



STREETSVILLE BLOOMS

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 19, Issue 9

JUNE 2013

NEXT MEETING: TUES., JUNE 11

**CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH
2630 Inlake Court**

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: MARION JARVIE

Topic: "PERENNIAL BLOOM ALL SEASON"

Speaker Bio: Marion Jarvie is a passionate plants-woman who has been gardening in Thornhill for over thirty years. She loves plants and invites any and all to her garden where you will find the hardiest of varieties side by side with plants from all over the world.



Marion has been involved with both the Toronto and international gardening communities. Marion is an accomplished photographer and enthusiastic educator. She teaches regularly at the Toronto Botanical Garden and has lectured all over North America and in the UK.

We all have various perennials in our gardens, but how wonderful it would be to have perennial bloom all season. Be sure to attend to find out how!

Sue Harshman, Program Chair

Give a stranger one of your smiles. It might be the only sunshine he sees all day!

President's Message

I am sure most have heard the phrase "what's the difference between a house and a home." For gardeners the same can be said for "what's the difference between a yard and a garden." This might seem like a no-brainer for gardening aficionados but when we look at a garden, its personal touches that make the difference that turn it from generic to genuine.

In addition, I believe the garden should reflect the people who own it. Personal gardens have been filled with acquisitions, that special garden sale find, and those "I have to have it" plants creating a colorful, cozy sanctuary filled with plants that hold meaning and purpose – that were just right for the spot.

Making your yard, your garden, doesn't necessarily mean that you hold onto every plant or article. It means filling your space and your garden, with what works for you-things that hold significance for you, a reflection of who you are. In the end, it's this garden that makes a place for you to come home to every day.

Enjoy your gardens and your summer.

Sue Hutton, President

DISTRICT 15 AGM

The District 15 Annual General Meeting 2013 was a resounding success. The guest speaker, James Graham, 1st Vice President of the OHA, addressed issues on gardening for a healthier community with his presentation "A Walk Down the Garden Path". Cloverleaf Garden Club organized the affair expertly and did a great job keeping the day's events on schedule. Fifteen SHS members attended, representing your society extremely well. Refreshments were delicious; door prizes were abundant, as always, and everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

The District 15 President's Meeting is held twice yearly – February & September. Attending a

meeting would provide you with insight on issues and challenges facing Horticultural Societies and Garden Clubs. It is an excellent opportunity to connect with other society members. Anyone interested in attending a meeting for the afternoon, please contact Lynn Merritt – lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca

VOLUNTEER NEEDED - MEMBERSHIP

A volunteer is needed to take over the membership table starting next September 2013. I would be happy to help you get started and am willing to share any details of the requirements for this position. Please let Lynn Merritt know if you are willing to take on this responsibility at lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca

Adele Gibbins, Membership Chair

MATCHES, EPSOM SALTS & PEPPERS

Planting a book of matches with your pepper plants is an old gardening trick. Peppers like a relatively acidic soil and matches contain just enough sulfur to lower the soil pH near the plant's roots to make it easier for the plant to access nutrients in the soil.

While you're at it, toss in a handful of Epsom salts. Epsom salts provide some supplemental magnesium, which is thought to help peppers set flowers and fruits, especially during hot weather.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- May 28** **SHS Planting Annuals at Rotary Park 2:00 p.m.**
- May 29** **SHS Cleaning up Beds & Planting Annuals at Leslie Log House 9:30 a.m.**
- July 7** **SHS Garden Tour & Pot Luck**
- July 19 – 21** **OHA Convention**

“Remember that there is no such thing as failure in the garden, only composting opportunities.”

Mark Cullen

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to **Suzanne Mouradian, Monica Ross** and **Carol Zarb** who joined the SHS as new members in May. Many happy returns are extended to **Atiya Ahsan** and **Ursula Evanoff** who have come back to SHS after a short hiatus. What a great way to start membership on premium night!

Remember to share with these new members the format of our exciting garden tour and potluck social, which is fast approaching in July. Encourage all of them to come out and partake in a special pleasure!

Adele Gibbins, Membership Chair

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Have you noticed the Mosquitoes are already out! Here is a homemade trap to help keep you and the kiddos from being a blood donor!!!

HOMEMADE MOSQUITO TRAP:

Items needed:

- 1 cup of hot water
- 1/4 cup of brown sugar
- 1 gram of yeast
- 1 2-liter bottle



1. Cut the plastic bottle in half.
2. Mix brown sugar with hot water. Let cool. When cold, pour in the bottom half of the bottle.
3. Add the yeast. No need to mix. It creates carbon dioxide, which attracts mosquitoes.

