



Streetsville Blooms



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Volume 31, Issue 2

www.streetsvillehort.ca

October 2023



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Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Streetsville United Church

In Heritage Hall

274 Queen Street South

Set Up at 6:30 p.m.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Clement Kent

Topic: Caring for the Earth

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¹ Chrysanthemum courtesy of Grace Nelham

Co-President's Message

October 2023- Streetsville Horticultural Society is now 51!

Our October meeting is an "Open House". It is a great evening for friends or guests to come and participate. Chat with your neighbours and bring them along! Our October meeting also includes a Flower Show, the Flower Show Schedule is on page 7 of this newsletter.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place at our November 14th meeting. It's time again to elect the Board of Directors, review the 2022/23 reports, present awards, socialize and enjoy a Potluck Dinner.

Some of you may have heard of new legislation passed by the Ontario government. It is called the Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act, the act was passed October 19, 2021, and by 19 October 2024 all not for profit corporations including horticultural societies are required to make changes to documents including by-laws and constitutions to bring them into conformity with the act.

Because our 2024 Annual General meeting will not take place until after the 19 October 2024 deadline, we need to make the required changes at the 2023 AGM.

Almost all the changes required are minor changes in wording and will not have a significant impact on how Streetsville Horticultural Society operates. Details of these changes will be provided for your review before the AGM.

Just a reminder our AGM is not open to the public, all current members are invited to attend, you must have renewed your membership to vote on the various motions at our AGM. More information including the agenda will be available in early November.

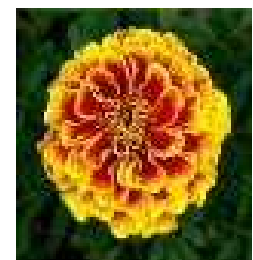
Carol and Monica

Celebrations



Members celebrating a birthday this month include Amarin, Christina, and Brent. The birth flowers for October are marigold and cosmos which are herbaceous flowering plants belonging to the Asteraceae Family!

Wishing you all a happy birthday.



Leslie Log House



By the time you read this the gardens at the Leslie Log House will have been put to bed for the winter. Thankfully we had enough moisture over the summer to sustain the plants that saved us from dragging the hoses out every week and made our jobs much easier. Those hoses are heavy and we aren't getting any younger!!

The addition of the arbor has received lots of positive comments. We planted some Morning Glories on one side of it this summer and it has softened the look. We dug out a huge peony that was too close to the arbor and moved it to our raised bed where it will over-winter and can be dug up and split in the spring for the plant sale. We hope to plant a climbing rose, clematis or some other climbing vine beside the arbor in the spring.

Viv Holmes, one of our faithful volunteers at the log house, is moving down east. Viv has been volunteering at the log house since she joined SHS. Hopefully she will find a horticultural society near her new home that she can join - their gain will certainly be our loss. We wish Viv good luck in her new home and many years making new memories. We will miss you Viv!



I look forward to having a few months off in the winter but look forward to working and socializing again at the Log House in the Spring!

Carol Ashford, LLH Heritage Gardener

Rotary Park

We're approaching the end of the season for working at the park, although I remember us planting bulbs last year when it was pretty cold. This year we don't have any bulbs to plant (yet) which could save us the trouble of remembering where we planted last year!

I'm pleased with what we've been able to accomplish this year and none of it would have been possible without a good group of volunteers, who are:

Martha Witney, Marcia Spear, Asoke Bera,
Steve Fenech, Nick & Enza Lafratta, Nury Garzon

Thank you so much for your hard work and good company.

Jon Eldridge

Flower Show

The September Flower Show had 68 entries from 13 entrants. The Show was judged by Daphne van Ginkel. Best in Show was awarded to Sue Harshman for her Hydrangea
Judges Choice was awarded to Shelley Dodd for her Dahlia
Congratulations to you both.

A. King



October Speaker – Caring for the Earth

Our October speaker is Clement Kent, Vice President at Parkdale and Toronto Hort speaking about "Caring for the Earth" which is more relevant than ever this being the hottest year of the last 100,000.

He is an adjunct professor at York University and VP of the Horticultural Societies of Parkdale & Toronto. He helped found the Parkdale society in 1987 and Project Swallowtail in 2019.

From the Membership Desk

The room was abuzz as 65 members and guests Divya & Linda attended the first meeting of the new fiscal year. Members arrived with their pictures for the 2022/23 photography contest and entries for the Fall flower show.

Members were entertained by the speaker Helen Battersby as she discussed "Garden of Regrets". Her presentation was informative and she reminded us that gardening is a learning process which involves many decisions.

She suggested:

Never plant more than you can harvest (think zucchini)

Be careful of plants which produce an abundance of seeds

Believe what is written on the plant labels

Look at "Grow Me Instead" and "Dave's Garden" to find alternatives to invasive species

Many people took the opportunity to renew their memberships, bringing our total to 81, and thanks to Faulene and Maureen the process was smooth and quick. Welcome to new members Cynthia, Rick, Kristen, Ethan, Lisa, Angie, Beaula, Kochaiyappan, and Liz. If you haven't renewed your membership, simply print out and fill in the membership form then email or mail it along with your fee (cheque, cash, or e-transfer). Membership fees are \$20 for a single and \$30 for a family.

