizes will be drawn at meeting's end.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We all know that gardening offers both physical activity and mental relaxation and is a source of never ending interest and satisfaction. Best of all, gardening can be taken at an individual pace, displaying a personal level of detail. This summer brought its share of heat and associated frustrations but it's a sobering thought when you think that the season is almost over. The summer season event - the Garden Tour was a huge success. Members made their way around some very unique properties displaying great new ideas and celebrated with a delicious pot luck dinner at the Harshman's. Now that fall has arrived our efforts are directed to closing gardens for the winter and thoughts of next summer's garden plans.

It is the aim and objective of our organization to foster and encourage a universal interest in gardening. Consequently, your Board worked hard last year to present a program which was interesting and informative and, above all, one which encourages the participation of all members in various activities. The upcoming year will aim to achieve the same and more. I want to really thank everyone for their input and participation and look forward to continued support in the year ahead.

Sue Hutton, President



TAKE A BOW!

On behalf of all your SHS friends, warmest thanks to both Carol Ashford and Adele Gibbons for all the hard work and outstanding contributions as members of Streetsville Horticultural Society. I know how much time and energy your positions with the newsletter and membership have involved and we deeply appreciate all of your efforts and commitment to these very essential aspects of the

society. We have always been able to count on your abilities to go the extra mile.

Thank you again for all you do.

Sue Hutton, President

THANK YOU SUE HUTTON

On behalf of the Streetsville Horticultural Society, we want to thank Sue for her three years of service to our Society. Sue has brought energy and vitality to the



Sue receiving an award certificate from Carol Spraggett for SHS's 40th anniversary.

job and has been vocal in her support of various initiatives our Society has taken. During her presidency our Society has had several successful plant sales, garden tours and flower shows among other events. She also fully supported the petition drive to have Mississauga save our ash trees through injection.

Sue has also been an advocate of empowering our members to take new initiatives such as liaisons with our local schools. She has always worked for the betterment of the Society and to connect with our local community.

We wish you all the best Sue, as you move on from the presidency.



Please remember,
the Church where we
hold our meetings is a
Nut Free environment.

PRESERVING THE HEIRLOOM GARDEN

By Debra Lemire



Click on butterfly to link to website.

Who can forget the heavenly scent of purple lilacs wafting on a spring breeze or the perfume of the yellow, floribunda rose bush standing guard for



generations by Uncle Jim's back stoop? Who can overlook divisions of Grandma's fragrant, double, pink peonies planted in all of her granddaughters' gardens, or the tawny-coloured tiger lilies marking the country road gravesites of someone's great-great grandparents long gone and forgotten? These are memories buried deep within our hearts. Our recollections of heirloom flowers handed down from generation to generation.

Future generations, however, are in danger of never enjoying the true scent of a rose or the sweet taste of strawberries because of hybridization and genetically modified (GM) plants. Hybrids and GMs have had their individuality bred out of them for the sake of uniform size, colour, bloom time, higher yields and any other attribute deemed important.

Fortunately, interest in growing heirloom plants has grown rapidly over the past 10 years. Heirloom ornamentals are plants that were introduced to North American gardens between 1600 and 1950, such as daylilies, lilacs, roses, bleeding hearts, black-eyed Susans, bee balms, foxgloves and oriental poppies to name a few. These plants were prized for their beauty, flavour, fragrance or productivity. Many of the old cultivars are still grown by gardeners and farmers in isolated

communities and are no longer grown in large-scale agriculture. Heirlooms are often found on old farmland, in isolated valleys, on mountainsides, on the edge of forests and in cottage gardens.

A true heirloom is a cultivar that has been nurtured, selected and handed down from one family member to



another over many generations. They are gifts that we give future generations. Heirlooms bring interest to the garden and the table with their wide range of colours, shapes and tastes unavailable in newer cultivars.

Heirlooms are open-pollinated. They are fertilized by insects, hummingbirds and the wind. The resulting seeds produce plants that are identical to or very similar to the parent plants. Consequently, heirlooms have adapted over time to the climate and the soil in which they grow. They are often resistant to local pests, diseases and extremes in weather. Open-pollinated plants are nature's way of managing diversity and resilience.

Because heirlooms are threatened by extinction, planting open-pollinated varieties is important to our biodiversity. Individual plants within an older cultivar possess a great deal of genetic variability. As a result, the mixing of genetic material with dozens, hundreds or thousands of plants, maintains the overall vigor of the variety.



Heirloom plants were originally available in seed

catalogues. Many were award winning and prized for their bloom, scent, flavour, enduring habits and/or disease resistance. So why are heirlooms disappearing? A good answer may be with improved marketing techniques, the public is led to believe that new is better. As a result, sales of the older varieties drop and newer introductions take over.

According to Canadian Gardener, there are five of reasons to plant heirloom plants:

- **Sustainability.** Heirlooms are pollinated by nature and their strains are simple. This means seeds saved from a previous year will reliably produce seedlings that are true to type.
- **Disease resistance.** Heirlooms have survived for decades, sometimes centuries, and resist pests and diseases better than other plants.
- **Intense flavour or fragrance.** Hybrids and genetically modified plants are bred for commercial traits such as ease of shipping, healthy appearance and simultaneous ripening of entire fields in order to promote mechanical harvesting. Heirlooms, on the other hand, pack a lot of fragrance and flavour.
- **Protecting pollinators.** Heirloom plants are rarely treated with synthetic pesticides or herbicides that can affect bees and insects. The role of chemicals may have played a role in the collapse of honeybee colonies.
- **Connection to family and friends.** When you share cuttings, trade seeds or give away heirloom plants, you are keeping our botanical heritage alive and stable.

