Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

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Next Meeting

The AGM will be held at the next meeting which is on Tuesday, November 10th , 2026.

Streetsville United Church
in Heritage Hall
274 Queen Street South

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.

Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Starts at 7:15 p.m.

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Directors Message November 2026

November is the time when cooler weather typically arrives, but our work as gardeners continues! It's time to fertilize the lawn, divide perennials, compost annuals, protect your roses by adding mulch, and don't forget to drain your hoses and turn off the water outside.





Images courtesy of Grace Nelham

Members who attended the October meeting learned about rain gardens, enjoyed delicious member-prepared snacks, voted on their favourite pumpkin, and participated in the flower show, our last of 2026! Congratulations to Mary Gilbert whose "Bird in a Nest" pumpkin design won first prize. Councillor Brad Butt was also in attendance and said a few words about the great work SHS does for the community. A special thank you to Carol and her team of volunteers who arrive early before each meeting to set up the tables, chairs, and equipment and stay late to put them away, especially when there is a flower show and 15 tables to lug around.

Also in October, as a token of their appreciation for SHS's donation to the Conservation Detection Dog Program, Liz and Shelley attended an event showcasing Tilly, the scent-trained Labrador Retriever. Tilly put on an impressive display by detecting invasive species' (Spotted Lantern Fly, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid samples) scents both in a tree and in a box on the ground. Tilly will help CVC to detect these invasive species in more challenging terrain and to respond quickly before they are established.







Images courtesy of Shelley Dodd

Directors Message November 2026 (cont'd)

November's meeting is our Annual General Meeting (AGM) where we will be highlighting and celebrating the events of the previous year and conducting official business. Doors open earlier than normal at 6:00 p.m., with the meeting/meal starting at 6:30 p.m. This is the only month that we don't allow guests to attend our meeting.

During the business component of the meeting, members will be asked to approve by-law and constitution additions, accept the annual committee and financial reports included in this newsletter and vote in new board members. We will also be presenting several awards, certificates, and pins during the meeting to recognize outstanding members.

We need additional members to join the Board of Directors (3) or volunteer to assist with the open positions of President or Co-Presidents, Vice President and Publicity, Membership.
If you or you and a friend, are interested in volunteering for one of these positions, please let Maureen or Shelley know before the November meeting.

Some information items and reminders regarding the Potluck Dinner:

- It is a nut-free facility and event
- bring an appetizer, finger foods (pickles, cheese and crackers, cut vegetables), salad, main course, or dessert for 4 to 6 people to enjoy with a serving utensil
- write the name of the dish and any possible allergen/info on a card to place beside (e.g. contains egg, shellfish, dairy, gluten free, vegan dish)
- bring your own dinnerware (plate, cutlery, mug/cup)
- coffee, tea and cold beverages will be provided
- we will be eating at tables

Celebrations

Chrysanthemums which bloom in late Fall are the November birth flower. Mums come in a wide variety of colours, making them a lovely garden addition and some varieties can be grown as perennials.

Happy Birthday to Shelley and happy anniversary to Janice W.





Images courtesy of Canva

Membership Desk

It was wonderful to see so many people renewing their memberships at the October Open House meeting! There was so much to see and do, with the beautiful flower show, amazing pumpkins, and a wonderful speaker! I definitely learned a lot about rain gardens.
If you have not renewed as of yet, please remember to do so. I am looking forward to welcoming everyone at the next meeting, which will be the AGM.
Word of mouth from current members is a great way to increase our membership. Did you know that guests are welcome at all meetings, except for the November AGM? And it is only $5 a visit!
If you happened to take your name tag home, please remember to bring it to the next meeting.
Thanks to our helper at the membership desk, Karen N. It was a very busy night!

Faulene Hopkins, Membership Chair

REFRESHMENT TABLE

Thank you to Carol Elfstrom, Judi Kokis, Sue Harshman, and everybody who contributed to the refreshment table. Just a reminder: In order to record volunteer hours, we need your name, please sign the designated sheet.
As usual, in November we hold our AGM which includes a potluck supper before the meeting. Please bring something to share for approximately 4 - 6 members along with your plate, cup and utensils. Coffee and water will be provided.
It would be nice to include a tag with the name of the dish and any relevant info.
Also, a reminder that the church is a nut-free facility.