4. Place the funnel part, upside down, into the other half of the bottle, taping them together if desired.

5. Wrap the bottle with something black, leaving the top uncovered, and place it outside in an area away from your normal gathering area. (Mosquitoes are also drawn to the color black.)

Change the solution every 2 weeks for continuous control.

ROTARY PARK

Many thanks to those of you who shoveled, raked and pulled weeds on May 1, 2013 at the park. We had a turnout of 20 people. What a difference it makes when you have many hands working together.

Thank you to **Irene Murdoch, Anita King, Alex King, Justin Zardo, Jason Zardo, Lil Duke, Sue Harshman, Rob Harshman, Brian Beehoo, Ron Beehoo, Joyce Giddings, Avon Giddings, Mary Hachey, Simon Campling, Carol Ashford, Linda Bush, Grace Nelham, Jean Barna, Jackie Loynd and Ruthanne Beehoo.**

Planting of annuals will be **Tuesday, May 28** (rain date May 29) at 2:00 pm. Volunteers are needed. Thank You Kindly!

Ruthanne Beehoo, Rotary Park Chair

JUNE GARDENING TIPS

MAKE A PASS through your garden beds each week, since weeds are not just unsightly but steal moisture, nutrients and light from desired plants. Apply mulch to all beds to help in the plight.

GARDENS NEED an inch of water a week from you or the heavens. Check your rain gauge to make sure they get it, and remember: Soak deeply in the root zone. Don't spritz things with a sprayer now and again like you're washing the car. Pots need extra attention, especially smallish ones in sun, and they also need regular feeding. Be alert!

TREES & SHRUBS

BE ON THE LOOKOUT for dead, damaged, diseased wood in trees and shrubs and prune them out as discovered. Ditto with suckers.

SPRING-FLOWERING SHRUBS like lilacs

get pruned now. Later pruning (after July 4th here) risks damage to emerging buds for next year's blooms. Clean up unsightly deadheads of other big bloomers like rhododendron, things that don't make showy fruit next, so leaving behind their faded blooms is just messy. Viburnums, on the other hand, need faded flowers left intact to set beautiful, bird-feeding fruit.

MULCH AROUND WOODY PLANTS after cleaning away weeds and grass, but no volcano mulch (meaning no piling thick mulch up against trunks). Two inches depth is plenty, starting several inches or so away from trunks.

THROUGH THE END OF JULY, softwood cuttings of *Buddleia*, *Weigela*, Rose-of-Sharon and roses, among other shrubs, can be taken to propagate more plants inexpensively.

PLANT SALE SYNOPSIS

The 2013 plant sale has come and gone. It was a little chilly but the rain held off. Because the spring weather was slow to arrive our plant count was down and sales fell short of my \$5,000 goal. But thanks to the rainy week prior, our plants looked spectacular for the sale.

Thank you to **Lynn Merritt** for arranging donations of plants from five local nurseries to boost our sales. Their business info is posted in the newsletter. Please support these nurseries.

I would like to thank City Councilors, Pat Saito and George Carlson for the use of their canopies. Many thanks to members who donated plants from their gardens, to the potting up crews and to all who helped out on the day of the sale. And, special thanks to **Dave** and **Nicky**, for being there before the sun came up.

Planning for the 2014 plant sale will be starting soon. Don't forget, if your perennials need dividing, put a pot or two aside for next year.

Debra Buckler, Plant Sale Chair

REFRESHMENTS

A warm thanks to all who contributed refreshments at this year's Plant Sale. It was a cold day and all the volunteers working that day welcomed the hot beverages and all the goodies to keep them in good spirits.

IMPATIENS BLIGHT (IDM)

Did you plant impatiens last year? Did they thrive at first and then suddenly collapse? Did your neighbor's impatiens die in midsummer?

There is a new disease out there striking this staple of bedding plants. Your plants look healthy and grow well, then suddenly they become ill. You feed and water them, and before you know it, they are dead, sprawled lifeless on the ground. What hit them was a tiny spore from a fungus. It could have been in the soil you bought them growing in. It could have come into your yard on a soft summer breeze. But wherever it came from the result was the same—swift and certain death.

The disease is called Impatiens Downey Mildew (IDM) and it showed up first in Europe nearly ten years ago. Greenhouses treated it with fungicides and it seemed to be under control. In 2011 it returned, apparently having developed a resistance to available fungicides. And that year it came to North America.

So what do you do if you were growing impatiens, one of the most popular annuals, in your garden or containers last year? First start with a thorough clean-up. Remove not just the plant but the soil and mulch in the area where it was growing. The fungal spores of IDM will be present and tests have shown those spores will easily survive our winters. The soil and mulch, as well as the plants, need to be bagged and disposed of where they will be burned or buried in a landfill. Soil from containers where impatiens grew must also be disposed of properly and the container thoroughly cleaned before storing for the winter.

