



Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association



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www.streetsvillehort.ca

October 2024



Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

Streetsville United Church

In Heritage Hall

274 Queen Street South

Set Up at 6:30 p.m. for Flower Show

Entries

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Maureen Hulbert

Fascinating Flora of Canada

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¹ Yellow Rose courtesy of Marcia Spears' garden.

Co-Presidents' Message

October, with its brilliant display of colour and cooler temperatures, is a great time to be outside in the garden! It's time to harvest crops, divide perennials, add mulch to fortify the soil, and collect seeds.

Our October meeting is our Fall Open House where we encourage members to bring a guest to experience the joys of being part of our Horticultural Society. At the meeting, we will have spring bulbs for sale, a flower show (Schedule on page 9), a seed/plant cutting exchange, as well as an educational guest speaker.

Last month Anita brought in an interesting fruit that she found while visiting the Niagara Region. The Osage orange is a hardy tree which produces an unusually shaped fruit. It is not usually consumed by humans because of its bitter taste, but Anita learned that horses enjoy them as a treat.



As the nights get colder and dip below double digits its time to bring in your amaryllis plant. Monica reminded us that we should be fertilizing regularly while outside, and like the rainforest they originated from they should not be watered when brought inside to simulate the dry season. About 6 weeks before you want your amaryllis to rebloom, water the plant well **once** and place in a sunny, warm spot. Avoid watering again, unless very dry, until new growth is seen. They do not require dark or cold as other bulbs do!

Our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be held November 12th at Streetsville United Church. At this meeting we elect our Board of Directors who oversee the running of society activities, review and approve the 2023/24 committee reports, financial statements, and financial reviewers report, make changes to official documents as needed, select new financial reviewers, present awards, and socialize over a nice meal. A motion was made at the September 24, 2024 Board of Directors meeting that we increase the number of members on the board from 10 to 12. Voting on this motion will take place at the AGM. Our **AGM** is not open to the public and members must have renewed their memberships to vote.

Volunteers are needed for next year! We are looking for a new Treasurer, Financial Reviewer, Publicity Co-ordinator, and Awards Co-ordinator. The **Treasurer** records all incoming and outgoing financial transactions, receives all monies and deposits them into the bank, maintains proper books of accounts, writes and signs cheques, and prepares financial statements. Familiarity with an electronic bookkeeping software, such as Quickbooks and a laptop are beneficial skills. The **Financial Reviewer** examines the financial books and records of the Society to certify that the statements of income & expenses and assets & liabilities are correct. This is done once a year usually in October. The **Publicity Co-ordinator** informs the public and members of upcoming events and activities using publicity material such as flyers, bookmarks, or posters which are printed or posted on-line. The **Awards Co-ordinator** oversees the candidate selection, collects & engraves the trophies, nominates members for D15 or OHA awards, orders awards, and prints certificates.

We depend on the generosity of all of our members to do their share and help keep this society running successfully! We look forward to seeing you at the October meeting!

Shelley Dodd and Maureen Dodd, Co-Presidents

Osage Orange photo by John Dodd

streetsvillehort@gmail.com

Leslie Log House

By the time you receive this message most of the perennials will have been taken down once again to revitalize themselves over the winter. We had an outstanding show of flowers this summer and had lots of visitors drop by and tell us how beautiful the garden looked thanks to our outstanding volunteers!!

On Sept. 18th we decided to clear the raised bed of weeds - of which there were plenty - mostly thistles and grass. Steve F. opened up the fencing around the edge of the bed and stuck his fork in the soil. Immediately a swarm of bees flew out swarming around him. Steve made a run for it as he is allergic to bee stings and fortunately only suffered one sting and did not need to use his epi-pen. Upon further investigation about a half hour later, we found that the bees had a nest at the base of the wood surrounding the bed. A golf ball size hole could be seen with bees flying in and out.

According to The Bee Conservancy: “you may think most bees live in hives like honey bees, 70% of the world’s 20,000 bee species actually live largely solitary lives and lay eggs in underground nests. While honey bees pollinate one third of the food we eat, native bees are responsible for pollinating 80% of the world’s flowering plants. Countless ecosystems depend on their hard work, but pesticides, loss of habitat, and climate change are just some of the factors that threaten their survival around the world. The Xerces Society posts that more than ¼ of North America’s 46 bumble bee species — all ground nesters — face some degree of extinction risk. In fact, in October of 2021, it was determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that the American Bumble Bee could qualify for protection under the Endangered Species Act because its population has dropped nearly 90%”.



Excerpt from the Bee Conservancy

So I guess the weeds will have to stay in the raised bed a while longer until the bees have flown the coop so to speak!!