Barbara and Nury, Refreshment Table Co-Ordinators



October Flower Show Results

The judge was very impressed by the variety of flowers in the October flower show. There were 16 exhibitors and over 60 entries.

Judge's Choice in horticulture was awarded to **Shelley Dodd** for the category of 'Five different varieties of fruit/vegetables exhibited on a tray or in a basket and named on the entry tag'.
Judges choice in the design category was 'September Glory' A Traditional design, won by **Shelley Dodd**.
Best in Show in the category of any other flowering, perennial or biennial was won by **Sue Harshman** for her rose.
Since this is our last flower show of the year, we have time to look at all the wonderful seed catalogues and plant material that come out in the spring to plant up for our May flower show.
Thank you to Alex King the "record keeper" and to the monthly pairs who helped out with each show. A special thanks to Janet Shaw for all her help with scheduling.









Images courtesy of Grace Nelham

The following are the 2025-2026 Annual Reports which will be discussed at the AGM for member approval.

Directors' Annual Report 2025-2026

This year the society was run by committee, as the (Co)President and (Co)Vice-President positions were vacant. The Board of Directors shared the responsibilities of creating agendas, chairing meetings, attending official horticultural and community events, and completing the official paperwork. The co-operation, teamwork, and commitment by each Director contributed to the overall success of the society. Members and Directors generously donated over 3,703 hours of their time. THANK YOU!

This year we hosted 10 informative meetings at the Streetsville United Church, 4 beautiful flower shows, and 2 photography contests. We welcomed 8 engaging speakers who shared their expertise on topics ranging from dahlia and lavender growing, terrarium gardens, adaptive gardening tools, composting, and monarch butterflies.

We also held an Open House in October where we sold bulbs, exchanged plants and seeds and which attracted guests eager to learn about our Society, some of whom joined as members.

Our communications were strong once again: we published 10 editions of our monthly newsletter Streetsville Blooms and were proud to receive a 2nd place prize from our District. Thank you to our talented Newsletter Editors! Our website was revamped and a calendar of events added to help with navigation and ease of use. Our Facebook Editor regularly posted interesting and educational articles to keep members informed. We also created and implemented an Emergency Preparedness Plan to protect and ensure the safety of our members.

Despite the relentless rain and soggy conditions, our main fundraiser, the Annual Plant Sale was a huge success. Members generously volunteered their time digging perennials, potting, transporting, and selling plants. Other members publicized the event and solicited donations from local businesses. Thank you to the business donors detailed in the plant sale report. Our popular garage sale section had many gently used gardening treasures with potted plants and succulents being a new addition. Square point of sale was implemented and offered to customers.

Timely rains, adequate heat, and some new plants kept the three public gardens maintained by the society—Leslie Log House, Rotary Park, and Jon Clipperton Park—lush and colourful.

Our earthworm castings fundraiser continued to be popular in April and May. Members reported noticeable improvements in their gardens, particularly their vegetables, after using the castings.

In February, the society attended the Seedy Saturday event at the Mississauga Library and distributed horticultural information. For the fifth consecutive year, we hosted a booth at Mississauga Garden Day, speaking with many visitors about the benefits of being a member. Many people entered our draw to win a lovely lavender plant.

Directors' Annual Report 2025-2026 (cont'd)

This summer, we enjoyed three Coffee Clubs in July and August. These gatherings gave members a chance to socialize, share stories about their gardens and vacations, exchange cuttings and plants, eat snacks, and admire the creative floral arrangements brought by talented members.

We held two hands-on workshops, one in December creating an evergreen door swag and one in February regarding bulb forcing. In December, members also donated nearly 100 lbs. of non-perishable food and raised $336.25 for the local food bank, Eden Food for Change.

