



STREETSVILLE BLOOMS



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 20, Issue 9

JUNE 2014

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 10TH

CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH
2630 Inlake Court

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

"BRING A FRIEND NIGHT"

FLOWER SHOW

*Please bring your Plant Sale signs
to the June meeting*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- June 7 Bread & Honey Festival – SHS info table at Rotary Park. Volunteers needed.
- June 10 SHS Meeting – bring a friend for free. Guests \$5.00 at all other meetings
- July 13 Garden Tour
- July 18 – 20 OHA CONVENTION – Nave Center Cornwall, for details:
www.gardenontario.org/sho/up_conf.php

REFRESHMENTS

I am truly sorry that I have not acknowledged the donations of refreshments in previous months. Please be sure to write your name on the donations list when dropping off goodies.

Thanks to: Lil Duke, Marie Kothri, Eleonora Roberts, Grace McElhinney, Pat Salisbury, Lil Duke Amgad Boles, Martha Witney, Anita King.

Thank you so much for your contributions; the members enjoyed them all!

Mary Hachey, Refreshment Chair

President's Message

Our Society was established and has grown because of the efforts of many volunteers. It was the hard work of our members that made our Plant Sale on Saturday May 24 so successful. From the digging up of plants in our gardens to their potting up, transport and sale, it was our dozens of volunteers that made the difference. Many thanks to all who helped out. And we want to say a special word of thanks to Debra Buckler for hours and hours of organizing and work in all areas of our sale. Debra's commitment to our Society and the sale is a perfect example of how volunteers make such a difference.

Another major initiative coming up is our **Friend Day** on June 10. We are asking each one of our members to bring along at least one friend to the evening. There will be no cost to Friends and there will be great refreshments, draw prizes and three special presentations by our own members. The **Friend Day** is important for a number of reasons. First, we could accomplish so much more with more members to volunteer for the projects we work on. Secondly, our message of protecting the environment and beautifying our city is one we need to spread to everyone. And last, there are so many hundreds of gardeners in our city who would benefit so much from what we have to offer. So we strongly encourage you to bring along neighbours and friends on June 10.

One of the great highlights of the year is our Annual Garden Tour. The date this year is Sunday July 13 and plans are well underway for another superb tour. At the end of the tour we will have a potluck dinner, which is always a great finale for a fun day and year. Be sure to circle that date on your calendar and join us for an informative and exciting tour.

We wish everyone a great summer of gardening – we're rooting for you.

Rob & Sue Harshman, Co-Presidents

THE EDIBLE YARD, EAT YOUR WEEDIES!

Get out your trowel and plant ID guide and get ready to eat some weeds!

Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) is packed with vitamins. The tender leaves (picked before the flowers begin to rise) are a nutritious addition to a salad or stir fry, with close to four times the protein level of lettuce, over five times as much calcium and 12 times as much vitamin A. They can also be boiled as a green, as can the flower buds. The root can be dried, roasted and ground as a coffee-substitute, and the flowers can be battered and fried as fritters or used as the base for a mellow wine.

Plantain (*Plantago major*) also makes an excellent, vitamin-packed early spring salad green or boiled vegetable. As they grow, the leaves quickly become fibrous. But later in the season, once the seeds are ripened on the flower stalk, they can be stripped off and used to add a nutty texture and flavor to baking.



Garlic mustard (*Alliaria officinalis*), the bane of our forest



ecosystems, must be harvested before flowering. This plant is great in salads and makes a delicious pesto sauce — you'll never feel the same way about basil again!

Creeping Charlie (*Glechoma hederacea*), is seen as a problem plant in many lawns, but you can get even by collecting and drying its leaves and brewing them into a tasty tea.



Common chickweed (*Stellaria media*) and mouse-ear chickweed (*Cerastium vulgatum*) are both found in lawns and both make excellent boiled greens.



Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*) shows up in most garden beds. It is rich in iron, calcium and vitamins A and C, and is delicious in salads or as a boiled green.

Lamb's quarters (*Chenopodium album*) is closely related to spinach. It can be added to salads or steamed as a green and served up with butter and lemon. The entire plant can be harvested up to about six inches tall or the top few inches can be picked off the plant later in the season.



