



Streetsville Blooms



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

www.streetsvillehort.ca

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NEXT MEETING: April 10, 2018

Open House

Streetsville United Church

274 Queen Street South

Doors open 7 p.m.

Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

The President's Message: A little history

At this time of year the calendar says it is spring, but the weather often doesn't feel spring like. Henry Van Dyke an American poet (1852-1933) had this to say, "The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month".

While Henry Van Dyke was thinking about spring, many Ontario Horticultural Societies had already been established. Each year, the Ontario Horticultural Association honours the anniversaries of the founding of our societies. The Toronto Horticultural Society was founded in 1834. There is a Streetsville connection; one of the founders of Ontario's first horticultural society, the Toronto Horticultural Society was George Leslie, the son of John Leslie, the builder of the Leslie Log House.

The very first meeting of the Streetsville Horticultural Society was held on Jan. 13, 1914. Eighty people signed up at the cost of \$1 per year. The first meeting was held in the Oddfellows Hall, that still stands today on Queen Street.



This society carried on until 1918 and then was re-organized in 1922.

In 1928, Horticultural Society members tried to encourage a greater public interest in beautifying the village. Before plans could be completed the appearance of mumps and scarlet fever made public meetings things to be avoided. Membership still cost \$1.

In 1937, there were still 80 members of the Society and volunteers took responsibility for planting flowers at the old cemetery, the village pound, at the schools and other local areas. Flower shows were held during summer and fall and prizes were given. Premiums of roses were given to the society members.

In 1939, volunteers were still working on the beautification of the century-old cemetery in the centre of town. The society planted a garden on the property bordering Queen Street and renovated the grounds.

Streetsville Horticultural Society arranged competitions, lectures for school children, and distributed seeds, shrubs and bulbs. The first flower show was held in Trinity Church parish hall with 133 exhibitors and several displays. The new public school was the setting for the flower show in 1940 with 300 entries and 200 people present. Flower shows were held again in 1946, 1948 and 1951. The Society closed in 1954 and was re-established 18 years later in 1972. It is now 46 years later. We have a total of 82 years history.

We still have the same mandate 'The object of the Society is to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture'. We hold meetings, encourage horticultural education, encourage planting trees, shrubs and flowers,

and distribute seeds, plants, bulbs, flowers, trees and shrubs.

We also still rely on volunteers!

As always Happy Gardening

Monica Ross, President

Speaker's Corner



Jennifer Mark from Sheridan Nurseries was our guest speaker in March. She discussed different methods of plant propagation.

Our guest speaker for the April 10, 2018, meeting is Malcolm Geast. Malcolm is Assistant District Director of District 5 of the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA). He is also the OHA's historian, the editor of its newsletter, *the Trillium*, and is the photographer for the City of Toronto Front Garden Awards. He and his wife lived and gardened in East York for 30 years, and since 1998 have been members of the East York Garden Club and several other horticultural societies in the Toronto area. His presentation will be



on *Insects in our Gardens*, which should be enjoyed as much as the plants. Malcolm will talk about some of his personal encounters with grasshoppers, flies, butterflies, and an assortment of beetles and other insects, and will draw from over 8,000 photos that he has taken in his garden and around southern Ontario.

Phil Walker, Speaker Chair

Plant Sale 2018

Once again we will hold our Plant Sale at the Leslie Log House on May 26, 2018. For all our new members, and to remind our veteran members, the plant sale is SHS's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds of the sale pay for about 50 per cent of our expenses which include Speakers, Judges for the Flower Shows, premiums, meeting space rent and more. Our goal is to equal or surpass the \$6,000 we raised last year. **EVERY** member needs to help make this sale successful!

Over the next few weeks we will be looking for recruits. Think about what you can do to help. Volunteers will be needed for digging up plants for those who aren't able, potting plants, labeling, caring for plants up until the plant sale, transportation to the plant sale, set up, selling, and tidy up. Sign up sheets will be circulated again at the April meeting.



We are asking that you donate old garden ornaments you no longer want in your garden, planters, signs, lanterns, statues, birdhouses, feeders, etc. We will have a little corner at the sale especially set aside for



Volunteers

Plants

Trays

Clean pots no smaller than 6" in diameter

Volunteers

Garden Ornaments

Did I say Volunteers??

these items.