This year, to honour the OHA's mission to support programs encouraging gardening, environmental stewardship and conservation, Streetsville Horticultural Society donated $1000 to the Riverwood Conservancy for its "Enabling Gardens" program and $1000 to the Credit Valley Conservancy "Conservation Dog Detection Project"!

In review, this past year offered members countless opportunities to learn, share, and celebrate a love of gardening together. Thank you to all who contributed to making 2025/2026 such a rewarding and successful year for the Streetsville Horticultural Society.

Leslie Log House Annual Report 2025-2026

The 43 acres that make up the Leslie Log House property was a former orchard with pear and apple trees in abundance. The youngest trees on the property were planted in 1910. Since 2000 the orchard has been let go and uncared for, neither being sprayed nor pruned. However the gardens around the log house are flourishing and SHS volunteers have received many complimentary remarks by those visiting the property.

The rose we planted did very well over the summer months and the beautiful yellow blooms looked lovely on the arbor. The other side of the arbor was covered with Morning Glories that self-seeded there. A picture-perfect place for wedding photographs.

The 200th anniversary of the Leslie Log House was held in August and a fairly large group gathered to hear some of the history of the log house and also the news of an acquisition of some new property was revealed which will be turned into parkland as well.

Without our dedicated volunteers, the gardens at the Log House would not have looked as splendid as they have this past summer. Many thanks go out to Judi Kokis, Grace Nelham, Andrea Vertolli, Janice Ward, Steve Fenech, Nury Garzon, Marg Rowan, Ninu and Pramod Nair, Jody McKeown, Janice Gallant and Trang Reinhardt.

Thanks for all the watering, weeding, dead-heading etc. you did…. we couldn't have done it without you and the gardens would not have looked so spectacular.

A total of 241 volunteer hours was accumulated by our volunteers for the Leslie Log House.

Carol Ashford, LLH chair



Membership Desk Annual Report 2025-2026

It was a very busy year on the membership desk! Our membership went up from 107 to 119, including 13 lifetime members, which was about an 11% increase. In-person meetings were well attended, with an average of 54 people per meeting.
Twenty-five new members joined throughout the year, and 20 guests participated in the monthly meetings, many from word of mouth, friends of current members, or visiting the membership booth at the plant sale.
Thanks to Karen N. for all her help at the meetings!
I hope you enjoyed the decorations at the Membership table, as much as I enjoyed making them!

Faulene Hopkins, Membership Chair

Flower Show Annal Report 2025-2026

SHS held 4 Flower Shows this year - 2 in the spring and 2 in the fall. There were new people participating and some winning with their entries. This included the coveted Best in Show, a Judge's Choice.
Thank you to our dedicated and competent monthly Flower Show teams who set up and assisted the Judges by recording the points and placing the ribbons beside them.
They were, in May - Liz Menard and Janice Ward, in June - Janet Shaw and Andrea Vertolli, in September - Steve Fenech and Sue Harshman, in October - Marcia Spear and Steve Fenech.
Alex King does all the spread sheets and tallies all the final totals.
Our trophies are given out at our AGM in November.
Thank you to all those who brought in the beautiful flowers from your gardens and created the award winning designs.
We look forward to new members bringing their exhibits from their gardens.

Sue Harshman, Flower Show Chair

Refreshment Table Annual Report 2025-2026

Martha expressed her thanks to members who brought "goodie" items and gave donations.
Thank you to Marcia Spear, Nury Garzon and members who helped with the setup, etc.
Timing for putting refreshments out is after the meeting starts.
Also, thanks to all members who donated to the "Eden Food for Change" with your December 2025 Refreshment Table donations.

Martha Witney, Refreshment Table Chair

Rotary and Jon Clipperton Park Annual Report 2025-2026

We started our garden clean-up on April 23rd and there wasn't much litter to pick up so we started weeding and raking leaves. At the end of May we planted some annuals at both parks that were purchased from Zomer's greenhouse. They did better than I thought at JC park even though there is no irrigation there. We have to take water to the park in large pails to allow the plants to get established.

We purchased two Yew and two NineBark shrubs and planted them at RP in front of the new sign installed by the City last fall. We also planted some sedum and a hydrangea tree from the plant sale left overs and some of our members brought plants from home to fill in the gaps.