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House

Rotary Park

We had our 2nd garden tour for our volunteers at the end of August, visiting my garden and those of Marcia Spears and Nick & Enza Lafratta. They were all quite different and very interesting so I hope we can do it again next year, with maybe 1 or 2 “tweaks”.

We’ve worked at Jon Clipperton Park again. We didn’t intend to plant anything till we cleared all the roots of weeds, but the plants were all on sale, so we had to! We hope to clear most of the roots next time and also to plant more bulbs at Rotary Park before the season ends.



Our volunteers have been great this year and I will name them and thank them profusely in the next report.

Jon Eldridge

Fall Crocus courtesy of Shirley Boyes’ garden

October Bulb Sale

Our October meeting will be our Fall Open House plus Bulb Sale; we have ordered a selection of interesting bulbs that will be available at less than retail prices. Most bulbs will be between \$8 and \$12 dollars per bag. The Amaryllis bulbs will be \$15 including tax. There are several varieties of daffodils and tulips, plus hyacinths, striped squill (*Puschkinia Libanotica*) and amaryllis.

Please remember to bring CASH! Or you may pay by personal cheque.

Monica Ross



Directions for Saving Seeds

Perennial seeds are ready to harvest after the flowers are done blooming and the petals have turned brown and/or fallen off. Follow these steps:

- Cut flower head with scissors or a knife.
- Collect the ripe seeds from the flower head and place on waxed paper.
- Allow the seeds to dry for about a week.
- Clean the seeds by removing any husks or pods.
- Place seeds in an envelope and seal. Store in an airtight container in a cool, dark, dry location.
- Sow the seeds in spring. You can plant them directly in the garden, or get a jump on the season and start them early indoors.



*Directions from Better Homes & Garden
Picture courtesy of Shirley Boyes*

September 2024 Flower Show

Sue Harshman & Janet Shaw assisted with the September flower show which, despite the unusual summer, had 15 participants and a total of 63 entries. The judge was impressed with the number and variety of exhibits and the quality of the plant material.

Best in Show

Steve Fenech for his zinnia

Judge's Choice

Anna Raftery for her collection of cut herbs

Anita King for her "Fall Bounty" design

Cultural Division

1. Steve Fenech
 2. Shelley Dodd
 3. Anita King
- Liz Menard
Anna Raftery

Design Division

1. Anita King
2. Ursula Evanoff
3. Monika Schouten





Photos taken by John Dodd

streetsvillehort@gmail.com

Native Plants

Jack in the Pulpit *Arisaema triphyllum*

This is a fascinating plant. One or two leaves, divided into 3 leaflets, rise on their own stems up to 2 feet tall. The part of the plant containing the flowers is on a separate stem, also rising to 2 feet.

The top of this stem has a cylindrical part called the spadix (Jack) with a sheath that is called a spathe (pulpit). The top of the spathe forms a hood which is often striped green and purple, or it can be all green.



The small flowers form at the base of Jack, enclosed by the sheath and protected from the weather by the hood. In a small plant the flowers are male but as it grows larger they are both male and female, eventually all female. However, after an abundant year they can change back to male, and so on. They are pollinated by small flies or gnats which go down inside the spathe. In male flowers they can escape with the pollen through small holes but the females allow no escape thus producing more berries.



The plant needs shade and moisture and can take 3 or 4 years before flowering and mature plants will produce a cluster of orange/red berries in mid to late summer. When the plant is fully female it should really be called Jill in the pulpit but then it can turn back to Jack next year, so best to use the term "they".

Jon Eldridge

White Brugmansia

Spectacular tree-like plant that produces gorgeous, drooping and single white elegant trumpet shaped flowers that are highly fragrant at night. This one of my White Brugmansia, also called "Angels trumpets", and is blooming for the first year. This is the second time it has bloomed this season, with over 50 flowers.

Steve Fenech



Jack in the Pulpit picture from Amarin Tsujimura's garden

Jack in the Pulpit Berries from Jon Eldridge's garden

White Brugmansia from Steve Fenech's garden

Society Field Trip 2025

TASC Tulip Upick Farm Lunch @ The Watering Can Store Tour

As you know last year, we were a little late in organizing our trip to the TASC Tulip farm so this year I am being proactive. In order to get a group rate, we needed 25 members to commit to the date and that did not happen. TASC offers a presale opportunity in December to purchase tickets with an open visitation window and I think this works out the best for our group. This way we can go as a group or if the date we decide on doesn't work that member can visit at their own leisure. These flex tickets are only available as a presale and once the season gets closer customers must pick a date and go rain or shine. I will have a sign up sheet available at the November meeting and I will be collecting \$25 at the December meeting in order for me to purchase the tickets when the presale window opens. The farm opened on April 29th in 2024 and closed just after Mother's Day, May 12th. I am proposing at this time that we do this trip on Tuesday May 6 or Thursday May 8, 2025 to get in before the Mother's Day rush.