NEEDS LIST:

Start thinking about what **YOU** can do to help. Go back through your garden pictures and see if there are plants you do not want, or plants (especially hostas) that are so big they need to be split. We are counting on you to make this years' sale a resounding success!

Potting dates are Sat., April 28, Sun., April 29, Wed., May 2, Sat., May 5, Sun., May 6, Wed., May 9, Sat., May 12, Sun., May 13, Wed., May 16 at Pengilley's nursery in Churchville.

If you are unable to dig up plants in your garden, please call one of us and our digging team will come and dig up your plants for you.



Carol Ashford/Monica Ross, Plant Sale Chairs

From the Membership Desk

With the topic of seeds, separating plants, preparing soils, etc., I could just feel the atmosphere in the room morphing into “spring” mode. I don’t think any bit of snow we are going to see in the coming month, will be able to douse that flame. We are going to be so ready!!!!

Forty-four members and one guest (**Joanne Kim**) enjoyed hearing from Jennifer Mark from Sheridan Nurseries. Bet we all wish we had Jennifer in our back garden come spring.

I am looking for someone who will be able to do “Membership Desk” at our May 8 meeting. I will be out of town and would appreciate the help. If you are able to help out, please give me a call at 647-867-1217 or e-mail me at vivholmes46@gmail.com.

Please remember to wear your name tag at all times while at our meeting... it will make it much easier for us to get to know one another. Pick up your name tag when signing in at the desk, and return it at the end of the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you at April’s meeting ! ☺

Vivianne Holmes, Membership Chair

From the Raffle Table

Thank you to all who take the time to come over and spend your toonie at the raffle table. It takes a lot of time and effort putting together great items, but I feel the society is not really supporting the table. With over 50 members at last months meeting we only made \$38.00. If everyone puts their toonie in we should have made over \$100.00.

Remember, these are the fun things that don’t really impose upon your personal time and what is \$2 per meeting, just \$20 for the whole year! Just one gift alone is valued at \$20. Please participate, if you don’t want what you win donate it back or give it to a member who really wanted that gift!

I am currently looking for new or lightly used items for the raffle table at this year’s plant sale last year it raised over \$350. Or if you know of anybody or any retail outlet that could donate something please get back to me. We can supply you with a letter from the society to get a donation.

Cheers, Grace McElhiney, Draw Table Chair



**April
Draw
Prizes**



Rotary Park

It's time for the annual Spring clean-up at Rotary park and we're holding it on Saturday, April 21, between 10 a.m. and noon. We're being helped again by some teenagers from the



library, but they need some adult role models and members are invited to meet that need. Just bring a lawn rake and gloves, we'll provide bags, water and snacks and maybe even coffee from Tim Horton's as it's a special occasion.

We've asked the city for a small load of top soil and if they come through, we will have that to move as well, so please come if you can. Let me know if you need picking up or if you have any questions.

Jon Eldridge, Rotary Park Chair

WHISTLING GARDENS FIELD TRIP

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:30 a.m.- 3:30

<http://www.whistlinggardens.ca>

Adults \$13.75

Seniors: \$12.75 (60+)

Cash, Visa, MasterCard, Debit

Garden Tour



While a few of us met this week to discuss the upcoming plant sale we started discussing a trip to Whistling Gardens. At first, it was just a few of us discussing a trip there to see the early summer Peonies and Irises, and then we thought we should see if anyone else was interested.

The best blooms are around the 7 to 13 of June according to Sonya Day last year. So, we came up with Monday, June 11. The Monday should be a little quieter than a weekend there.

We will be meeting at 9:30 am at the lower part of the Streetsville Arena parking lot. From there we can carpool. The person who drives will be paid by their passengers, let's say \$5 each. That should cover gas and expenses. The drive there is about 1+ hours.

We recommend packing a lunch and some beverages to have a little picnic there. I am not sure if Darren has gotten his snack bar up and running. There are washrooms on site.

So there it is. If you wish to go with us as a group please e-mail me ASAP so we can have this arranged. I can call and get a tour if we get organized quickly. Groups are considered as 10

plus people. Pricing with a tour is the regular adult price.

My e-mail address is
gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com

Thanks, and hope you can join us! Don't forget to bring your camera.

Grace McElhinney, Shirley Boyes, Grace Nelham, Carol Ashford,

TRASH PICK UP - LESLIE LOG HOUSE - APRIL 22nd

Well looks like winter has finally blown itself out. The snow has covered an abundance of litter at the Leslie Log House and surrounding property, especially along the edge of Mississauga Road.