As the temperature was heating up we all agreed to start at 9 a.m. to try and beat the heat a bit! Almost every day that we are at the parks a person walking by would make a comment about how nice the park looks or "You are doing a good job!". Just last week a lady that lives close to RP baked us some tarts and gave them to us saying she appreciated what we were doing. She would keep an eye on the garden and even water wilting plants.

In late July I set up a Garden Tour for RP and LLH volunteer gardeners. We managed to visit 6 member's home gardens on 3 different days. We all got to know each other better enjoying their gardens and having snacks while discussing common garden problems like rabbits, squirrels and skunks. All the gardens won 1st prize!!

Thanks to a great crew of garden helpers that work hard every week and they are: Marcia Spear, Nury Garzon, Asoke Bera, Trang Reinhardt, Enza and Nick Lafratta, Martha Witney, Jody McKeown, Shelley Dodd, Amarin Tsujimura and Grace Nelham for taking photos!
Total time worked 204 hrs.

Steve Fenech - RP+JC Park Chair

Worm Casting Annual Report 2025-2026

This year SHS once again sold worm castings at $20 per bag. Worm castings are packed with nutrients, microbes, and organic matter that improves soil quality and repels pests.
One hundred bags were presold in April and another twenty bags were purchased for the plant sale. Thank you to John Dodd for unloading the castings from the delivery truck and loading them into members' vehicles.
A profit of $1120 dollars was made from the sales.

Shelley Dodd

Newsletter Annual Report 2025-2026

This year, starting in April, I took on the layout and editing of the monthly newsletter and started using Canva as the program for creating the newsletters. It has been a smooth transition, and the newsletters have continued to be useful and informative, as well as visually appealing both on screen and in print.
There were 10 editions of Streetsville Blooms distributed to members and posted online.
After the free trial of Canva, there was a fee of $20.34 for the month of June and the creation of the June newsletter after which the subscription was suspended for the summer. Canva denied us free use of their services as a not-for-profit organization, perhaps due to the technicalities of their application process and a misunderstanding of our status within the OMAFRA framework.
We can continue to pay for Canva monthly, until December, and more economical options will be investigated such as a Canadian option.
We used up the stamps and most of the printing services for the newsletter as of the end of the year. In September, a total of $217.64 was spent on stamps and print services at the Streetsville UPS store. This will be sufficient to print and mail the newsletter for the remainder of the 2026-2027 membership year. These purchases will be submitted as expenses for the 2026-2027 season.

Manish Mehta, Newsletter Editor

Archive Annual Report 2025-2026

The Archives consist of binders and external hard drives full of pictures and newspaper clippings of events that have taken place since our re-establishment in 1972.
In the past, photos have been taken at various events and meetings and placed in the binders so we may look back and see how our Society has grown and see our members at work in the community or how they participated in our plant sales, flower shows, garden tours, community work and workshops.

The photo albums are often on display at various functions such as our AGM and Plant Sale. Please take the time to browse through them next time they are on display in order to familiarize yourself with our activities and also put names to the many faces of our volunteers.

I have taken photos this year and have been sending some to the Newsletter.
Should you have any photos taken at our events we are happy to include them in our binder.

Grace Nelham, Archive Chair

Volunteer Annual Report 2025-2026

Congratulations to our members who contributed their time and volunteered for various activities this year. In total we contributed 3,703.75 hours between September 1, 2025 and August 31, 2026. Well done all!

Thank you to the Board members and all those members who contributed to the administration and running of the Society with more than 730.75 hours. A lot of hours went into the running of the Society from the Board meetings, to helping set up for our monthly meetings, to planning and organizing our workshops. We are grateful to all who took the time to help out.

Thank you to Carol Ashford, Plant Sale Chair, and all those who volunteered in various ways to the success of the plant sale with 938 hours. We had a vast array of plants for sale as well as many 'garage sale' items. Although the weather was not cooperative (it rained all day), our dedicated members hung in there, some right till closing. When the weather gets rough, gardeners get tough!

