



Streetsville Blooms



Volume 24, Issue 4

Streetsville Horticultural Society
Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association
www.streetsvillehort.ca

December 2016



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Sign up today for the Ontario
 Horticultural Association
 newsletter at
www.gardenontario.org.

NEXT MEETING: December 13

Christmas Workshop

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF MEADOWVALE

2630 Inlake Court

Doors open 7 p.m.

Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

*Please bring a canned item for the food collection
 bin for our Annual Christmas Food Drive*

President's message from the Vice-president

It's been a lovely autumn, but all good things must come to an end. We certainly had some wonderful days for garden cleanup, right into November. Although, we knew deep down that it would end, the sudden overnight change was something of a surprise. It is time to move on. Winter brings its own pleasures, starting with our December meeting workshop!

This is my favourite meeting of the year. When I first joined the "Streetsville Hort", 10 years ago now, I had no idea how to make a proper arrangement, and it's not one of those things that comes naturally to me. But over the years I have learned from the demonstrations and tips from fellow members and now I am quite comfortable creating my own small and large containers for the Christmas season. We have some very skilled members in our group, and they are always ready to help, so don't be afraid to ask questions and get advice to help create your own masterpiece. There may be a hidden passion inside just waiting to be unleashed! I enjoy this activity so much more than I ever thought I could, and it's so rewarding to do it yourself.

We have the option this year at our December meeting of making a wreath or a centerpiece. Please read the note below regarding what you'll need to bring to the workshop.

And don't forget about the silent auction of baked goodies! Maybe you have a holiday favourite that you'd like to share? Package some up and bring it along. Or take advantage of the chance to pick up some special treats for the holidays while supporting our Society. Please label your packages with major ingredients for those of us who have to check for allergies, and remember, no nuts allowed in the Church.

It is also a great time of year to practice your photography skills. Don't forget to check the list of themes for our annual photo contest. Holiday decorations and snow make wonderful subjects, alone or together. This is an opportunity to get a professional photographer to comment on your pictures, free of charge! I hope everyone will have a wonderful holiday season with family, friends, and all of the traditions that mean the most to you. ☞

See you in the New Year.

Marg Rowan, Vice-president

Christmas Workshop

Come and join Lil from Georgetown Horticulture Society as she demonstrates how to put together a Christmas arrangement on December 13. Workshop participants registered and pre-paid for supplies at the November meeting. Purchased greenery that has been treated to last will be provided for the low cost of \$10.

Everyone doing the workshop should bring:

For Wreath

- Wire, spool or straight
- Wire cutters
- Accessories of choice such as pine cones, baubles, berries, fruit, ribbon etc.



NOTE: If wreath is to be hung outdoors, make sure your berries/fruit etc. are weatherproof. If they are not they will "pop" like popcorn and you'll have white spots all over your finished wreath after a cold spell.

For Centre Piece

- Box to take it home in
- Container of choice (round or oval is best) filled with oasis (wet). Oasis should be about 1 inch above the rim of the container. 6" - 8" in diameter is a good size. Anything bigger gets to be really huge.
- Secateurs
- Gloves if its easier for you. (optional)
- Wire and wire cutters
- A few skewers - one or two packages from the dollar store will more than do the entire class. (instructor may bring some)
- Accessories of choice such as pine cone, baubles, berries, silk poinsettias, ribbon, favourite things... etc.
- Fresh flowers - should anyone choose to add some fresh flowers, carnations are a good choice, alstromaria, roses, etc.

For more information, contact Janet Shaw at hotfive7@yahoo.ca. ☞



We have decided to combine the raffle table and the bake sale and Grace will run both as a silent auction as no one volunteered to manage the bake sale. So start baking or cooking or sewing or whatever skill you want to share with our group and Grace will have the sheets available to fill out with your item when you arrive on Tuesday December 13.

Grace will not be doing the raffle table as per the regular meeting, however the items already made up will be available to bid on. This way you will be able to concentrate on making your wreath / centrepiece and when you are taking a break you can peruse the auction table and bid on some wonderful goods.

Please bring your wallets loaded with cash for all the wonderful things you can buy.

If you are not attending the meeting to make a wreath feel free to attend and bid on some goodies.

Auction closes at 9 pm.

Any questions, please feel free to call or e-mail at gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com or call 416-433-1148 / 905-858-0675. ☞

Cheers,

Grace McElhinney Gift Basket Chair

Fall Fundraiser

A very big thank you goes out to the 15 members who sold \$852 worth of bulbs on behalf of our Society. Streetsville

Horticultural Society will receive \$426 towards our fundraising. All the bulbs have been picked up or delivered. Now let us all enjoy the beauty of indoor gardening during the cold winter months.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. ☞

Christina Anonychuk, Fundraising Chair

Photography



Thank you to all the people who submitted photos for the 2015-2016 photo contest. We had some lovely photos on display.

We had 14 people who entered and the winner of the trophy for photographer of the year is Carol Ashford. Congratulations Carol!

The Judge's Choice ribbon was awarded to Grace Nelham for her photo of a lovely fall scene.



Get out your cameras and discover nature. Good luck for the 2016-2017 contest.

Categories for 2016/17 are as follows:

- Class 1** "Jack frost"
- Class 2** "Riverside Plants (Show Water)"
- Class 3** "My Favourite Nature Picture"
- Class 4** "A Sunset (Must include Foliage)"
- Class 5** "Blooming Colours"
- Class 6** "Pink and up Close"
- Class 7** "Patriotic"
- Class 8** "Come Into the Garden"

Thank you! ☺

Henry Schouten, Photography Chair

Awards Night



Eleonora Roberts presents Carol Ashford with an award for Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for her contributions towards Leslie Log House, Plant Sale, Board work among other volunteer work.