In order for gardeners to enjoy heirloom flowers and vegetables and contribute to our biodiversity, it is important to understand the principles of propagation – seed saving, root division, and cuttings – because mastery of these methods will ensure the survival of rare and heirloom plants.

Flower Show



SEPTEMBER FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

Thanks to all those who participated in September's very exciting and successful flower show.

For the "Men's Only" category the judge said that both entries for the "Nascar" design were so creative that it was very difficult to decide which one to place 1st. In the end Brad Buckler was awarded 1st place and the Judges Choice award because of his clever use of floral material.

Nicky Hall placed 1st and Best in Show for design for her "September Morning" a vertical design. Nicky Hall also won Best in Show and Judge's Choice for her spectacular Cultural Exhibits.

We are looking forward to seeing all your entries at the AGM.

Lynne Sereida

OCTOBER'S FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE

DESIGN

- CLASS 1 "Trick or Treat" - CRESCENT design, Pg.13
 CLASS 2 Centerpiece to be seen from all sides (use a lazy Susan) for Thanksgiving - MASS design - Pg.18

MINIATURES

- CLASS 3 "Phantom of the Opera"

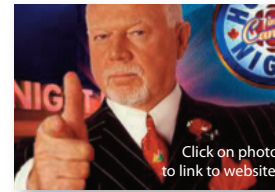
FOR MEN ONLY

- CLASS 4 "Hockey Night in Canada"

You don't have to be an expert designer, just have some fun with it.

Here are some ideas:

- old skates • a piece of equipment • a puck
- your favourite team's colours



NOVICE

- CLASS 5 A design using 3 or more cut flowers that you have grown yourself over the summer. VERTICAL design, Pg.11. Foliage can be purchased.

CULTURAL

- CLASS 1 Aconitum (monkshood) - 1 stem
 CLASS 2 Allium - dried seed head - 1 stem - named
 CLASS 3 Any other annual - 1 bloom or stem
 CLASS 4 Any perennial not listed - 1 stem or spray
 CLASS 5 Aster - perennial - 3 stems
 CLASS 6 Begonia - 1 bloom floating in a bowl
 CLASS 7 Branch showing fall colours - under 36"
 CLASS 8 Branch with berries - under 36"
 CLASS 9 Calendula - 3 blooms - same cultivar
 CLASS 10 Chrysanthamum - double - 1 spray
 CLASS 11 Chrysanthamum - single - 1 spray
 CLASS 12 Marigold - double - 3 blooms - same cultivar
 CLASS 13 Rose - climbing - 1 spray

- CLASS 14 Rose - last rose of summer - 2 or more - any cultivars
 CLASS 15 Rose - miniature - 1 spray
 CLASS 16 Rudbeckia - 1 stem
 CLASS 17 Sedum - any cultivar in bloom - 2 stems of same cultivar
 CLASS 18 Cabbage - any variety - 1 head
 CLASS 19 Corn - 2 ears - any cultivar
 CLASS 20 Horseradish - 1 root
 CLASS 21 Kale or ornamental cabbage - 1 head
 CLASS 22 Vegetables in a basket - any variety of vegetables arranged in a basket

MEMBERS' CHOICE

"Grow it and Show it" - using flowers grown in your garden, make a floral design to be judged by hort members by silent ballot. Winner will be announced at November meeting.

Refer to "**Streetsville Horticultural Society Flower Show Handbook**" for tips, information and page number references.



This book is available online (just click on the image of the handbook to link to the website).

A hardcopy version of this handbook can be ordered from Nicky Hall at bignurse@bell.net for \$8.00.

For rules and regulations for all Horticultural

Society Flower Show Competitions refer to the "**Official Judge's Handbook**" (hard copies cost \$6.00).

Entries must be ready for judging by 7:00 pm, no exceptions. The judges decisions are final.

FLOWER SHOW ENTRY TAGS

For a printable PDF of the SHS Flower Show Entry Tags go to: www.gardenontario.org/site/s260/flower_show_entry_tags.pdf

Annual Reports

Year end report:

LESLIE LOG HOUSE REPORT; 2012-2013



Click on photo to link to website.

The 40 acres of land making up the Leslie Log House property runs from Mississauga Road east to the Credit River and will eventually hook up with the Culham Trail. It has a large orchard with pear and apple trees containing varieties such as Red Gravenstein, Talman Sweet and Old Style King David that exist nowhere else in Canada.

Since the summer of 2010 SHS volunteers have planted perennials donated by Sheridan Nursery and established the "bones" of the garden and annuals donated by SHS. The gardens are flourishing and some plants will even need to be split and replanted elsewhere in the garden this fall and more split in the spring to be donated to the plant sale.

On August 16th the Driftwood Theatre presented "The Odyssey" on the property and a large number of people attended, sitting out on the lawn in deck chairs and blankets amid the beautiful surroundings of the Leslie Log House and gardens.

A number of SHS members have helped to weed and water and I would like to thank Joyce Giddings, Christina Anonychuk, Atiya Ahsan, Eleonora Roberts, Chris MacDougall, Alex & Anita King, Dean Scully, Gerry

Bryan, Janice Ward, Mary Bernier, Monika Schouten, Grace Nelham, Sue & Rob Harshman, Joe Boles, Ana Lauri, and Lorena D'Arsie for donating a couple of hours of their time over the course of the summer. A special thanks from me to Monica Ross and Marg Rowan for coming out on a consistent basis and supplying hard work and many great ideas for the garden in the future.

The gardens will be maintained and added to in the coming years and it is definitely a beautiful property for the residents of Mississauga to enjoy thanks to the volunteers of SHS.