What if you had no signs of disease last year? Some gardeners found their plants untouched while their neighbor's impatiens crashed. Don't take the chance that the soil is not infected. Dig, bag and dispose of the plant, soil and mulch just as if your impatiens had died along with others.

But no matter how carefully you work to reduce the spore count on your property, next summer, the fungus will be wafting in on the wind, or in the mulch you buy or even on the plant itself. So what do you do?

First, don't even think of growing impatiens in the same area until growers find a guaranteed

cure, or breed IDM-resistant plants. New Guinea impatiens should not be counted on until there are definitive answers. Early reports said New Guinea impatiens were resistant to the fungus.

Better yet, use this as an opportunity to grow something entirely different. If you are looking for colorful bedding plants to grow in shade, try begonias, or coleus. A multitude of varieties are available in a seeming infinite number of sizes and colors. Or, try something you have never grown before. You can start the season with violas (pansies) and primroses and then see what the nurseries offer as spring becomes summer.

There are hundreds of wonderful, underused plants waiting in the wings that may find the impatiens' disease is their big opportunity to become stars. Look for browallia with true blue flowers, nasturtiums, nemesia, cape fuschias, plectranthus and snapdragons. The names of some may not be familiar now, but you'll love getting acquainted as a whole new look brightens your garden next summer.

SHS PLANT SALE DONATIONS BY:

Our plant sale enjoyed great success with the assistance of donations of the following:

- Tomatoes and Marigolds supplied courtesy of **Van Dongen's Garden Centre Landscaping**, 6750 Trafalgar Rd., Milton, ON
- Zonal and Hanging Geraniums supplied courtesy of **Haase Greenhouses** Inc., 1724 Queen St. W., Brampton, ON
- Lilies and Petunias supplied courtesy of **Peter's Greenhouses Garden Centre**, 9381 McLaughlin Rd., Brampton, ON
- Tulips and Cabbages supplied courtesy of **John van Wissen Nurseries & Garden Centre Ltd.**, 2547 Embleton Rd., Brampton,

SHS would also like to thank the **Portuguese Cultural Centre** for allowing us to use their parking lot for our Plant Sale, and **Bobby's Hideaway** for advertising the sale on their sign.

FLOWER SHOW – JUNE

DESIGN

Class 1 “They’re Off” – think Kentucky Derby – crescent shaped

Class 2 “Pretty in Pink” – an Ikebana design

MINIATURE

Class 3 “Honeydew” – using warm colors – fresh material only

FOR MEN ONLY

Class 4 “Fire & Ice” – using fresh flowers incorporating cool & warm colors – not to exceed 12” in any direction including container.

NOVICE

Class 5 “Canada Day” – using ONLY red and white fresh flowers (green foliage allowed)

CULTURAL

- Class 1 Achillea (yarrow) 1 stem
- Class 2 Agastache (hyssop) – 2 stems
- Class 3 Astrantia (miterwort) – 1 stem
- Class 4 Clematis – double bloom – 1 bloom
- Class 5 Clematis – single bloom – 1 bloom
- Class 6 Collection of perennial flowers – minimum of 5 cultivars – no shrubs, trees or vines
- Class 7 Coreopsis – 3 stems
- Class 8 Digitalis (foxglove) 1 spike
- Class 9 Eryngium (sea holly) – 1 stem
- Class 10 Euphorbia – 1 stem
- Class 11 Hosta flower – 1 stem
- Class 12 Iris – AOV – 1 stem
- Class 13 Iris – bearded – 1 stalk
- Class 14 Iris – Japanese – 1 stem
- Class 15 Kniphofia (red hot poker) – 1 stem
- Class 16 Lavendar – 3 stems in bloom
- Class 17 Lupins – 1 stem
- Class 18 Luchnis (Maltese cross) – 2 stems
- Class 19 Monarda (bee balm) – 2 blooms
- Class 20 Oriental Lily – 1 stem
- Class 21 Paeonia (peony) – AOV – 1 bloom
- Class 22 Paeonia (peony) – single – 1 bloom
- Class 23 Penstemon (bearded tongue) 1 stem
- Class 24 Poppy – AOV – 1 bloom
- Class 25 Rhododendron – 1 branch in bloom
- Class 26 Rose – AOV – 1 bloom or spray
- Class 27 Rose – miniature – 1 bloom
- Class 28 Rose – miniature – 1 spray
- Class 29 Rose – most fragrant – 1 bloom

Class 30 Tradecantia (spiderwort) – 2 blooms

Class 31 Chives – 1 bunch

Class 32 Rhubarb – 2 stalks – leaves cut to within 2” from stem

All cultural exhibits and houseplants to be grown by the entrant and must have been in their possession for 90 days.