We will be holding a garbage pick up at the Log House (4415 Mississauga Road) on Sunday, April 22, at 1:00 p.m. Bring some boots if the ground is still spongy, gloves and whatever else you think you might need to pick up trash. Garbage bags will be provided.

Hope to see you there!!

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair

Flower Show Schedule

All plants entered in the flower show must be place by 7:15 p.m. at the latest.

Class	May 8, 2018
	Horticultural
1	Bleeding Heart (Dicentra), any colour - 1 stem
2	Branch, flowering –36” or less
3	Clematis – 1 vine, not over 18 inches
4	Collection of small spring flowers, 5 different cultivars, attached foliage only. 1 entry per exhibitor.
5	Columbine (Aquilegia) – 1 spray
6	Hellibore – any colour, 1 stem
7	Iris, Tall bearded, over 27 inches -1 stalk
8	Iris, any other variety - 1 stalk
9	Lilac (Syringa) – 1 truss (compact cluster on one stem)
10	Muscari – 3 stems, same variety, no foliage
11	Narcissus, large cup, - 1 scape
12	Narcissus, small cup, - 1 scape
13	Narcissus, any other, - 1 scape
14	Paeonia (Peony) Tree – 1 bloom, disbudded
15	Polygonatum (Solomon’s Seal) – 1 stem
16	Rhododendron – 1 truss (compact cluster on 1 stem)
17	Rhubarb, 3 stalks, pulled not cut, leaves trimmed to 2” fan shape
18	Tulipa (Tulip) – single, 1 bloom
19	Tulipa (Tulip) – any other variety, 1 bloom
20	Any other Bulb, corm, rhizome or tuber not listed – 1 stem
21	Any other Perennial not listed – 1 stem or bloom
	DESIGN Theme: Spring Pallet
22	Green Man - a design using only green plants
23	Pretty Baby – a MINIATURE design
24	Spring Shout – a PAVE Design
25	Rites of Spring - NOVICE design

Class	June 12, 2018
	Horticultural
1	Allium – small under 4”, same cultivar, 3 stems
2	Allium, - large, 1 stem
3	Clematis – 1 large bloom
4	Collection of perennial flowers in container, 5 different cultivars, no cut foliage – 1 entry per Exhibitor
5	Day Lily (Hemerocallis) – 1 scape
6	Dianthus – 1 cultivar – 2 stems
7	Fern, Japanese Painted – 3 fronds
8	Heuchera (Coral Bells) – 3 stems in bloom, same cultivar
9	Heuchera (Coral Bells) – 3 leaves, same cultivar
10	Hosta, – 3 leaves, different cultivars
11	Hosta, – 3 leaves, same cultivar
12	Iris miniature – under 8”, any colour, 1 stalk
13	Iris, any variety – 1 stalk
14	Lavender - 3 stems in bloom
15	Peony (Paeonia) – double/semi-double, 1 bloom
16	Peony (Paeonia) - single, Japanese or Anemone, 1 bloom
17	Rosa (Rose) – grandiflora, floribunda, polyantha – 1 spray
18	Rosa (Rose) – modern shrub, 1 bloom or spray
19	Rosa (Rose) –Judged for fragrance, any variety – 1 bloom
20	Any other perennial not listed – 1 bloom or stem
21	Any annual not listed – 3 blooms or stems (must have been in possession for 90 day
	DESIGN Theme: Life Outdoors
22	My Blue Heaven – a design
23	Red Wing – a CASCADE design
24	Stardust – a MINIATURE design
25	Shine – NOVICE design

Class	September 11, 2018
	Horticultural
1	Anemone, Japanese – 1 stem
2	Chrysanthymum – any variety, 1 spray
3	Collection of annuals, 5 cultivars, no cut foliage, 1 per exhibitor
4	Collection of perennials, 5 cultivars, no cut foliage, 1 per exhibitor
5	Dahlia – 1 bloom, over 4”
6	Dahlia –3 blooms, under 4”, same cultivar
7	Echinacea (Coneflower) – 1 stem
8	Helianthus (sunflower) – 1 stem, any size bloom
9	Hosta with own foliage – 1 stem or bloom
10	Hydrangea – 1 bloom, any cultivar
11	Phlox – 1 stem
12	Rosa (Rose) – any variety – 1 bloom or spray
13	Rudbeckia – 1 stem
14	Sedum – 1 stem
15	Zinnia – 1 bloom
16	Any perennial not listed – 1 bloom or stem
17	Any annual not listed – 1 bloom or stem
18	Tomato –3 specimens, same variety, calyx on
19	Small vegetable (pepper, pea, bean, etc.) same cultivar, 3 specimens on a plate.
20	Large vegetable (eg. Turnip, Squash) – 1 specimen
21	Any fruit – 3 specimens, same cultivar
	DESIGN Theme: Falling (in Love)
24	Moonlight Bay – a design
25	Sweet Rhythm - a KINETIC design
26	Gone Fishing – an UNDER WATER design
27	Candy Lips - NOVICE design