Lastly, if you took your nametag home, please bring it to the October meeting.

Shelley Dodd

Coffee Club

Despite the sweltering heat, twenty-one members attended the September Coffee Club at the beautiful Leslie Log House property. Discussions were held about travels to Leamington and Holland, the blossoming of cannas and datura in our gardens, and many other topics. The tables were decorated with fall colours and attendees enjoyed Monika's Timbits.

Our next Coffee Club, weather permitting will be Wednesday, October 4th at 10:00 a.m.

Shelley Dodd



Refreshment Table



Thanks to SHS members who contributed to the refreshment table at our September meeting:

Shirley Boyes, Maureen Dodd, Judi Kokis, Martha Witney

And a special thank you to Jill Davies for helping set and tidy up.

I know there were more contributions, but they were not recorded.

Therefore, from the October meeting onward, I will record 1 (one) volunteer hour to Grace Nelham for the members who contributed.

Please make sure to sign the sheet that will be on the counter, in the kitchen, where you drop your goodies.

Martha J. Witney

Raffle Table

For the month of October we have a lovely gift for some self-pampering and others for the home and garden. Tickets are 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5.



1. A beautiful photo album for pictures of your garden and loved ones and 2 quirky wall hooks.
2. A set of body lotions and a beautiful scarf pin.
3. A set of 2 citronella garden candles and a tea cup/saucer stake, which would make a pretty garden ornament.
4. A beautiful marble vase perfect for displaying your garden show entry, a box of blank plant labels and a Canadian gardener's guide book.

Judy Castelino

October Flower Show

HORTICULTURAL

Class 1 Aconitum (Monkshood)

Class 2 Branch showing fall colour - Not over 36" from top of vase

Class 3 Branch showing fruit - Not over 36" from top of vase

Class 4 Cactus or Succulent - any variety, 1 pot

Class 5 Chrysanthemum - single - 1 spray

Class 6 Chrysanthemum - double - 1 spray

Class 7 Coleus - 1 cultivar - 3 stems

Class 8 Collection of garden flowers, may include branches and grasses -
minimum 5 different cultivars, 1 ENTRY PER EXHIBITOR

Class 9 Herbs - 3 stems, one each of 3 different cultivars

Class 10 Ornamental grass - 1 cultivar - 3 stems

Class 11 Sedum - any cultivar - 3 stems

Class 12 Zinnia - 1 bloom

Class 13 Any other perennial not listed - 1 bloom or stem

Class 14 Any other annual not listed - 1 bloom or stem

Class 15 Any vegetable - 1 large or 3 small specimens, same cultivar, on a plate

Class 16 Any fruit - 3 specimens, same cultivar

Class 17 3 different seed stalks

DESIGN Theme: All Hallows Eve

Class 18 'Welcome to My Nightmare' - a design using a Halloween character such as ghosts or bats

MEMBERS CHOICE

Class 19 A carved or decorated pumpkin of any theme. Entry will be judged by members.



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² Pumpkin picture taken from The Old Farmer's 2024 Almanac Canadian Edition

Other Interesting Items

Home & Auto Insurance

Did you know Ontario Horticultural Association members get preferred rates with Co-operators Group Home and Auto Insurance program?

When you get a Home or Auto insurance quote, you'll get a chance at a \$10,000 prize. Along with exclusive savings, Co-operators coverage offers exceptional features like

A home deductible that shrinks by \$100 each claim-free year

A free Legal Assistance helpline with guidance from qualified lawyers for Co-operators property insurance clients.

Guaranteed claims counselling with no impact to your premium if you choose not to make a claim

Complementary legal assistance on demand, as part of your home policy

Optional protection against depreciation of your vehicle if it's a write-off within five years

Rewards for new drivers who maintain a clean driving record

Call The Co-operators at 1-800-387-1963 for more details.

Streetsville Horticultural Society Mailing Address Change

Please note our mailing address has changed. It is now –

5636 Glen Erin Drive, P.O. Box 42048, Mississauga, Ont L6M 0B0



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³ Comic taken from The Toronto Star, Saturday Sept 23/23, MUTTS by Patrick McDonnell

Presentation by Helen Battersby, www.torontogardens.com

WHAT MAKES US REGRET A PLANT?

The garden of regrets is filled with plants you wish you'd never planted, the invasive plants, runaways, thugs, and giants. Here are some ways to recognize them:

Weedy, seedy habits

- produce abundant, viable seed, easily dispersed

Roots of all evil

- quickly spreading or deep; hard to eradicate.

Shown: Obedient plant (*Physostegia*)

Too tough to quit

- resilient to challenges such as drought – which can make them helpful in tough situations, but aggressive in more welcoming conditions.