After a couple of hours at the Upick we can head over to The Watering Can for a lunch in the restaurant inside the store and then wander this fabulous store.

Timing:

9:30 meeting Streetsville (location to be decided)

10:30 –12:30 pick Tulips and enjoy the scenery

1:00-2:00 pm lunch at The Watering Can 2:00-3:00 pm enjoy the store

Drive home.

TASC is located at 433 Sixteen Rd, Ridgeville, Ontario

The Watering Can is located at 3725 King St, Vineland

Please keep this group trip in mind as we get closer to December and remember your ticket purchase can be used any day that the farm opens if the group date doesn't work for you.

These tickets also make great Christmas presents. If you prefer to purchase the ticket on your own during the presale window that's fine as well however I will need your name on the sign up sheet to organize the carpooling and lunch should you want to go as a group member.

Grace McElhinney

Tulip Picture from TASC website

streetsvillehort@gmail.com

Flower Show Schedule – October 8, 2024

Entries will be received between 6:30 and 7:15. No entries will be accepted after 7:15 p.m. Entry forms are available from our website, www.streetsvillehort.ca. Please print and complete your entry form at home for faster registration. Entry forms will be available at the show if needed.

DIVISION 1 - HORTICULTURE

(1 entry permitted per exhibitor per class unless otherwise stated)

Class 1	Anemone	1 spray
Class 2	Aster	2 stems
Class 3	Begonia (tuberous)	1 bloom with foliage
Class 4	Chrysanthemum (any variety)	1 spray
Class 5	Sunflower	1 spray
Class 6	Sedum	2 stems, same cultivar
Class 7	Hydrangea (panicle)	1 bloom
Class 8	Hydrangea (macrophylla)	1 bloom
Class 9	Mallow (malva sylvestris)	1 stem
Class 10	Cactus or succulent (any variety)	any specimen
Class 11	Ornamental grass	3 stems under 30 inches (76 cm) same cultivar
Class 12	Large vegetable (eg turnip, squash)	1 specimen on a plate
Class 13	Any root vegetable	1 specimen on a plate, Foliage removed to 2 cm
Class 14	Any other annual not listed	1 bloom, stem or spray
Class 15	Any other perennial not listed	1 bloom, stem or spray
Class 16	A shrub or tree branch with fall colours	1 branch under 30 inches (76 cm)
Class 17	A shrub or tree branch with berries	1 branch under 30 inches (76 cm)
Class 18	Any varietal of fruit (eg plum, apple, 1 specimen or bunch on grape)	a plate
Class 19	Collection of garden flowers, may include branches and grasses, minimum 5 different cultivars	One entry per exhibitor
Class 20	The most unusual item you grew	

DIVISION 2 DESIGN: Fall Delight

(1 entry permitted per exhibitor per class)

Class 21	Pumpkin spice latte	A design in a coffee mug
Class 22	"Fall Fair"	A design that includes fruit and vegetables



MEMBER'S CHOICE A carved or decorated pumpkin of any theme. Show your creativity! Entries will be viewed through the evening and will be judged for first, second or third.

Please take your pumpkin to the back of the meeting room for judging.

Photo Contest 2025

Class 1	Winding Down
Class 2	Frozen in Time
Class 3	Come Fly with Me
Class 4	Mass of Bloom
Class 5	Spring Finery
Class 6	Furry Friends in Nature



All categories are **NATURE RELATED**

Photo Contest Rules

- Competitor must be a member in good standing in 2025 (up to date membership fees)
- Photos are to be taken between September 1, 2024, and August 31, 2025
- Photos must be submitted at the September 2025 meeting
- All pictures must be taken by the competitor and must be nature related
- Submit coloured photos, unless otherwise specified, no larger than 4" x 6"
- Single membership: One entry, per class
- Family Membership: Two entries per class, one per person
- Family Membership: 2 adults & children under 18 as of September 2025 (all living at the same address) who are listed on the membership form
- A photo will be withdrawn from the competition, at the discretion of the Photography Chair, if it does not adhere to the rules
- Previously submitted photos not allowed
- On the back of each photo write the class number but **no name**
- Place entries into an envelope with your name on it and bring them to the September 2025 meeting

Speaker – Maureen Hulbert - Fascinating Flora of Canada



As a Toronto Master Gardener since 2008, Maureen Hulbert enjoys speaking to community groups to share her love of the always-fascinating world of plants. She ran Down to Earth Gardens & Design in Toronto for 12 years, installing unique plant-focused garden design for her clients. Her own garden on Taylor Creek ravine in east Toronto helped foster her particular interests in trees and pruning, plant id and native plants. Currently, she teaches plant identification at George Brown College's Garden Design Program.