Excerpt: Paradise Found, Volume 3, Number 2, Summer 2011, Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington Ontario

Submitted by Monica Ross



In celebration of 70 years (1944-2014)
Cloverleaf Garden Club of Mississauga
Extends an invitation to their annual bus tour

*Garden Walk Buffalo
Saturday, July 26, 2014*

- Free self-guided garden tour of over 380 gardens
- \$105 includes motor coach & lunch at the Templeton Landing Restaurant in Buffalo
- Two pick-up locations: Mississauga & Burlington

Visit www.CloverleafGardenClub.org then click on bus tour or contact Mary Morton Tours at 416 488-2674

GARDEN TOUR & POTLUCK – JULY 13

The Garden Tour is set for Sunday, July 13th. We will meet in the **Vic Johnson's lower level parking lot at 2:00 p.m. (355 Church Street, Streetsville).**

If you are staying for the potluck please bring your favorite dish – to serve at least 8 – 10 people (main course, salad or dessert). Bring refrigerated items in a cooler. We request you bring your own plates and cutlery and a lawn chair for each person in your group. Pot Luck supper will be at approximately 4:00 p.m.

A clipboard will be passed around at the June meeting to sign so we will know how many will be attending.

Free for members – guests \$10 per person. Please contact Eleonora Roberts with any questions or concerns: 905 302-4491 or gattescohouse@rogers.com

Eleanora Roberts, Garden Tour Chair

DRAW TABLE

It is hard to believe that June is here already, which brings us to our last meeting for the summer, where does the time go?

On behalf of Streetsville Horticultural Society, and myself we would like to take this opportunity to say our sincere thank you for your tremendous support to the Draw Table this season, whether you bought tickets or donated items for the draw, it is well appreciated. The money collected will go along way to meet some of our objectives such as: Speakers, premiums, Leslie Log House and Rotary Park, just to name a few.

I had fun selecting items for each basket; thanks to you all I had a large selection to choose from, which brings me to acknowledging the following members for May's donated items...

Jean Watt, Joyce Giddings, Lynn Merritt, Kristen Harshman-Best and Joe Boles.

A special Thank you to our speaker Marilyn Cornwell who generously donated two potted lilies from her brother's Lily farm and a selection of her hand crafted greeting cards. Congratulations to the May draw table winners.

Have a great summer and we shall start all over again in the fall.

Mary Bernier, Draw Table Chair

TROPICAL / PATIO PLANT SALE

Over 200 tropical/patio plants for sale, nicely potted, display condition.

Also new/used planters, and various gardening items.

Contact Quang at
905-826-1697

or sentrypalm176@gmail.com

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

Thanks to the following businesses who generously donated product to help make our plant sale a success:

HAAS GREENHOUSES INC.

1724 Queen St. W., Brampton

JOHN VANWISSEN NURSERIES

2547 Embleton Rd., Brampton

PETER'S GREENHOUSES

9381 McLaughlin Road, Brampton

VANDONGEN'S GARDEN CENTRE

6750 Trafalgar Road, Milton,

Please show our appreciation by patronizing these businesses whenever possible.

TOOLS

We all have gardening tools, some of them we really like, and others never seem to work as they were advertised to do. Every so often I find a tool that is really useful. One of my favorites is the Collinear Hoe, and yes it comes from one of my favorite places, Lee Valley Tool. This hoe is designed for weeding and works very well in tight places. It is not intended to be used for moving soil or digging. It has 2 blades one 4 inches wide and the second 6 inches wide and they are sharp. You hold it the same way as a broom with the blade parallel to the ground, the blades are easily removed to change sizes and to sharpen. This hoe cuts weeds off at the surface; removing the leaves removes their food source and usually they just dry up and die, then they can be raked up and disposed of in your compost bin or the city yard waste. It is long enough at 66 inches to let you work without bending over.



It makes removal of multiple small weed seedlings very simple; you can decapitate them by the hundreds! Without ever having to kneel down! I paid around \$50 for mine about 15 years ago, they are now \$59.50. I have seen somewhat similar tools elsewhere, but they are much heavier, more of

a digging tool, are not sharp and not able to be sharpened.

Another useful tool is a set that includes a telescoping handle with 4 different tools that screw



onto the end of the handle. It has as you can see a small fan rake, a soil rake, and a narrow trowel, which works very well to dig up small plants and equally well as a dandelion digger. The crack weeder makes it simple to remove weeds in interlock paths and patios.

The handle extends from 25-41 inches so you can use this tool without bending over. This is also a Lee Valley product and costs about \$25. I often use the rakes as hand tools as well. I have had mine for about 20 years, I did have to replace the fan rake about 5 years ago, the plastic tip broke, however replacement pieces are available separately and I think it was about \$8.