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair

Year end report:

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY; 2012-2013

This year has been a busy and informative year. Starting in March, the education table had a presentation on outdoor ponds. It demonstrated steps to build an outdoor water feature, an attractive water plants resource guide and photos of table top water gardens.

"Spring is the Busiest Time of Year" was the topic for April. A visual guide to spring garden chores was available covering gardening basics, such as preparing the soil, composting, fertilizing, pruning, planting and the finishing touches. In addition, a double-sided pamphlet, "Spring Checklist" was available for the members.

May's presentation, "Healthy Soil is your Best Defence against Pests" posed the question whether your soil was filled with life. Two posters "Composting" and the "Food Web of the Compost Pile" demonstrated the importance of attracting beneficial organisms to your garden. Furthermore, the presentation covered the best type of plants to attract useful insects and bees. Finally, a small game on the board had the participant identify the harmful insect among 10 beneficial bugs. In addition, three books were available: "The Canadian Garden Primer: An organic approach; Pests and Garden Bugs of Ontario".

The final presentation for 2012-2013 was "Endless

Blooms" in June. A timetable for "When Perennials Bloom", a season-long garden plan and "Top Ten List" for long blooming perennials complemented the pictorial instructions for planting your garden for non-stop blooms.

With dynamic speakers visiting our members monthly and coordinating timely articles in the newsletter, an appealing presentation board, and a library of books, pamphlets and posters, the Streetsville Horticultural Society offers a complete, well-rounded approach for members to realize their gardening potential.

Debra Lemire, Education and Publicity Chair

Year end report:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT; 2012-2013

The Streetsville Horticultural Society has had a remarkable year. Our membership continues to grow, welcoming many new members, bringing new ideas. Our Board of Directors and Committees are led by volunteers dedicated to doing the best job possible to ensure that every member has the opportunity to volunteer and participate freely.

Of course, there is a deeper motivation behind what we do as a Society and that is our obligation to meet the objectives of the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act, which we do successfully each year as evidenced by all the Year End Reports included in our newsletters and posted at the AGM. You are not only members of a flourishing Society but you are the volunteers that make it happen. During the past 12 months, we have continued to maintain Rotary Park; we've had excellent speakers, a before Christmas Workshop and Flower Show workshops, an excellent garden tour, friendly competitions and a successful plant sale. We are represented and actively participating in the Environmental Stewardship of Lake Wabukayne Project.

Wrapping up the year, our membership is actively seeking new opportunities to maintain the vibrancy of our society.

Sue Hutton, President

Year end report:

FLOWER SHOW CONVENER'S REPORT; 2012-2013

Shows:

We had seven flower shows and eight meetings the same as in previous years.

This September we had six design entries in one class and three novice. Lil Duke entered for the first time in the novice design class; she won a first! Congratulations.

Once again these shows continued to have more entries than in the past. In September 2012 after our flower workshop with Judges Elise Clement-Hollingworth and Roberta Roberts, we had five novices enter in the October design show which were creative and all ribbon worthy.

I continued to add new categories to the cultural classes, including more fruits, vegetables and herbs. Last meeting we had some wonderful fruit and vegetables. The Judge commented that it was good to see, as many Horticultural societies have dropped this category.

We use a wide variety of judges and they have all commented on our "well supported flower shows" and that our standard continues to impress them. Again, they thought the Men's Only class was a great idea and lots of fun.

In September, Brad Buckler won Judges Choice in the Men's Only Class.

Keep up the enthusiasm and awesome exhibits!

Education:

In December 2012 we had the annual Christmas workshop. There was a \$10 fee for the supplied greens.

Sue Harshman and I bought the greens, eucalyptus and berries from the wholesalers and I dipped them in a preserver so that the needles or leaves would remain fresh inside through out the holiday. I cut the branches to a smaller length and size ready for use in the centrepieces. Some lasted past January!

I premade seven examples of different styles, such as traditional, contemporary, Hanukkah, terrarium, Victorian and more, giving tips on using oasis, cutting and placement of plant material.

I also supplied three centrepieces for raffle prizes. An area was set up with a background for photos to be taken of individual designs. It was a fun and very productive evening.

We have now completed the Streetsville Flower Show Handbook. It is full of information on everything you need to enter the Flower Show. Everyone has access to this information, either on our website or, for those who do not have a computer, there are copies available for you to purchase. These copies will be available at the meeting from one of the flower show committee members. Most importantly, everyone should own an Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards Book. It costs \$6 and is a wealth of information for anyone entering a flower show that addresses many Horticultural-related questions. These can be purchased at the meetings.

I have continued to offer my help to anyone who has questions about the flower shows. You should go around your garden days before the show with the flower schedule in hand. Call me then to clarify anything. On the day of the event I will be busy setting up for the show and may not be able to answer questions, but will try to help if my time permits. Entry tags should be filled out at home before arriving to keep the shows running smoothly. The correct way to fill out entry forms is shown on a board as you enter the Exhibit area. You can come and ask for help.

You have the winning plants in your gardens but will not be awarded ribbons/rosettes unless they are brought to the show!

Looking forward:

As always, keep entering the classes! Check out the exhibits - you can learn a lot from the winning flowers/designs. You will see many different species, perhaps even some that you have only seen in photos.

To everyone who entered a show for the first time and to all those who made the flower shows a great success, congratulations.

Nicky Hall, Show Convener

Year end report:

NEWSLETTER REPORT; 2012- 2013

We have been sending out the newsletters electronically to those who have email for a year now. There have been a few glitches, but this method has worked well and saved quite a bit of money (stamps, envelopes, labels, etc.) and the time of a team of members who delivered the newsletters to other members who lived nearby.