Canada is home to an astonishing array of unique native plants, each adapted to their own climate, geography and ecological niche. Take a trip across Canada in less than an hour and learn about some fascinating Canadian flora that you may never have known existed.

Celebrations

Cosmos and marigolds are the October birth flowers! Both are members of the Asteraceae Family and prefer full sun and well drained soil. Marigolds are edible, and because of their strong smell they repel pests making them a welcome addition to the garden. Cosmos grows anywhere from 30 to 180 cm (1 to 6 feet); their self-seeding nature and feathery leaves make them a garden favourite. Happy birthday to Carol Z., Amarin, Marie, Vino, Christina, and Brent.



Happy anniversary to Maureen S., Marg A., and Christina A. Also celebrating a milestone this month are Mike & Pat who have been married 67 years!

Membership Desk

It was wonderful to see so many renewing their memberships at the September meeting! We had 3 guests visit, and one new member. Please welcome Renee F! If you have not renewed as of yet, please remember to do so! I am looking forward to welcoming even more at the next meeting, which is our Open House! Please mention it to your friends and families!

Word of mouth from current members is a great way to increase our membership. Did you know that guests are welcome to attend one meeting for free, EXCEPT for the November AGM?

If you happened to take your nametag home, please remember to bring it to the next meeting. Thanks to our helpers at the membership desk, Marg A, and Karen N. It was a very busy night!

Faulene Hopkins, Membership Chair

Refreshment Table



Thank you to: Mary Bernier, Judy Castelino, Judi Kokis, Enza Lafratta, Monika Schouten and Martha Witney for your contribution(s) to the September refreshment table.

For the October 8th/24 meeting Christina Anonychuk, MaryAnn Brown, Anita King, Judi Kokis, Suzanne Palummieri and Barbara Worthington have signed up to contribute. Just a reminder the church is a nut free facility!

Contributors - please remember to record the amount of time you put into baking, etc. and report those volunteer hours to Grace Nelham.

Please remember to bring your own coffee/tea mug to the meeting.

Martha J. Witney, Refreshment Co-ordinator

Cool-Season Crops and the Tools That Keep Them Growing - Season extenders like cold frames and hoop tunnels ensure fall and winter harvests

Article by Niki Jabbour August 12, 2024 From the Horticulture Magazine

The arrival of autumn doesn't have to mean an end to the homegrown harvest. In fact, I harvest a wide variety of vegetables in fall and even into winter, protecting them with season extenders like cold frames or mini hoop tunnels. The key to success with year-round harvesting is to pair the right plants with the right season extenders.

Vegetables to grow in fall and winter

The right plants are cool-season vegetables like lettuce, spinach, kale, scallions, carrots and Asian greens. These are planted from midsummer until early autumn, depending on the crop. As for the right types of season extenders, I've got more on that below.

When selecting seeds, read the variety description carefully, looking for those that are more tolerant of cold. For example, 'Auroch' spinach is one of my go-to varieties for winter harvesting. The smooth, upright leaves are very cold hardy and it's ideal for a cold frame, mini hoop tunnel or greenhouse. 'Rouge d'Hiver' lettuce is another excellent salad green for autumn and winter. The green-bronze leaves stand up well in cold weather. The name of the variety is often a clue to its cold hardiness. 'Winter Density', 'North Pole', and 'Winter Marvel' lettuces are among my favorite varieties to grow in fall, winter and very early spring. Another example is 'Winter King' cabbage, a savoy-type cabbage whose flavor gets sweeter as the temperature drops.

When to plant cool-season crops

Once you've picked your vegetables and varieties, read the "days to maturity" information to learn how long they take to go from seed to harvest. 'Rouge d'Hiver' lettuce takes about 50 days to form full-sized heads. To gauge planting time, I count backward from my last expected fall frost date, which is approximately October 20. That brings me to August 31. Because vegetables grow a bit slower as the days get shorter in autumn, I add an extra week of growing time. Therefore I would plant Rouge d'Hiver lettuce seeds on August 24.

Other vegetables I like to grow for autumn and winter harvesting include daikon radishes, Chinese cabbage, peas, beets, parsnips, cabbage, broccoli, turnips and leeks.