Monica Ross

THE FIRST STEP IN THE DESIGN PROCESS – SITE ASSESSMENT

Have you ever wondered why one garden looks outstanding, yet the garden next to it looks in decline? Or why a planting looks robust and healthy at one location, yet the same planting two streets over looks weak and fragile? The answer is: a good understanding of plant requirements and matching them to your garden site.

Before planting a single plant, the first step the gardener should perform is a site assessment. This will save gardeners time and money and will help to avoid future problems. Good preparation now will pay rich dividends later in the form of an easy to care for and attractive garden or landscape.

Light, soil, plant hardiness, frost-free dates, micro-climates from existing buildings or structures, wind, drainage, slope and root competition all play an important role in planning a successful garden. When you have completed the site assessment, you will have site sketch and a draft of a landscape design that will take into account all of these factors.

Light, for example, can be full sun, partial sun, partial shade, light shade, dappled shade, full shade, and lastly, deep shade. It is only by tracking the sun for one day in the spring, summer and fall that you will understand the light requirements for your garden. Knowing what light your garden receives will ensure success when matching plants for your garden.

Soil testing is so important. "Ninety per cent of success in your garden is the direct result of proper soil preparation," states Mark Cullen. Knowing the soil composition, whether you have sand, clay, loam or a combination, allows you to choose the correct plants for your soil.

How much organic matter is in the soil? Is your soil acidic or alkaline? Is your soil compacted so that water drainage is impaired? The results of testing your soil allow you to correctly amend the soil in your garden to produce healthy, vigorous plants. Take your time with the soil and it will reward you for years to come. Fortunately, soil-testing kits are widely available at local nurseries and hardware stores.

Other site characteristics to consider are frost-free dates: April 21 – 30 to October 21 – 30 in Mississauga; plant hardiness zone: 6b; root competition from other trees and shrubs; and buildings or structures.

So with pencil and graph paper in hand, sketch all of your yard (property line, house, garage, walkways, patio and/or deck and flower beds). Be sure to include any big trees from adjacent yards that cast a shadow or grow roots that will affect your garden. In addition, show which areas of your property are in sun and shade and areas that are sloped or hilly, and damp or arid.

Once your site plan is drawn, make several copies of it and begin to plan your design.

Happy designing!

By Debra Lemire

PHOTO CONTEST

This is our final newsletter before the summer break. Have fun hunting for those pictures, relating to the categories listed below. Remember they are **NATURE RELATED**.

The deadline for submitting your pictures is at the September 9th horticultural meeting. Here again are the categories for the photo contest:

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

AVOID CAMERA SHAKE

Camera shake or blur is something that can plague any photographer and here are some ways to avoid it. First, you need to learn how to hold your camera properly; use both hands, one around the body and one around the lens and hold the camera close to your body for support. Also make sure you are using a shutter speed that matches the lens focal length. So if you're using a 100mm lens, then your shutter speed should be no lower than 1/100th



of a second. Use a tripod or monopod whenever possible. In lieu of this, use a tree or a wall to stabilize the camera.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT ISO

The ISO setting determines how sensitive your camera is to light and also how fine the grain of your image. The ISO we choose depends on the situation – when it's dark we need to push the ISO up to a higher number, say anything from 400 – 3200 as this will make the camera more sensitive to light and then we can avoid blurring. On sunny days we can choose ISO 100 or the Auto setting as we have more light to work with. In a previous tip, turn off your flash.

Have a great summer, and have some fun experimenting with your camera,

Henry Schouten, Photo Contest Chair

FOSTERING THE LOVE OF GARDENING IN CHILDREN

We all have our reasons for our love of gardening. I can trace my early gardening experiences back to helping my father plant our vegetable garden. He would meticulously plan out every row with markers and string. Then we'd plant the seeds. Runner beans were my favorite - I remember how the bean's leaves would stick to my clothing as I walked between the tall growing vines and how cool it was to be out of the hot summer sun. These memories stick with you and I always try to include a type of bean in my garden in honor of that memory.

Fostering the Love of Gardening in Children with the SHS means upping our involvement with outreach to children. Tapping into my children's programming experience I've developed a children's story time for ages 4-6 and taken it to children in our community. Mary Hachey has assisted with the program by running the hands on part of the program. The children were very excited by our visits.

We received thank you cards from some of the classes we visited. Comments listed below:

"Dear Plant Ladies

Thank you for planting flowers with us!

We enjoyed the story JUMP FROG JUMP.

Thank you for teaching us how to plant a flower.

We enjoyed the story about the ladybugs. We now know ladybugs come from eggs.

We learned that a tomato plant needs a stick to hold it up.

We liked to hold the seeds.