The newsletter is only good if information is received from members on items such as pertinent articles, events, recipes, poems, member news etc., and sometimes (but not regularly), members (other than those on the board) have submitted articles for inclusion. Horticultural jokes are good and recipes are always appreciated. It takes a lot of time to make the newsletter "news-worthy" and hopefully this practice will continue.

I have been editor of the newsletter since 1999 and have finally passed the reins over to Greg Sereda, whom I am sure will do a terrific job. It has been a pleasure touching base with SHS members every month and I am looking forward to sitting back and enjoying "Streetsville Blooms" from a different perspective from now on.

Carol Ashford, Newsletter Editor

DRAW FOR FREE MEMBERSHIP

There will be a draw for a free annual membership to SHS members who bring a guest to a meeting, beginning in September and through June 2014.

A ballot is to be filled in every time someone brings a guest to a meeting and the draw will be in June for the free membership.

Year end report:

VOLUNTEERISM AT SHS; 2012-2013

"To this day, I cannot see a bright daffodil, a proud gladiola, or a smooth eggplant without thinking of Papa. Like his plants and trees, I grew up as a part of his garden. " - Leo Buscaglia

We all have our own reasons why we garden - my reasons are directly linked to my parents - both avid gardeners. My Papa spent hours in his vegetable garden, my Mamma lovingly cared for her flowers. I couldn't help myself - I was destined to love the feel of the earth in my hands. When I joined the Horticultural Society, I was so pleased to be surrounded by like-minded people. Volunteering my time to the Streetsville Horticultural Society has given me the opportunity to meet other gardeners, learn from them, and enjoy their company - who else can you talk to for hours about dirt?

A HUGE "Thank you" goes out to the SHS members who contributed many hours this past year.

For the 2012-13 season we have a total of 1604.5 hours.

I will make every effort this year to solicit volunteer commitments by all our members - there are so many different ways to contribute.

I encourage every member in the Society to do their part in volunteerism - a very rewarding experience!

Eleonora Gattesco Roberts, Volunteer Convenor

GARDEN TRUTHS AND MUSINGS

Your garden will never just need "tweaking"

There is always room for another plant.

Grass, like hair, grows everywhere - except where you want it.

"Obedient Plant" isn't.

There is no such thing as a weed – just a flower in the wrong place.

Year end report:

PHOTO CONTEST REPORT ; 2012-2013

The winner of the photographer of the year trophy for the contest 2011/12 was Grace Nelham.

Our current photo contest ran from October 2012 to September 2013. Photos for the contest were due at the September meeting. There were fifteen people that entered their pictures this year, same as 2011/12. Let's hope we can get 20 plus next year. We have all taken great photos that we are proud of, so please share them with us. With digital today you can take hundreds of photos to get one that will blow us away.

Photos were judged by Robert McCaw this year, who is recognized as one of the leading nature and wildlife photographers in Canada and the United States. His images have appeared on the covers of more than 300 publications including books, magazines and calendars. He has also had the honour of having three of his photos on Canada Post Stamps last year. He always makes helpful comments on many of our entries, so make a point of reading them when you see your pictures. To view Robert McCaw's photos go to: www.robertmccaw.com His photos are truly amazing.

Points were awarded for each photo submitted.

First Place 5 points	Honourable Mention 2 points
Second Place 4 points	Entry 1 point
Third Place 3 points	Best in Show 20 points

I placed a suggestion box for photo categories on the table at the September meeting.

We received four suggestions, so I can only assume that you are pleased with my choices.

I picked two of the four out of the box, and added six to give us the following classes for the 2014 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 Related)"
Class 6	"Scenic Trail"
Class 7	"Spring Blossoms"
Class 8	"Over the Edge"

Pick up a printed copy of the categories at the October Meeting.

Happy hunting for that favourite image.

Henry Schouten

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to Christine McEwan, Doreen Chataigneau, Elizabeth Sbrocchi and Melissa Rodrigues who joined the SHS as new members in September. Make a special effort to help our new members feel comfortable at our general meetings and share with them some of the activities and events that you have experienced in the past. Try to remember to wear your name tags and greet one another by name. Introduce yourself to someone that you have not met before to expand your repertoire of friends within the society.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND KUDOS



Lynne Sereda placed 1st for "Fairies and Sprites", a miniature design at the Haldimand County Show.