Henry Schouten presents Carol Ashford with an award for Photographer of the year.



Grace Nelham was presented with Judge's Choice Award and a framed copy of her photograph, Fall Leaves, by Henry Schouten at the Annual General Meeting.

We hope that you will enter the photography contest next year. The photo categories are also available on our SHS website.



Mary Hachey receives the Joseph Boles Award for Horticulture. This is a new award named in honour of Joseph Boles, a long-term member of Streetsville Horticultural Society. This award recognizes the most points collected over the flower shows for growing flowers, fruits and vegetables.



Alex King presents Ursula Evanoff with the Elizabeth Colley Designer of the Year award for her flower design contributions during the 2015-16.



The new Board of Directors for the 2016-17 years. Left to Right: Martha Whitney, Treasurer; Christina Anonychuck, Fundraising Chair, Dean Scully, Tecumseh and Plant Sale co-chair; Marg Rowan, Vice President and Secretary; Sue Harshman, Past President, Jon Eldridge, Rotary Park Chair; Debbie Lemire, Newsletter Chair; Monica Ross, President and Phil Walker, Speaker Chair. Congratulations to the new board.

Milestones

Joe Boles, a long-time member of the Streetsville Horticultural Society passed away in October. Joe was known for his backyard garden filled with espalliered fruit trees and the vegetables he grew.

Elizabeth Ross, mother of **Monica Ross**, who was a keen gardener, passed in November. ✂

From the Raffle Table

November was such a busy month for me. Thanks to Carol Ashford for picking up the raffle table prizes and getting them to the church on time. Marie did a great job selling tickets and we made \$76.00. Thanks to everyone for parting with your toonies and making the table a success!

We are going to shake things up a little for December.....Since no one volunteered to get the Silent Auction /Bake Sale going I decided to blend the raffle table and Silent Auction together. This way Marie and I are free to work on our wreath's while everyone bids on great things donated by our Society members.

The baskets I had ready for the table in December will be out along with everyone's baked goods and preserves. Please be ready to break out your pocketbooks and have some fun spending money on some great items. If you are not sure what to bring please feel free to email me or call with questions.

In the past members have made preserves, cookies , loaves, cakes and pies. You can bring in whatever you think people would be interested in picking up especially with Christmas only 12 days away!

If you can't make the meeting but are interested in the bake sale items please feel free to drop in and bid or donate something of your liking to auction off. The bidding will close at 9pm. Items will have an opening bid and will increase by .50 cents on food items and \$1.00 on large items such as the raffle table prizes. I will have sheets available at the sign in desk when you arrive.

Thanks for a great year so far everyone, lets close it off with a bang!

Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. ✂





Grace McElhinney, Raffle Chair

Mary Percy-Brown, Manasen Ibrahim and Nabeel Bahnam.

We are still looking for someone to take over this desk for the rest of the year. You know it's easily done as a team. So if there are two friends out there that could team up and do this together please take the time and seriously consider undertaking this task. I have been doing this for way too long and its time for someone else to step up to the plate! Remember it takes volunteer's to run the Society and everyone should have a turn at the various tasks .

December will be fun for those of you who signed up to do wreaths. The front desk will be unmanned so please ensure you cross your name off the list upon entering and get your name tag. The Silent Auction/Bake Sale will be set up as well so there is lots to do. ☺

Cheers, Grace McElhinney, Temporary Membership Chair

From the Membership Desk

We had a great night at the membership desk in November. Special thanks to those who helped in getting me set up as I could not be there on time. Thank-you to Carol Ashford who dropped by my work to pick up all the stuff for the desk as well as the raffle table. Once again the Salisbury's , Pat and Mike stepped up to the plate and ran the desk for me in my absence.

We had four new members join us in November. Please reach out to them over the next year to make them feel welcome and let them know what's going on as the year progresses. Let's welcome Maria Casalino,



Streetsville Blooms

President: Monica Ross

Vice president: Marg Rowan

Secretary: Marg Rowan

Assistant Secretary: Arlene Crothers

Past president: Sue Harshman

Treasurer: Martha Whitney

Editor: Debra Lemire

Webmaster: Nigel Roberts

Flower Show: Janet Shaw
hotfive7@yahoo.ca

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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Forcing Bulbs for Christmas

Enjoy the sweet aroma of hyacinths, paper whites and amaryllis at Christmas or in the New Year. These bulbs are readily available and easy to grow.

Bringing bulbs into flower

Your bulbs need to be at a certain stage of development before they can be brought inside for display. Here are some guidelines;



- When roots have developed and the shoots are 4-5cm long (1½-2in), the pots can be brought indoors;
- Initially, bring pots into a cool room away from bright light to allow the leaves to green up;
- Then move them close to a window in warmer surroundings;
- Do not stand them in a draught, or close to a source of artificial heat, such as on a shelf above a radiator;
- A humid atmosphere is preferred. Stand pots and vases on shallow trays filled with gravel that is kept moist, but with the water level below the base of the pot;
- If the leaves develop faster than the flower buds, move the pots to a cooler place and cover them again to keep them dark for a day or two, but no longer than this or the leaves may begin to turn pale;
- Don't forget to check regularly if the pots need watering or the vases topping up. ✂