Class	October 9, 2018
	Horticultural
1	Aconitum (Monkshood) - 1 stem
2	Aster – perennial – 2 sprays
3	Branch showing fall colour – not over 36” from top of container
4	Branch showing fruit - not over 36” from top of container
5	Cactus or Succulent – any variety, 1 pot
6	Chrysanthemum – double – 1 spray
7	Chrysanthemum – single – 1 spray
8	Coleus – 1 cultivar, 3 stems
9	Collection of garden flowers, may include branches and grasses – minimum 5 different cultivars, 1 entry per exhibitor
10	Hydrangea – 1 bloom
11	Herbs – 3 stems, one each of 3 different cultivars
12	Ornamental grass – 1 cultivar – 3 stems
13	Rudbeckia – 1 stem
14	Sedum – any cultivar – 3 stems
15	Zinnia – 1 bloom
16	Any other perennial not listed – 1 bloom or stem
17	Any other annual not listed – 1 bloom or stem
18	Any vegetable – 1 large specimen, or 3 small specimens same cultivar, on a plate.
19	Any fruit – 3 specimens, same cultivar
	DESIGN Theme: Harvest
22	Prairie Moon– a design
23	MEMBERS CHOICE!! A Carved or Decorated Pumpkin of any theme. Show your creativity! Entries will be viewed throughout the evening and judged by Members. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes awarded.

Guide to Transplanting



In order to give plants a chance to grow from seed to mature, fruit-bearing plant, gardeners need to start plants indoors during the cold late winter, and transplant them outside once the temperatures are warm enough to support proper plant growth. “Hardening off” is the process of moving plants outdoors for a portion of the day to gradually introduce them to the direct sunlight, dry air, and cold nights. Below are step-by-step instructions given by Norma Rossel, Quality Assurance Manager for Johnny's Selected Seeds.

1. Harden off gradually, so that seedlings become accustomed to strong sunlight, cool nights and less-frequent watering over a 7-10 day period.
2. On a mild day, start with 2-3 hours of sun in a sheltered location.
3. Protect seedlings from strong sun, wind, hard rain and cool temperatures.
4. Increase exposure to sunlight a few additional hours at a time and gradually reduce frequency of watering, but do not allow seedlings to wilt. Avoid fertilizing.
5. Keep an eye on the weather and listen to the low temperature prediction. If temperatures below the crop's minimum are forecast, bring the plants indoors or close the cold frame and cover it with a blanket or other insulation.

6. Know the relative hardiness of various crops. Onions and brassicas are hardy and can take temperatures around 5 degrees Celsius. After they are well hardened off, light frosts won't hurt them. Warm-season crops such as eggplants, melons and cucumbers prefer warm nights, at least 15° C. They can't stand below-freezing temperatures, even after hardening off.
7. Gradually increase exposure to cold.
8. After transplanting to the garden, use a weak fertilizer solution to get transplants growing again and to help avoid transplant shock. Be sure to water plants after hardening them off.

Hardy plants, can be hardened off when the outside temperature is consistently above 5° C. Half-hardy plants may be hardened off at 7° C.



<https://gg.memberclicks.net/hardening-off-plant-starts>

Photography Winner



Grace Nelham (R) received the first prize for her winning photo, "The Ducklings". Debra Lemire (L) presented her with a gift. Thank you goes out to the 11 people who entered the member judged March Photo contest.

Gardening Jobs for April

- Rake or remove mulches from all flower beds.
- Plant rosebushes. They often do best if planted before growth starts and buds swell. And if you want to increase their fragrance, surround them with parsley.



- Broadcast lime, wood ashes, or a mixture of the two over alkaline-loving perennials such as delphiniums and dianthus.