For further information consult the SHS Flower Show handbook (on our website) or call Nicky Hall (905 858-2553) or Lynne Sereda (905 819-1287).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SEPTEMBER

We are seeking an assistant for Nicky Hall, SHS Flower Show Chair. Nicky has been busy assisting judges of our flower shows at most meetings and would like to hear some of our speakers. Contact our Secretary, Lynn Merritt at lynnc.merritt@sympatico.ca

BOXELDER BUG (*Boisea trivittata*)

Hosts: Maple

Ever wonder what these beautiful looking bugs are? It's an Adult boxelder bug.



This bug overwinters as an adult in dry, sheltered areas, such as buildings and house attics. In the spring, the bugs fly to their hosts and deposit eggs on developing leaves or in bark crevices. Within the two weeks the nymphs emerge and begin feeding on the underside of the leaves. The nymphs are black in color, except for a bright red abdomen, which is eventually covered by blackwing pads that increase in size with development. As the leaves mature, the plant bugs prefer to feed on the succulent, developing seed pods. The adult plant bug is brownish black in color, with the wings outlined in red and the thorax marked with three red lines. The adults measure approximately 12 mm long and may be present as early as August. In the fall, the boxelder bugs may be found congregated in large masses on the sunny sides of trees, buildings and rocks. It is at this time the adults begin seeking hibernation sites and becoming an annoying household pest.

Damage: Both the nymphs and adults cause

damage by sucking the sap from maple leaves and seed pods. The feeding action of the boxelder bug on the leaves causes speckling and distortion of leaf growth. The damage is more apparent on seed-bearing trees where higher plant bug populations are present. Generally the damage to the host is insignificant compared to the nuisance created by the pest congregating and searching for hibernation sites around dwellings in the fall.

Control: Control of the boxelder bug is desired mainly because the insect is a household nuisance rather than a pest of maple. The removal of leaves, rocks and boards around dwellings will discourage the congregation of this insect. Control of the boxelder bug may be achieved by applying insecticidal soap or by applying a product containing carbaryl or chlorpyrifos. These products are most effective if applied when the plant bugs are clustered together. These products are for outdoor use only. To prevent plant bugs from entering the household, repair cracks in foundations, windows and doors. The only means of controlling plant bugs within the dwelling is by collecting and disposing or vacuuming.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: keep sending those volunteer hours in...send to gattescohouse@rogers.com or give a hand written copy directly to Eleonora Roberts.

OHA CONVENTION 2013

- Date: July 19-21, 2013.
- Theme: "UP NORTH AND DOWN TO EARTH".

Registration deadlines:

- Early registrations is May 31, 2013

Accommodations, bus tours, speakers & seminars etc. can be

found on the OHA website: www.gardenontario.org

The 107th Convention and AGM of the OHA will be held at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay, hosted by District 14, on July 19, 20 & 21. This year the OHA is looking ahead with proposals to reduce the size of the Board and make better use of the talents and experience of the elected officers.



Delegates will be faced with three proposed changes to the constitution, including changing the length of term in office to two years for the president and vice-president, deleting the position of 2nd Vice Pres., and removing the representative of the Past President's council from the OHA board. Only society delegates or those holding proxies may vote. Details of the proposed OHA resolutions are in the Trillium Summer Newsletter - online at <http://www.gardenontario.org/gar/news1.php?news=262>.

DRAW TABLE

I would like to thank all of the members who purchased tickets for the raffle prizes at our May meeting. We raffled off some great gift baskets and one of our members managed to win twice! I guess it's true, the more tickets you purchase, the better the odds are of winning.

As we wind down for the summer I am thrilled to say that the sales from these tickets have far surpassed my expectations! The generosity of our members is so appreciated; without your contribution and your generous donations of raffle prizes we would not have experienced such a success.

Watch for some incredible raffle prizes at our June meeting! Make sure you bring those toonies and loonies so that you don't miss out!

Marylyne Brown, Draw Table

FOND FAREWELL.....

Over the past 14 years I have had the pleasure of writing and editing "Streetsville Blooms". It is now time for fresh ideas and new input into your newsletter! I shall not be at a loss for things to do; it's just that I want to devote more time to my grandchildren, quilting, photography, golfing and gardening, etc.

Thanks for your comments and encouragement over the years!

Carol Ashford, Editor

Questions, concerns, ideas, want to **volunteer** call
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