Thank you to Carol Ashford, LLH Chair and Jon Eldridge and Steve Fenech, Rotary Park and Jon Clipperton Park Chairs, respectively. Thanks also to all those volunteers that put in 433 hours of work to keep Leslie Log House, Rotary Park, and Jon Clipperton Park beds looking their best.

To all those members who contributed to the Refreshment Table at our General Meetings, helped set up/clean up before and after meetings, organized our bulb sale, organized the premium distribution and completed general administrative tasks, thank you. We contributed 1065 volunteer hours to these very valuable activities.

In addition, many thanks to all who took part in the Flower Show and Photo Contests where 60.75 hours were contributed; Special Events, which includes the District and OHA meetings contributed 37 hours; Local Community Events contributed 26 hours and the Newsletter, Website, Social Media and Archives contributed a total of 413.25 hours.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, and we encourage all who are able and willing to volunteer, to do so.

Amarin Tsujimura, Volunteer Chair

Awards Annual Report 2025-2026

The Awards Committee's work is mostly done in the first three months of our fiscal year in preparation for presentation at the AGM in November. We have found a new company to do the trophy/plaque engraving which is close to Streetsville and when we get all trophies back from last year's recipients we will proceed with the necessary engraving for this year's recipients. A new 'Novice' plaque will be ordered because the old one is full. Service pins will be ordered and Carol will prepare the required certificates. Our committee will meet once more to decide on any OHA Awards.

Thanks to Carol, Amarin and Maureen for their guidance.

Marcia Spear Awards Chair

Draw Table Annual Report 2025-2026

For this year, we held the draw table only four times. Thanks to the generosity of our members who donated items or bought tickets. We contributed to the society with a total of $359.63.
The income for the year was $458 minus expenses of $98.37. The float amount of $25 remains untouched. December was a success in terms of ticket sales, largely thanks to beautifully hand-crafted items donated by some of our talented members and TERRA Greenhouses. The earnings of $220 were put towards the annual fundraiser for Eden Food for Change.
Finally, many thanks to Trang Reinhardt who is going to take the torch for the Draw Table.

Nury Garzon

Photo Contest Annual Report 2025-2026

Our Fall photo contest was a great success. We had 14 entries in all. Photos are all nature related and must meet contest rules in all 6 categories. The overall winner was Maureen Dodd with first place ribbons in 3 categories for a total of 15 points. Maureen was presented with the trophy at our AGM last November. We had a 3 way tie for second place which went to Ethan Best, Anna Raftery and Monika Schouten. Third place went to Mary Gilbert. Congratulations to all our winners!
As always members enjoyed seeing the photos and comments made by our new judge, Reg Vertolli. Reg was very impressed with the calibre of photographers and their subject matter. He is looking forward to judging this year's contest.
Our Spring photo contest was very well attended although lower participation than in previous years. Members judged Best Colour photo and Best Black and White Photo. The winner in the Colour category was Manish Mehta with his colourful hummingbird. Tied for second place was Carol Ashford and Ethan Best, and Janice Ward took third place.
Grace Nelham won in the Black and White category with a moody willow tree. Again a tie for second place was Shelley Dodd and Carol Ashford and Ethan Best came in third.
Thanks to all the participants and we look forward to this year's contests.

Andrea Vertolli, Photo Contest Chair

Coffee Club Annual Report 2025 - 2026



This year we held three Coffee Club get-togethers over the summer months, two in July and one in August. These took place outdoors at the Leslie Log House. The weather cooperated, with between 17 and 27 members at each event. Members sipped on beverages, shared baked goods, as well as clippings from extra plants, talked about successes and fails in the garden, and shared tips for using and preserving the variety of herbs! We also caught up on summer travel adventures. Overall, a pleasant way to spend the morning!
Marueen Dodd, Coffee Club Chair

Images courtesy of Grace Nelham





Website Annual Report 2025-2026

Our society's website is located at www.streetsvillehort.ca and was launched in the fall of 2014.
Our site is hosted by GoDaddy and is built using WordPress. We have over 25 pages of information, official documents, and photos relevant to our members, as well as a repository of all of our monthly newsletters going back to September 2012. Our main page is updated frequently, with information about the upcoming speaker, flower shows, and photo contests.
Traffic to our site has been increasing, with more views on Tuesday mornings!
During this past year, a Calendar feature was launched, which posts all of our society events, including our community gardening days. The website has also added a Gardening Events page, listing local events of interest. We have just started keeping track of our number of views, and for September 2026 we've had over 600 views!
Keep checking our site to get the latest details.