We liked the songs.

We liked the bee puppets.

We learned bees collect nectar.

Thank you for teaching us about plants and insects, and thank you for the beautiful pansies you helped us to plant!

We all had fun!"

Plowman's Park P.S.

We visited:

Interim Place Women's Shelter on April 10, 2014. Attendance: 6 children + 4 parents
Interim place provided their own ceramic pots (which they painted up prior to program)

Plowman's Park P.S. on May 1, 2014; two Grade 1 classes. Attendance: 40 children

And again on May 6, 7 & 8th – five Kindergarten classes. Attendance 100 children; + 25 leadership students from grades 4 & 5 & 6 children assisting us with the potting up & clean up

Program consisted of: Stories, songs, interactive discussion & finger rhymes about flowers, butterflies, bees, vegetables and fruits, pond life etc.
Activity: Potting up pansies.

Eleonora Roberts.

PLANT SALE

WOW, what an amazing day we had! The Leslie Log House was a great venue for the plant sale. The weather couldn't have been better.

Thanks to the city, we had someone counting our visitors and there were over 400. Our sales reached the \$3500 mark, which allayed my concerns about the venue change.

Many thanks to all that helped. Our potters did a great job and the plants were big and healthy this year.

Special thanks to the following:

- Ann and her Streetsville Historical Society crew for suggesting we use the Leslie Log House and their BBQ. For those who didn't make it, their caramelized onions on the hot dogs were delicious.
- Kelly from the city who stayed with us until the last plant was loaded on the truck
- Carol and her midnight gang of marauding sign posters Grace and Monica
- Nicky who watched the sun come up with me at 5:15 a.m. and Dave who wasn't too far behind

It was nice to see some new faces out volunteering - Heather & Phil, Christine, Irene, Janet, Jon and Sabbas

Have a great summer and start saving those pots, trays and blinds. (at your place, not mine).

Debra Buckler, Plant Sale Chair

POND PLANT SALE

Raising money to see my daughter in Hong Kong (Disability doesn't pay much).

Marginal Pond Plants,

Elephant Ears (Taro)

Red plants

Green plants

Canna red leaves

Assorted hostas,

Assorted peonies

Black tomatoes

Loosestrife – red with yellow flowers

And more!

When: **June 7th 8:00 a.m. to noon**

Where: 6363 Atherly Crescent
Glen Erin / Montevideo

SHS member Mary Hachey

LESLIE LOG HOUSE GARDENS

Weeding and watering will commence at the log house on Wednesday, June 4th at 9:30 a.m. A clipboard was passed around at the May meeting and those interested in helping signed up.

If you signed up you will be notified by email what date you should come to do your couple of hours of volunteering. You need to bring gloves, hoe, edger, pruner, working shoes etc. or whatever you have at home that you usually work with in your own garden.

The perennials are all up and the annuals are all in so it's just a matter of keeping it looking good over the course of the summer!

If you feel like joining us on a Wednesday morning, drop by and share in the work and fellowship.

Thanks in advance for your help!!!

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair

FLOWER SHOW – June 10, 2014

DESIGN

Class 1 “Bridal Bouquet – Hand Tied (Look up on internet or library for ideas)

Class 2 “Dream, Dream, Dream” – Victorian Mass Centerpiece, Pg. 19

MINIATURES

Class 3 Corsage Boutonniere

FOR MEN ONLY

Class 4 “Stag Party”

NOVICE

Class 5 Wedding Cake topper – not to exceed 8 inches across in any/all direction – foliage may drape

CULTURAL

Class 1 Allium – over 3” – 1 stem

Class 2 Allium – under 3”- 1 stem

Class 3 Any perennial not listed – 1 bloom

Class 4 Any perennial not listed – 1 spray

Class 5 Aquilegia (columbine) any cultivar – 1 stem

Class 6 Campanula – any cultivar – 1 stem

Class 7 Clematis – 1 bloom

Class 8 Delphinium – 1 spike (no side shoots)