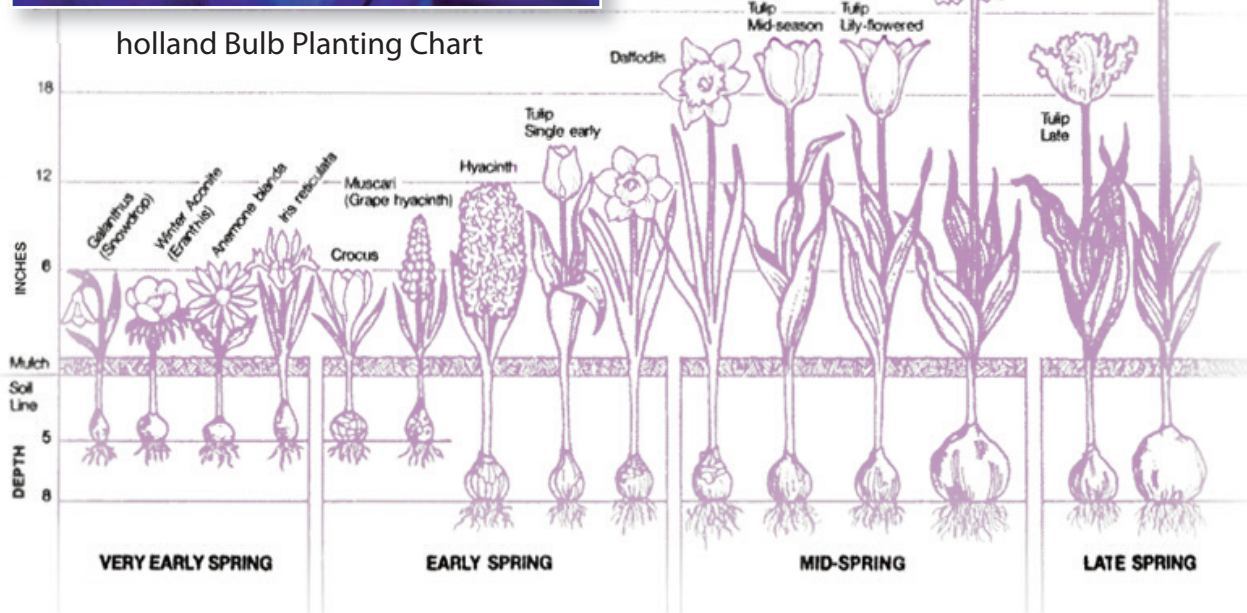


Nicky Hall won 1st place at the Royal Botanical Garden's Show for her multi rhythm design "Rhythm and Blooms".

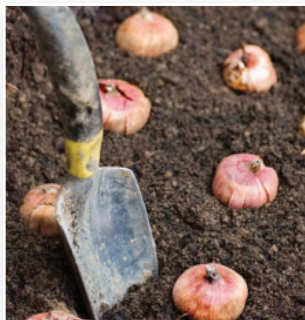


At the the Haldimand County Show Nicky Hall won 1st place for her "Garden Occasion Hat" design.

PLANTING SPRING BULBS



1. Select high-quality bulbs from a reputable nursery, garden centre or catalogue. Look for large bulbs that are well formed, plump and firm. It is best to avoid bulbs that are soft and mouldy.



2. Pick the perfect spot. Bulbs do well when they receive at least six hours of direct sun daily and they are planted in well-drained soil.
3. Time your planting. Spring-blooming bulbs like tulips and daffodils should be planted in September or October, when the soil

temperatures have cooled. Summer-blooming bulbs such as dahlias and gladiolus should be planted in the spring after the danger of frost has passed.

4. Plant your bulbs deep enough. Bulbs should be planted at a depth of two to three times the width of the bulb, for example, a three-inch bulb should be planted six to nine inches deep.
5. Plant your bulbs in the right direction. The bulbs should be placed pointy side up. If you do not



see a pointy side, look for roots growing at the bottom of the bulb.

6. Give them good soil. Bulbs like well-drained soil that is rich in organic matter. Mix a little compost at the bottom of the planting hole.
7. Mulch to stop weeds. Spread two – three inches of mulch over the soil. The bulbs will easily push through the mulch, but most weeds will not sprout.
8. Water well. Bulbs need water to establish strong roots.



FALL FUNDRAISER - A REMINDER

VESEY'S BULBS

As previously announced, our Society is selling bulbs to be planted this fall. We have some great deals from Vesey's and there is no tax or delivery added. Please bring in your order form and money to the October meeting. If you are paying by cheque, be sure to make it out to Streetsville Horticultural Society.

The deadline for placing orders is Tuesday, October 8th. The top seller for our Society will receive a prize of Vesey's bulbs.

If you have not received a Vesey's booklet with all the deals, or if you have any questions or won't be able to attend the October meeting, please let me know.

Sue Harshman, (905) 607-2802

10 NEAT THINGS ABOUT TULIPS

1. Ready to rock!

All the food a tulip needs to bloom is already stored in the bulb, which developed last summer. Plant tulips in the fall and throw in a handful of bone meal. Fertilizing in springtime when they are blooming won't help this year's blossoms; wait until the bloom is spent and fertilize the area for next year's crop or spread a fertilizer such as bone meal in the planting hole.

2. Chop off their heads

Go ahead and cut the whole stem when the flowers fade. Just don't remove all the leaves; they need to stay attached to the bulb to help it regenerate next year's growth and blooms.

3. Speaking of food.

It's true that tulip bulbs are chock full of good things, especially carbohydrates, but they also contain glycosides which are toxic. While many Dutch people were forced, due to starvation, to eat tulip bulbs in the dying days of the Second World War, many also became ill and some died. The leaves and flowers also contain glycosides. Squirrels, though, seem to have no problem.

4. Keeping the squirrels at bay.

Squirrels might leave your tulip bulbs alone if you interplant them with daffodils. Squirrels are turned off by the smell of daffodil bulbs, so if there are enough dining options in your neighbourhood squirrels won't bother to pick through your garden for the tulip bulbs. Cayenne pepper sprinkled over your tulip bed as a deterrent for squirrels is pretty cruel. The pepper can get in squirrels' eyes, causing great pain and even blindness. If you're willing to sprinkle something on your garden every few days, try blood meal instead.

5. What's that blister?

Some people are very sensitive to tulip bulbs and may develop tulip bulb dermatitis if handling the bulbs without gloves. You can experience extreme itching, hives and swelling. Handling the bulbs can also cause fingernails to become brittle and begin to break. Wear gloves.

6. Life after death.

Cut tulip stems continue to grow after you place them in water, adding an inch and even more to their height. Tulips will also conform to the shape of the container, straight up

if in a tall container, twisting to fit into a flat or irregular shaped vase. Keep the cut flowers out of the sun and away from heating vents and drafts.