Shown: Variegated loosestrife (*Lysimachia punctata* 'Alexander') in dry shade

Sudden changes in your garden

- sudden or recent changes in site conditions that once slowed them down, but now encourages spread.

Shown: Shade tree removed, providing sun. (Or if you increase fertilizer or moisture.)

Climate change

- allowing introduction or proliferation of plants from warmer zones.

Shown: Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*)

Alien species

- space invaders are often (not always) non-native plants that out-compete in our environment.

Shown: Soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*), introduced to North America by European settlers and now widespread across the continent.

AND HOW DO YOU SPELL 'NO REGRETS'?

Some strategies to help you avoid problems:

To know them (before), is to love them (after)...

- learn all you can about a plant before you plant it

- read the plant labels to check for size before you buy!

Shown: Goldenrod (*Solidago*)

PLANTS TO USE WITH CAUTION:

GROUNDCOVERS

- Variegated goutweed (*Aegopodium podagraria* 'Variegatum') & Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*), *V. minor* 'Atropurpurea' [invasive, and hard to remove]

- Sweet woodruff (*Galium odoratum*) [can become aggressive in fertile soil]

PERENNIALS

- Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) [spreads by roots and seed; important for fall nectaring pollinators, so choose newer, better-behaved cultivars]

- Scarlet beebalm (*Monarda didyma*) [less aggressive] & Gooseneck loosestrife (*Lysimachia clethroides*) [Note: latter is unrelated to purple loosestrife (*Lythrum*); spread by roots]

Buckwheat family:

- *Polygonum affine*; *Persicaria virginiana* 'Painter's Palette'; *Persicaria amplexicaulis* 'Firetail' [use restraint if space is limited]

- Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica* syn. *Polygonum japonica*) [never, ever, ever plant this!]

Euphorbia or spurge family:

- Donkey-tail spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*) [somewhat less aggressive]

- Cypress spurge or graveyard spurge (*Euphorbia cyparissias*) [aggressive]

- Cushion spurge (*Euphorbia polychroma*) [in between]

HERBS

- Borage (*Borago officinalis*) & Garlic chive (*Allium tuberosum*) [self-seed]

- Mint (*Mentha* spp.) [restrain in pot]

Presentation by Helen Battersby, www.torontogardens.com

A switch in time saves nine...

- achieve garden effects in new ways; rather than a vining groundcover like periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) that can be a pest, use closely planted clumping plants

Shown: *Heuchera* as groundcover

Rethink colour without flowers (and seeds)...

- paint your garden with colourful foliage rather than only flowers

Shown: Black Garden, Van Dusen Botanical Garden, B.C.

Use what you grow...

- eat rampant herbs like garlic chive before they go to seed

Shown: African blue basil (*Ocimum kilimandscharicum* x *basilicum*) (semi-sterile and less likely to self-seed)

Go native...

- some native plants can be thugs, but many are better choices and if seeds escape they are part of the ecosystem

Shown: Black chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)

Get skinny...

- select narrow or columnar trees and shrubs that don't make you constantly fight Mother Nature by pruning

Shown: Columnar red oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Small is beautiful...

- for herbaceous plants, search for compact varieties and cultivars that will easily stay within their limits

Shown: *Clematis texensis* (possibly 'Princess Diana')

Let the good ones in...

- look for well-behaved plants known for low maintenance

Shown: Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*) with feather reed grass (possibly *Calamagrostis x acutiflora* 'Karl Foerster')

Put timing on your side...

- deadhead before seeds become a problem

Shown: Seed head of *Allium cristophii*

Be a seed saver, not a seed weeder...

- collect your own seed to take control over where it grows

Shown: Red zinnia (*Zinnia*)

Umbelliferous herbs:

- Lovage (*Levisticum officinale*) & Dill (*Anethum graveolens*) [self-seeders]

TREES & SHRUBS – Self-seeders

- Dwarf burning bush (*Euonymus alatus* 'Compactus'), Rose-of-Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*), & White mulberry (*Morus alba*) [all introduced aliens and vigorous self-seeders. Avoid!]

Note: Shrubs can grow larger than you think; measure first, plant once!

- eg. Dappled willow (*Salix integra* 'Hakuro-Nishiki') [can grow v. large]

VINES

- Porcelain vine (*Ampelopsis glandulosa*) [invasive alien]

- Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) & Wild grapevine (*Vitis* spp.) [very vigorous natives]

- English ivy (*Hedera helix*) [aggressive]

- *Clematis tangutica* syn. *C. tibetana* subsp. *tangutica* [self-seeds, and in right conditions does so abundantly]

GRASSES (or grass-like plants)

- Gardener's garters (*Phalaris arundinacea* var. *picta*) & Japanese blood grass (*Imperata cylindrica* var. 'Rubra') [spread by aggressive roots]

- Maidengrass or eulalia grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*) [self-seeds]

GEOPHYTES OR BULBS

- Siberian squill (*Scilla siberica*) [quickly seeds; be sure you want it]

- Lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) [spreads by roots/pips]

- Star-of-Persia (*Allium cristophii*) [all alliums can self-seed if allowed]