Class 9 Dianthus – 1 cultivar – 2 stems

Class 10 Dicentra (bleeding heart) – 1 spray

Class 11 Evening primrose - 3 stems

Class 12 Gallardia (blanket flower) any cultivar – 2 blooms

Class 13 Hemerocallis (day lily) – 1 stem

Class 14 Heuchera – 3 stems with leaves

Class 15 Hosta – mini – 2 leaves

Class 16 Hosta – solid color – 2 leaves

Class 17 Hosta – variegated – 2 leaves

Class 18 Iris – bearded – 1 stem

Class 19 Iris – Siberian – 1 stem

Class 20 Larkspur – 1 spike

Class 21 Nectaroscordum (Mediterranean bells) – 1 stem

Class 22 Oriental poppy – 1 bloom

Class 23 Paeonia (peony) – semi double – 1 bloom

Class 24 Paeonia (peony) – single – 1 bloom

Class 25 Paeonia (peony) – tree – 1 bloom

Class 26 Perennial herbs – collection – named

Class 27 Poppy – AOV – 1 bloom

Class 28 Rose – AOV – 1 bloom or spray

Class 29 Rose – climbing – 1 bloom or spray

Class 30 Rose – miniature – 1 bloom

Class 31 Rose – miniature – 1 spray

Class 32 Vine – AOV – 1 bloom or spray

The Flower Show schedule and

accompanying rules become the "Law of the Show". All judges and exhibitors are bound by its requirements.

Prior to the Judge arriving the exhibition area is closed to members to allow the Show Convener to check for the correct placement of exhibits, moving those that may have been placed in the wrong section and removing those that do not conform to the schedule; ie. The wrong type of flower. If a schedule asked for a cactus dahlia and a collarette dahlia was placed.

The Show Convener must ensure that members adhere to the timetable for placement of their exhibits. Members need to place their exhibits within the time allotted in the schedule so the Show Convener can check to ensure that all the exhibits are in proper classes and conform to the schedule prior to judging. Judges do not disqualify exhibits – that is the responsibility of the Show Convener prior to the Judge's arrival.

For further information on Flower Show Rules go to:

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/streets/news/online/2088>

OR for assistance with the Flower Show go to:

http://www.gardenontario.org/site/s260/2013_shs_flowershow_handbook.pdf

FOR SALE



Have something garden related you want to sell? Or do you want to advertise your home business?

Do you know you can advertise in our newsletter?

For further information on sizes and cost of ads, please contact Amgad Boles at 647-933-3808 or amgadg@rogers.com

TIP: FIGHTING SLUGS & SNAILS

Make a barrier – place a ring of eggshells, twigs or ashes around plants. Slugs and snails are not capable of moving across such rough materials.

STREETSVILLE ROTARY PARK

Stay tuned for big happenings at Rotary Park coming this July.

Please note, beginning June 09th, I will be at Rotary Park every Monday morning, 10:00-12:00 noon, for any clean up / weeding that is needed.



Please join me for a coffee and fellowship.

Ruthanne Beehoo, Rotary Park Chair

MEMBERSHIP

We had one new member join our society in May. A warm welcome goes out to **Eleanor Minnes**. Please reach out to your friends and neighbors and tell them about our society and invite them to attend a meeting and see what its all about! Remember June is "**bring a friend**" month!

I would like to thank **Shirley Boyes** and **Pat and Mike Salisbury** for helping me on the membership desk. I could use help in June as we need to ensure all the "guests" sign up in order to win prizes. So, if you can get in a little early on June 10th, please do so and check in with me. If you would like to confirm that you are going to help out leave a message for me at my home. My number is 905-858-0675.

I am also looking for volunteers to **help out in September**. The majority of members do pay their yearly dues in the fall and its extremely busy at my desk. Please think about it and remember this counts towards volunteer hours. If this is something you could help with please email me at gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com.

As mentioned at the last meeting there will be a supplemental fee of \$10.00 to cover mailing costs if you wish to get your newsletter by snail mail. This will come into reality in September, so if you have an email address and are currently receiving your newsletters by mail please inform me so you will not have to pay any more than your membership fee.

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

Grace McElhinney, Membership Chair

SUGGESTION BOX

Many of you saw a suggestion box on the membership table in May and we want you to use it! We are always looking for ideas for the upcoming year and we would like some input from our members.

- Is there a speaker you would like to hear?
- Would you like a presentation on certain plants?
- Would you like instructions on planting or landscaping?

Please let us know so that going forward our topics will be geared to your wants and wishes.

PREMIUMS

120 premiums were purchased for the May meeting and given out to 88 members in good standing. There was a good selection of premiums: Hosta (Ginko Craig), Autumn Fern, Ajuga (Black Scallop) and Beauty of Livermore Poppy.

The remainder of the premiums were sold at the meeting (12) and the rest were taken to the plant sale.

Monica Ross, Premium Chair



Don't forget to submit your volunteer hours! All that time spent digging up plants or potting up for the plant sale count as volunteer hours. Submit hours to Eleonora Roberts at gattecohouse@rogers.com or hand them in at the meetings.

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