Submitted by webmaster Maureen Dodd.

Advertising/Publicity Annual Report 2026-2026

(Judi Kokis-Chair, Maureen Dodd, Shelley Dodd, with support from members Luay Qasha, Debbie Mills)
The October Open House and the Plant Sale are the primary focus of the Ad/Pub Committee. Maureen updated and designed the Plant Sale posters and made mini flyers.
The Streetsville BIA, City Counsellors: Ward 11 Brad Butt, Ward 10 Sue McFadden, Ward 9 Martin Reid and MPPs Sheref Sabawy, Nina Tangri, Deepak Anand, and Minister Natalia Kusendova-Bashta; and MP Rechie Valdez were contacted to ask them to share our Plant Sale information on their social media/communications with citizens and invited to attend the Plant Sale. The event was also posted on various websites and newsletters such as NEXTdoorOnline, Eventbrite, Charlie Dobbin of The Garden Show radio program, and Riverwood Conservancy.
Judi emailed neighbouring Hort Societies – Credit Valley, Cloverdale, Georgetown, Milton, and Oakville to request that they share our Plant Sale poster with their members.
UPS Meadowvale provided a discount on colour printing of 50 Plant sale flyers again.
Members helped to distribute flyers to local businesses and public venues such as their churches, hairdressers/barbers, local libraries and community centres.
At the Garden Ontario event, 20 people supplied their email addresses indicating interest in SHS and Shelley sent an invitation to a future meeting.
A goal for next year continues to be to advertise our general meeting (and the anticipated speaker if possible) each month on the BIA digital newsletter.
Expenses were the cost of colour printing Plant Sale posters ($27.00) and a gift (donations+$10.00) for the OHA District Annual Meeting. Mileage was gratis.

A new chair is needed.

Premiums Annual Report 2025-2026

Premiums were given out at our May meeting to all paid members. They are in one gallon pots. The healthy and often unique plants are sourced at a wholesaler and hand picked. Each member may choose one plant from a selection of 4.
Ninety-six were picked up at the meeting and the balance (14) were sold at the meeting.

The committee is Christina Anonychuk, Rob Harshman and Sue Harshman.

SPEAKER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

September 9, 2025 – Lavender Stories
Jim Muzyka, of Terre Bleu and Fennario Meadows, told the story of how he became a lavender farmer. From his beautiful farm near Collingwood, he grows 28 acres of lavender – 18,000 plants! He explained the eight different cultivars and properties of the lavender he grows, how we can choose the right plant for our gardens, and how to prune lavender to optimize its lifespan. He hopes to one day open his farm to the public, but his store offers many expressions of lavender through its product line.

October 14, 2025 – An Overview of Dahlias
Mike Parrish, sometimes called "Doctor Dahlia," shared his extensive knowledge about growing dahlias. What began as a hobby 20 years ago has turned into a lifelong passion for these dramatic flowers. A frequent competitor on the flower show circuit, he explained his dahlia garden, how to bring dahlias in from the cold, and detailed the characteristics and categories of dahlias. Attendees left with gorgeous blooms to take home.

January 13, 2026 – Bonsai
Christ Wright is relatively new to gardening, but he's now an avid grower of bonsai plants. He said that "bonsai" is not a specific plant, but more a philosophy and practice for pruning different plants. He explained how to make your own growing medium more affordably than store-bought mixes as well as how to learn patience from the practice of bonsai. Attendees took home their own bonsai to try their hand.