7. A happy tulip is a dry tulip.

Tulips prefer a dry location. Too much moisture can lead to fungal rot in the bulbs so unless it's an extremely dry year, there is no need to add additional water.

8. Tulips are cool.

Tulips are temperate zone plants that like it cool and need a chilling period of six to eight weeks in winter. In warmer climates gardeners actually have to chill their tulips for a period before planting them. Plant them deeply; about three times their height (add a couple of inches for very cold zones). The fancy hybrids will look lovely for a year but may not come back a second season. Look for species tulips (Greigiies, Kaufmannianas, Fosterianas) to create repeat blooming and, with luck, an expanding bed.

9. Tulips are native to the Middle East.

The Ottoman Turks were the first to cultivate tulips, or any other plant, strictly for their aesthetic value, holding them to be examples of God's perfect creations. They planted very elaborate and beautiful gardens with tulips. The Dutch imported them to Holland in the 1600's and became completely smitten with their beauty, developing and hybridizing them until they became synonymous with that country. The Tulip Festival in Ottawa commemorates the 100,000 tulips that came as a gift from the Dutch royal family after World War II as thanks for Canada's sheltering the Dutch royal family of Princess Julian and her daughters. Now the Tulip Festival features over three million tulips.

10. Men buy red, women buy pink.

The American Floral Marketing Council conducted a survey on the tulip colour preferred by men and women. In the following order, men purchased red, yellow, pale pink, hot pink, white, and purple tulips. Women liked pale pink, pale purple, hot pink, peach, red, and yellow. It doesn't appear that the study looked at how people felt about mixed arrangements or bi-colour flowers.

*Submitted by Joyce Giddings,
Dorothy Dobbie, Copyright © Pegasus Publications Inc*



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND KUDOS



Councillor Pat Saito and Brenda Osborne, Director, Environment at City of Mississauga present Lynne and Greg Sereda with the 3rd place award for "Living Green Ecogardens"

An award ceremony was held on September 9th in the Tower Garden cafe in the Mississauga Civic Centre to celebrate the end of another successful Glorious Garden Contest, in which Greg and Lynne Sereda's garden won third place in the Ecogarden category.

Attending the ceremony were representatives of the various city departments that support the contest, and councillors from the wards in which a garden had won. Also attending were the volunteers who judged the gardens and the accredited judge who made the final round and placed the gardens.

A very enthusiastic Mayor Hazel McCallion greeted winners and talked about the importance of beautifying the city and being environmentally responsible. After seeing the photos of the winning gardens she said "I have a garden and I wish it could be like some of these Winners. I'm going to visit some of the gardens to get ideas for mine"

Nicky Hall, Flower Show Convenor

LAKE WABUKAYNE STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

Members, try to come early to one of our meetings and take a walk around the lake. You're sure to enjoy.

It takes about 15 minutes. Bring your camera.

Lake Wabukayne is located Between Erin Mills Parkway, Britannia Rd, Glen Erin Drive and Battleford Road. It is directly beside the Christian reform Church on Inlake Court where we have our meetings.

Nicky Hall has been instrumental in getting the Stewardship program up and running and has spent hundreds of hours over the past several years and continues her support each and every day. Lake Wabukayne is one of Streetsville Horticulture Society's projects as well. Whether it be volunteering for a couple of hours a week in the very hot months of summer to water the butterfly garden or to help with planting more trees and native plants to help stave off erosion.

The following paragraphs have appeared in other newspapers and journals over the past few years.

What drove you to save the lake? Why did you decide to do this?

On October 25th 2007, while my daughter was walking our dog past the lake to a shopping plaza, she noticed a very wet duck and, looking closer, a film across the surface of the water. She called me and asked me to look up the number for Toronto Wildlife. One of their workers was on a call nearby and asked my daughter to meet them at the lake on her way back from the store where they found that there were many ducks covered in what appeared to be cooking oil, which had covered much of the lake. At this point I was at home trying to go through the right departments to get someone from the city to come and clean up the oil and calling the media to hopefully make people see what happens to the things that they throw in storm drains. We all assembled at the lake and caught four ducks that day,

which were taken to be cleaned and rehabilitated.

As the weeks passed the TV news media picked up the story and more people became aware of the problem. We continued to try to catch the sick ducks that had eluded us before and contain several more spills that were threatening those who had managed to stay dry so far. I remember one night spending 4 hours trying to catch one female mallard who was only able to fly enough to stay out of reach but whom we knew would



not likely survive on her own because the oil that she'd been trying to clean off herself was beginning to make it hard for her to breathe. We didn't get that one. Others died from oil that they ingested while trying to clean it off themselves. Others were too weak to escape predators. All the time we spent down there, looking for new problems and checking the ducks, made me see clearly what I'd been thinking for a while. The ecosystem around the lake needed help in many ways; the oil spills were like a canary in a coal mine, the first tangible evidence of a much larger problem developing.

Until then my concern had been mainly for the ducks as they were clearly in immediate danger, but over time the lake as a whole became the focus. We were still having problems with the oil (and still do today) but

while I was helping them I started to think about how I could use the contacts I'd made in the City's government, the media and the community to do something bigger. I wanted to keep the momentum and interest that had been created going and put something permanent in place that would serve to protect the ecosystem at lake Wabukayne.