4 season extenders for cool-season crops

There are many types of season extenders you can use in your vegetable garden. Most I make myself, but you can also buy structures like mini tunnels and cold frames from garden-supply stores. Here are four types of season extenders to use in the fall and winter garden:

A mini hoop tunnel is simply a small greenhouse with two main components: hoops and a cover. I use materials like half-inch-diameter lengths of PVC conduit or 9-gauge wire to make hoops. I space these two to three feet apart and then cover the space with sheets of row cover or clear poly, keeping it securely attached with snap clamps or by weighing down the sides. Lightweight wire hoops are fine for fall vegetables, but I replace them with stronger PVC hoops before winter and the snowy weather arrive.

Mini hoop tunnels are ideal for spring, autumn and winter harvesting, particularly for tall crops like mature kale plants, leeks, broccoli, spinach and scallions. Depending on the crop and cover material, a mini tunnel can extend the harvest by weeks or months.

Cold frames are handy structures and compact enough to fit in even the smallest garden spaces. A cold frame is a bottomless box with a clear top. The box protects vegetables from damaging winds and weather, and the top captures solar energy to raise the interior temperature.



I make cold frames from durable wood like hemlock or cedar and top them with a sheet of polycarbonate or an old window. Garden stores also sell cold-frame kits. These typically have polycarbonate boxes and tops, and they aren't as insulating as frames with a wooden box. Whatever type of cold frame you build or buy, you'll want to place it in a spot where it receives full sun through winter. Most cold frames have slanted tops to maximize the light that enters the structure; the slant should face toward the south.



Having a protected walk-in structure like a polytunnel or greenhouse is a game changer in the garden. They provide more growing space than a cold frame or mini hoop tunnel and can be used in a variety of ways. My polytunnel is perfect for starting seedlings in spring, wintering over tender crops like artichokes, growing heat-loving vegetables in summer and providing me with leafy greens and root crops in fall winter and early spring.

As with other types of season extenders, you can DIY or buy a greenhouse or polytunnel, with many sizes and styles available. Because I live in a coastal area where hurricanes and heavy snow are annual issues, strength and durability were important to me. I looked at a lot of structures and eventually bought a 14-by-24-foot polytunnel kit. It offers plenty of growing space, has sturdy steel hoops to hold up in extreme weather and the sides roll up for easy ventilation. Plus, it fit my budget. Polytunnels, also called hoop houses, cost much less per

square foot than a glass or polycarbonate greenhouse.

Lastly, don't underestimate the magic of mulch! Among the most basic season extenders, a thick layer of straw or shredded leaves provides an insulating winter blanket for root and stem crops like leeks, carrots, beets and parsnips.

In late autumn, before the ground freezes, apply a 10- to 12-inch-thick layer of mulch atop garden beds. Cover the mulch with an old row cover or bedsheet to prevent the lightweight materials from blowing away in windy weather. Whenever you want to harvest, just lift the fabric and reach under the mulch to pull a few roots. Quick and easy.

Photos by Niki Jabbour

Gardening News & Happenings – October 2024:

(If you have items to add to the list next month, please email Maureen Dodd)

- **[The Great Riverwood Hike](#)**: Support the Riverwood Conservancy and join The Great Riverwood Hike taking place on Thursday October 24, 2024 4:00 – 8:00 pm Chappell House Lawn, 4300 Riverwood Park Lane. \$20.
- **[The Riverwood Conservancy](#)**: This month, check out the some of the seasonal events – Fall Colours Walk and Tree Planting, Fall Colours Walk and Wreath Making, Nighttime Nature and Halloween Dress-Up, and the Halloween Riverwood Campfire (costs between \$5 and \$35); as well as the regular FREE events: Forest Bathing, Qi Gong, Birding with an Expert, and Yoga. Check out their website for more [events](#) from FREE to \$35.
- **[Blooming Boulevards virtual presentations](#)**: Sign up for the last two presentations of the year! [Creating Naturalistic Plant Communities](#) on Saturday October 05 | 10:00 - 11:00 am. [Growing Native Plants from Seed](#) on Saturday October 19 | 10:00 – 11:00 am. FREE; Registration online up to 48 hours before the start of the session.
- **[Credit Valley Conservation](#)**: Is offering Fall Wagon Rides at Terra Cotta Conservation Area on multiple weekends this month: Saturday & Sunday October 05 & 06, 12 & 13 & 14, and 19&20 | 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. Group reservations of up to 20 people. \$60.
- **[Royal Botanical Gardens](#)**: Pre-purchase your tickets for this month's big event - [The Great Pumpkin Trail](#) on October 18-20 and 25-27 | starting at 5:30 pm. Adults \$27; Children \$20. [Purchase Admission On-line](#)



Pumpkins from Pixabay