February 10, 2026 – The Ground Gets Lower – The Ageing Gardener
For over 40 years, Catherine McGill has had her own garden maintenance business, and many of her clients were seniors. Using clear sense of humour, she drew on this experience to share practical tips and advice with us on how to age gracefully in our gardens. She brought some of her favourite tools to make "work" in the garden a bit easier but stressed that finding the humour in what you're doing is as important.

March 10, 2026 – Herbs – Medicine in the Garden
Susan Elliotson, our speaker in March, is a registered medical herbalist and has been teaching herbal medicine since 2008. She explained the unique properties of over 120 herbs she harvests in her garden for her patients. She maintains that "patients heal themselves – herbs are the facilitators," encouraging us to become acquainted with the power of what's growing in our gardens or could be. Susan brought some of her herbal tea blend for members to taste and learn about.

April 14, 2026 – Terrariums – Miniature Gardens Under Glass
Kiki Alwan, a lifelong horticulturalist, garden designer, and curious explorer with an affinity for tropical plants and moss, was our speaker in April. She said she's constantly looking for ways to make gardening more accessible and encourage people to share her love of "soul to soil." She enthusiastically demonstrated how to bring the calming scent of moss after a rain into our homes employing terrariums year-round. Members had the opportunity to buy a terrarium kit to take home.

May 12, 2026 – Composting – Urban Gardens
Maryam Asaad and Nadine Phillip, of EcoSource, were our speakers in May, and they explained the general principles and benefits of composting. Working out of the Iceland Teaching Garden in Mississauga, their work aims to strengthen food production, distribution, and security through urban agriculture in Peel. They encouraged us to compost more and explained some of the do's and don'ts of composting in our gardens.

June 9, 2026 – Magnificent Monarchs
Our speaker in June was Margaret Lawson, a Master Gardener who has been working with Monarch butterflies for 20 years. She enthusiastically explained how she collects eggs and caterpillars to share with others and taught us how to raise these beautiful creatures to increase their population. She also explained why this matters so much and to help us get started, she gave everyone milkweed seed balls to take away and sow.

Sept. 8, 2026 – Blue in the Garden – Flowers and Foliage
Sean James, owner of Sean James Consulting and Design, spoke to us about ways to bring more blue flowers and foliage into our gardens. In 2020 and 2021, Landscape Ontario named Sean the Garden Communicator of the year, and he draws on over 40 years of experience as a gardener, writer, teacher, and advocate for eco-landscape designs that marry the beauty and sustainability of using more native plants.

Plant Sale Annual Report - 2025-2026

The first plant sale meeting was held on March 24, 2026. The plant sale committee consisted of: Shirley Boyes, Maureen Dodd, Steve Fenech, Grace McElhinney, Liz Menard, Grace Nelham, Marcia Spear, Amarin Tsujimura, Martha Witney.
Sub committees of Digging, Donations, Potting Up, Boxes, Refreshments, Plant Transportation etc. were formed.

We held 7 potting up days in a new location thanks to Shirley granted us permission to use their empty lot on Queen Street. Soil was ordered, pots were moved there and we started potting April 22nd which just happened to be Earth Day.

Steve reinforced the potting tables, Shirley checked and catalogued labels left over from last year to avoid duplication, and we were off and running. Amarin guided the plant diggers. Plants were all counted, labelled and priced before they were moved to plant sitters homes who provided loving care of them. Judi grew tomatoes from seed and dahlias for the sale. Grace M. painted and potted up a couple of chairs and some lovely succulent pots for the sale.

Grace N. organized a group of volunteers who went to businesses to see if we could get free products. We had over $400 in donations from: Arbor Garden Centre and Nursery, Home Depot Argentia, Jade Gardens and Greenhouses, Metro (Derry Rd and 10th Line), Metro (Erin Mills and QEW), Real Canadian Super Store Argentia Rd., Sid's Ponds, Springbank Greenhouses, Teresa's Garden Centre and Farm, Terra Greenhouses Milton, Zomers and Van Dongen's Garden Centre.