Because I had been working closely with Pat Saito, and had gotten so much support from her, I asked her what we could do to get the community involved and taking ownership of the health of the lake. She brought together representatives from various city departments and organized the first few meetings of what we called the Friends of Wabukayne. At that time I was working with representatives from the city departments, working toward the goal of creating a Stewardship program at the lake that would eventually involve other community members and groups and be able to apply and receive grants. The one specific thing that is the most frustrating to raise awareness about is the thing that started it all; the storm sewers that empty directly into the lake. People either don't realize that it is not treated in

any way first, or that it is not only the road near the lake that connects to it. Storm drains from Tenth Line to Erin Mills Parkway and from north of Aquitaine Avenue to just south of Britannia all end up there. The struggle is that we can educate 99% of the people and we can clean up the lake, but one person who pours oil (or anything else) down the storm sewer outside their house within those borders can undo all that work in minutes.

In addition to finding ways to educate people about the storm sewers, it is also challenging to try and change people's attitude about how they impact the fragile ecosystem that they are part of. The lake is subject to many stressors by the people who enjoy it and while some are done deliberately like people who break trees or throw furniture/shopping carts into the lake most are unintentional or simply a by-product of

living so close to nature (light pollution from car sales lot across the street disturb migrating birds, the proximity of Erin Mills parkway causes noise pollution, road kill, ground pollution from salt runoff).

Since our group was formed there have been visible changes around the lake that will continue to increase in number as we complete projects. We have had community tree planting days using our city fund, placing trees and sumac bushes in several areas along the side of the lake that previously were mowed grass. The areas around them are not being mowed anymore and will become naturalized. There is a permanent yellow boom at the main outflow, designed to keep oil from flowing into the entire lake and allowing it to be cleaned up before more damage is done. When the first spills occurred the whole lake was covered in cooking oil and we didn't have anything in place to contain it. After temporary booms were used by the original clean up crew I did some research on the Internet at home and suggested the idea of a permanent river boom to the city and the solution I found is the one that is still in place. We have also come up with a new protocol for dealing with dead trees, which in the past have always been removed. We need to have some dead trees because they play an important role as homes for many species of birds, mammals and insects. This arose in part because a tree was removed that a local resident had been photographing to document the nest and recent hatching of a family of Flickers. Instead of removing dead trees, we will be either stabilizing them so that they do not pose a safety risk and where we do remove any, will be replacing them with nesting boxes for the birds whose homes have been lost.

Once we have gotten people to realize why the lake is so important to protect beyond what it was designed to be, we have the challenge of keeping them interested and involved in between emergencies like the oil spills. Thankfully we have had great response from the community so far, and the one silver lining from the spills is that people are getting more invested and outraged each time. They are starting to pay closer attention to the state of the lake and notice the nature

that they would previously have walked past - for example, one spill was reported by a resident who called in about dying/dead geese. Our story has also been picked up and followed by news media in Ottawa, Hamilton and the Kawarthas!

I am also very excited about our upcoming projects. We are planning for an unused area of lawn to be converted into a wildflower meadow to attract beneficial insects and birds to the lake and will be hosting another open house and tree planting for the community to participate in. We should also be seeing nesting boxes for ducks, bat boxes and basking logs for turtles. We have posted educational signs at specific locations around the lake to point out areas of interest and environmental importance. A very noticeable change will be the planned replacement of the existing dock with a larger one which be multileveled and will hopefully give people places to enjoy more of the lake that do not interfere with nesting birds or other wildlife.

I really believe that if we can show people how special our lake is that they will become invested in doing more to keep it that way and want others to as well.

We have installed a floating island that will create a natural and sustainable filtration system that can better combat harmful substances entering the lake.

It was also a great success to have money set aside by the city for this cause, That we have been given funding for our stewardship committee, especially in this economy, gives me hope that people do see how important it is to protect our environment.

Nicky Hall is available for guided tours and educational talks about environmental issues with Lake Wabukayne with Schools and interested groups

If you would like further information on Lake Wabukayne or would like to help out please contact Nicky Hall at bignurse@bell.net or google Lake Wabukayne Stewardship program or contact Pat Satio Counsellor for Ward 9. pat.saito@mississauga.ca

A direct website for Lake Wabukayne is coming soon.



Click here to
sign the Ontario's
Bee Keeper
Association's
petition.

ban the use of
neonicotinoid pesticides

Petition by The Ontario Beekeepers' Association

Ontario's bees are dying in massive numbers due to the pervasive use of neonicotinoid pesticides on our agricultural field crops. **Fully a third of our food relies on pollinators: without bees, Ontario's food supply could be in serious trouble.** Further, these chemicals leach into soils, groundwater and waterways, and can persist for years, killing not only bees, but other pollinators, aquatic insects, amphibians and birds.

We already have sufficient evidence to prove that neonicotinoid pesticides are killing our bees.

Canada's Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency has confirmed that last year's widespread bee deaths in Ontario were caused by neonicotinoid pesticides. As well, dozens of independent, peer reviewed scientific research studies have concluded that these pesticides pose a significant threat to bees and other wildlife. Furthermore, science and experience has shown that neonicotinoids don't really increase agricultural yield in the long run.

Join Ontario's beekeepers and their agricultural, environmental and scientific partners in urging Premier Wynne to ban neonicotinoid pesticides in time for the 2014 planting season.

Ontario's bees are in unprecedented peril. **In the past two years alone, Ontario has seen a 35% decline in honey bees.** The time for urgent, precautionary action is now.

Open to all SHS members

Name your Cookbook Contest

RULES

CONTEST PERIOD: SHS will accept entries up until October 13, 2013.

ELIGIBILITY: The contest is open to members of the SHS. Enter as often as you would like.

PRIZE: The winner will receive a free cookbook and bragging rights.
THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES IS FINAL.

Send entries to:

debra.lemire@gmail.com

lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca

or bring to October 8 meeting.

GET YOUR RECIPES READY...