- Bring color outdoors to patios, porches, and even the garden with pansy plants, which don't mind cold nights. To encourage constant flowering, routinely remove spent blossoms and keep them from getting bone-dry.
- Plant lilies-of-the-valley, violets, and garden lilies. Divide summer- and fall-blooming perennials, including delphiniums, irises, chrysanthemums, daisies, and phlox.
- Although we think of this as a rainy month, it can fool us. Remember to water your plants more frequently as the weather warms up and the days lengthen.
- When danger of frost has passed, uncover strawberry beds and keep them well watered.
- Plant blackberries, raspberries, strawberries, and fruit trees.
- Start seeds indoors for heat-loving crops such as eggplant, tomatoes, and squash.



- To determine whether your garden soil is ready for seeds, grab a good handful of it. If you can form it into a ball, the soil is too wet. If it crumbles through your fingers and

reminds you of chocolate cake, it's ready for planting.

- If you got your peas in, be sure to give them a good fence for support, made of chicken wire, twine, or stubby branches that are at least three feet tall. Otherwise, plant them this month as soon as you can.
- Feed your trees. As soon as the frost goes out of the ground, give them a well-balanced slow-release fertilizer. Scatter about six good handfuls per each 10x10-foot area. Store leftover fertilizer in a small plastic trash can or a covered plastic container, and label it.
- Rake your lawn to remove all leaves, dead grass, and small twigs. Sow seed for a new lawn, or fill in bare patches by first covering the area with compost or other organic matter. Roll the lawn if the ground isn't soggy.



- Don't fertilize strawberries in the spring. This is when the leaves are developing, and you'll get lush growth and meager, soft berries. Wait until blossoms appear and use a light hand.
- Don't set tomato plants out in the garden too soon. They hate cold soil and cold nights (under 13 degrees C).
- When preparing to transplant seedlings, it is important to harden them off. Water the

seedlings less for a week prior to planting. Set the seedlings outside in a wind-protected place when temperatures are above 50 degrees.

- Avoid planting seedlings until you've passed the last frost date for your area.
- Have you tested your soil to see if it's nutrient rich and will allow plants to thrive?
- Once the garden soil is workable, give it a good stirring and let it sit for several days. Then top-dress it with compost or well-rotted manure.
- Plant cool-season vegetables outside, such as beets, peas, lettuce, collards, turnips, carrots, broccoli (transplants), brussels sprouts, Swiss chard, kale, kohlrabi, onions, parsley, parsnips, radishes, and spinach.
- Cover tender plants if late frost is in the forecast.
- Plants started indoors should be hardened off outdoors in cold frames.
- Plant perennials and shrubs early in the season to make sure they are established by summer. Divide perennials that are overcrowded.
- For overwintered geraniums, cut back 4 to 6 inches and remove the bottom leaves.



Streetsville Blooms

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Questions, concerns, ideas, or would you like to volunteer for a position on the Board?

Contact Monica Ross at 905.824.7283 or at thegardenlady@psstnetwork.ca

Article suggestions; please contact Debbie Lemire at debra.lemire@gmail.com or 416.268.4348.

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- Fertilize your trees with a well-balanced, slow-release fertilizer.
- If scale or aphids have been a problem on trees and shrubs, spray the branches with dormant oil when temperatures are above 5 degrees.
- If you have dead spots in the lawn, plan to patch them before the summer heat. Loosen the soil and work in some good-quality compost, sprinkle grass seed, rake lightly, and tamp to assure good seed-to-soil contact. Mulch with a thin layer of straw. Water as needed to keep the soil evenly moist until the grass sprouts.
- Time to fertilize lawns, roses, raspberries, and woody plants.
- Do you have animal pests? Be sure you put the proper fencing in place before you start the garden.
- Check your apple trees. If new shots seem blacked, you may have blight disease. Prune infected areas several inches below the damage. Dip your pruners in a weak bleach solution between pruning cuts to avoid spreading the disease to other trees.
- Remember to provide adequate soil moisture for your fruit trees during April and May for good fruit size.
- Once ground thaws, divide any crowded rhubarb stalks. Dig up the whole crown; break off the young side shoots and plant in a full sun location.
- Plant bare-root asparagus crowns as soon as the ground thaws. Choose a sunny spot!
- Inspect trees and shrubs. Prune dead branches back to unaffected wood. Prune that's facing outward.
- Begin fertilizing houseplants again.

<https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-dates>