The day before the sale, Grace M. accepted garage sale donations, and all the donations from businesses and annuals were brought to the log house. Plants were all picked up from the plant sitters the night before the sale and kept in the cars for early delivery on Saturday morning. Wouldn't you know? It rained pretty much all day - a slow misty kind of rain. It was a busy morning despite the rain and according to the Historical Society, over 400 people attended the sale. By noon we'd had enough. We packed it all up and put it all away.

Over 938 volunteer hours were accumulated for the plant sale and over $8,000 (less expenses) was achieved. All in all a great sale and a great deal of thanks needs to be given to the unnamed volunteers that did all the work!

Carol Ashford, Plant Sale Chair

Garden Ontario®

KEEPING ONTARIO BEAUTIFUL

50/50 Raffle

CHASE AWAY THE CHILL

Your Ticket Fuels Education and Grants Across Ontario

Draw Date: January 2, 2027

Get Your Tickets by January 1, 2027

WINNER TAKES HALF!

Proceeds support GardenOntario education program and grants across Ontario communities.

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— TICKET PACKAGES —

10 *for* $10	100 *for* $20	400 *for* $50	800 *for* $75

Purchase Your Tickets Online:

rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha/

Gardening Events – November 2026

Blooming Boulevards Fall workshops: As the season wraps up, there is only 1 more virtual session offered this year. $5 donation. Register at least 2 days ahead.

o **Winter Seed Sowing** on Saturday November 21 | 10:00 – 11:00 am

Credit Valley Conservation: Contribute to the environment by attending one of their free events! Reserve your spot on their website.

o **Analysis to Action: Managing for Resilient Soils** on Thursday, November 12th at Mold-Masters Sportsplex Arena Georgetown. 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm FREE

Riverwood Conservancy: Is hosting numerous inexpensive workshops this fall to help you connect with nature. Register on their website!

o **Birding with an Expert** on Wed., Nov. 4th, Sat., Nov. 7th, and Sat., Nov. 14th in the main parking lot | 8:30 – 10:00 am $5
o **Four Season Beauty & Biodiversity** on Tue. Nov. 3rd in Chappell House | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm $10
o **Fall Wildlife** on Thur. Nov. 12th in the Main Parking Lot | 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm $5
o **Backyard Birding in Winter** (sponsored by Urban Nature Store) on Sat. Nov. 14th| 1:30 – 3:00 pm FREE
o **Nighttime Nature** on Tue. Nov. 17th in the Main Parking Lot | 4:45 pm – 6:15 pm $5

Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington

o **Winter Wonders** – Experience the wonders of the winter season! Hendrie Park transforms into a winter wonderland featuring dazzling lights, festive installations, and enchanting displays. Thursdays to Sundays November 26th to January 3rd at Hendrie Park, 680 Plains Road West, Burlington. | Timed ticket windows between 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. $27 Adults

University of Guelph Arboretum: Make the short drive (under an hour) and immerse yourself in a beautiful forest! Pre-register on the site!

o **Fall Storytelling Series- Guest Storyteller + The Story of the Little People** on Fri. Nov. 27th | 10:30 am – noon. FREE

Volunteers Needed

For the **2026-2027** season, we are looking for members willing to help our society in the following positions:

- President or Co-Presidents
- Vice-President
- Publicity Chair

Board Members Commitment:

- Approximately 3 hours per month for meeting, plus assigned tasks
- No meetings in June or July

If you are interested, please contact any one of the current Board Members.

Streetsville Horticultural Society Newsletter Content Deadlines

Issue	Deadline Date	Issue	Deadline Date
Dec '26	Nov 20th, 2026	Apr '27	Mar 19th, '27
Jan '27	Dec 22nd, '26	May '27	Apr 23rd, '27
Feb '27	Jan 22nd, '27	Jun '27	May 21st , '27
Mar '27	Feb 19th, '27		

Do you have any Society news, an interesting article of a horticultural nature, or a tasty recipe to share with our members? Please send it in.
When submitting articles, please submit them to the Newsletter Editor. Preferred formats for submission are .rtf (Rich Text Format), .docx (Google doc) and .doc (Microsoft).
Photos should be sent individually attached as jpgs or pngs, not in the body of the email.
If a photo is included, it should indicate where it was taken and by whom.

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