SHS is producing a Cookbook in time for Christmas gift giving. It will make a perfect stocking stuffer or hostess gift for friends, family and neighbours.

Lynn Merritt and Debbie Lemire are collecting the recipes and editing the book for production. It will have a coil binding for easy use in the kitchen.

We are asking all members to contribute one or more favorite tried and true recipes. Please email your recipe(s) to lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca or bring them to the October meeting.

Recipes are needed for the following categories: appetizers, soups, salads, meat dishes, vegetable dishes, vegetarian dishes and desserts.

If you would like to help with the proof reading or editing, please email Debbie Lemire, debra.lemire@gmail.com or phone 416-268-4348.

The deadline for recipe entries is Tuesday, October 8th (the AGM).

Lynn Merritt, Secretary



over this volunteer job. It was my pleasure to run the refreshments table this past year. Hope you enjoyed it!

Eleonora Gattesco Roberts, Volunteer Convenor

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: streetvillehort@hotmail.com

OHA website: www.gardenontario.org

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 42048,
128 Queen St. S., Mississauga, ON L5M 4Z4

CONTACTS (for September and October 2013)

- Sue Hutton, President, inquiringmind@rogers.com
- Bhواني Nadarajah, Vice President, nadarajahb@hotmail.com
- Sue Harshman, Second Vice President, Program Chair, rpageh@yahoo.ca
- Lynn Merritt, Secretary, lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca
- Joyce Giddings, Treasurer, joycegiddings@rogers.com
- Nicky Hall, Flower Show Convener, bignurse@bell.net
- Debbie Lemire, Education Chair, debra.luthe@yahoo.com
- Amgad Boles, Publicity Chair, amgadg@rogers.com
- Debra Buckler, Flower Show Co-Ordinator, Flower Show Schedule, Plant Sale Chair, debra.buckler@rogers.com
- Eleonora Roberts, Volunteer Hours, gattescohouse@rogers.com
- Adele Gibbons, Membership, adelegibbins@hotmail.com

ALSO, SITUATIONS CHANGE...

Fall signals the time for your membership renewal in the 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.

www.gardenontario.org/site/s260/membershiprenewalform%202013-2014.pdf

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.

Members, who renew their membership and complete the survey form before the end of October, will have their name submitted to a lucky draw held at the November meeting.

ROTARY PARK

It's time to put the gardens away for the winter. The garden has been beautiful this summer. Come spring, we need to take out quite a few hostas. We have way too many, some are blocking the sprinkler heads.

Please bring rakes, clippers and gloves.

FALL CLEAN-UP - Wednesday, Oct. 09/13, 1:30 P.M.

RAINDATE - Thursday, Oct.10/13, 1:30 P.M.

Ruthanne Beehoo (ruthanne@dualmachine.com)

REFRESHMENTS:

"I don't know where my ideas come from. I will admit, however, that one key ingredient is caffeine. I get a couple cups of coffee into me and weird things just start to happen." - Gary Larson

www.goodreads.com/author/show/19928.Gary_Larson

Thanks go out to the following for providing the refreshments for the September meeting: Rosemarie Bera, Amgad Boles, Nigel & Eleonora Roberts, June Samaras & Dean Scully.

I'll be passing on the refreshment duties this year to a new volunteer. Thanks go to Mary Hachey for taking



STREETSVILLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2013-2014

MEMBER(s) NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

Home Phone # _____ Work Phone #: _____

Email address: _____ (will only be used to communicate info re: SHS)

Date: _____ NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$15.00 ☐ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$20.00 ☐

We ask you to continue your valued support of the Streetsville Horticultural Society.
Your membership fee helps to support our monthly program speakers, flower shows
and special events.

The newsletter is sent to all of our members nine times per year.

We hope that you have enjoyed getting together with other gardeners over the past
year, to learn, share and enjoy the benefits of gardening.

**Please complete the membership renewal form and return it along with your
cheque or cash (exact amount) to the membership committee at the meeting or
you may mail your cheque to:**

**Streetsville Horticultural Society
P.O. Box 42048
128 Queen Street South
Streetsville, ON
L5M 4Z0**

***If we do not receive your membership renewal by November 15th, 2013 your
membership will be terminated.***

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Please assist us in making our Society better by completing the following questionnaire. Thank you.

My **primary motivation** for joining the Society is:

My Career/Occupation/Industry (present or previous if you are retired):

My Hobbies/Interests/Skills:

My specific knowledge/skills on any horticultural topic that I am interested in sharing:

SHS is a voluntary organization and relies on the participation of all its members to help with all of its activities. *How will you help?*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participate in Community Planting | <input type="checkbox"/> Donating to our monthly Refreshments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donations for Draw Table | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Tour <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor <input type="checkbox"/> Host |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising and Marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Literacy, Excel, Web Page |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Set-up & clean up at meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Finding guest speakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Field Trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participating in Flower Shows | <input type="checkbox"/> Power Point Presentations – technical layout |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering for Plant Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

What workshops would be of interest to you?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flower arranging/Centrepieces for your home | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas designs, crafts, decorations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design for exhibiting (i.e., miniature, modern, oriental) | <input type="checkbox"/> Trough gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photography in the garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Annuals vs. Perennials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practical Landscaping basics | <input type="checkbox"/> Water wise gardens and landscapes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant propagation, seedlings, cuttings, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Amendments |

When is the best time for workshops for you? ☐ At meetings ☐ Weekends ☐ Evenings

Are you interested in helping with member workshops?

☐ Presenting ☐ Presenting with a group Topic of interest: _____

Are there any topics or subjects you might like to see in the newsletter or at meetings?

Other Comments?
