



Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

www.streetsvillehort.ca



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Speaker's Corner

Three Tenors + 1

Ken Brown will return as speaker for our April 2017 meeting. His talk "Three Tenors +1" will highlight iris, peony, daylily and lily as the four perennials that should be the backbone of any perennial garden. Ken's presentation will include an overview of these plants, diversity of sizes, colours and textures, as well as methods of propagation and planting, and ongoing care and feeding.

Former Toronto Zoo

Superintendent of Horticulture and owner of The Plant Manager interior landscaping firm, Ken Brown shares his love of horticulture through teaching, public speaking, and writing.

Ken's website is

www.Gardening-Enjoyed.com

NEXT MEETING: April 11, 2017

Streetsville United Church

'SPRING OPEN HOUSE'

274 Queen Street South

Doors open 7 p.m.

Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

The President's Message

It's spring and here we go again! No two springs ever seem to be alike. I just reread what I wrote this time last year. I had crocuses flowering in the garden; this year the buds aren't even visible yet. I do have species tulips that are close to blooming. The redwing blackbirds are back, the goldfinches are here again and turning brighter yellow everyday it seems, the robins are eating the leftover crabapples.

This particular variety Malus Radiant, while stunning in bloom, has the most awful tasting berries. Yes, I tried them, perhaps tasteless is a better description, a lot like winter tomatoes. I like to

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think that similar to ice wine grapes, the tiny apples taste better after freezing as no birds or squirrels ever eat them until spring.

We have as usual lots to keep us busy and out of trouble this spring!

A spring cleanup for Rotary Park is scheduled for Saturday April 8, at 10 a.m.; please bring a lawn rake.

Plant sale preparations start the end of April, more information is on page 3.

Our April 11 meeting is our **Spring Open House**; this event is a great opportunity to introduce local residents to our society, we need new members and their skills to help our society grow and prosper. We will also hold the first flower show of 2017. The schedule has been reprinted in this newsletter and will be posted on our website www.streetsvillehort.ca.

Please remember to return your Vesey's order forms at the April 11 meeting. We have placed an order with a Native Plant nursery for three different species of milkweed. We hope to have the plants available for pickup at the May meeting. If you want milkweed plants and have not pre-ordered them, we have ordered extra

so you can purchase them at the May meeting or at the Plant Sale.

Happy gardening! ✂

Monica Ross, President

Riverwood Conservancy

I'm pleased to say that two more members of our society are in process of becoming what we call "plant foster parents".

They will look after native plant seed trays at home and care for them until they can be planted back at Riverwood. They also get to keep up to one-third of the plants, if they wish.

If anyone else is interested, please contact Jon Eldridge at 905.542.7641 or call Robin Haley Gillin, volunteer coordinator at 905.279.6792.

Rotary Park, Streetsville

Our first event of the season is scheduled for Saturday April 8 at 10 a.m. This will be a clean-up and maybe some pruning if the weather is suitable. We expect a few teenagers to join us so please come along to show them how it's done!

We will start regular gardening events on Thursday April 27 if the weather permits and from then on every second **Thursday**, starting at 9.30 am. This is a change from last year when we met on Tuesday mornings.

For those that are not familiar with the park, it's on Queen Street just north of the library and Tim Horton's.

Hope to see you there! ✂

Jon Eldridge, Rotary Park Chair

Plant Sale – May 27, 2017

Our Plant Sale is our biggest fundraiser of the year: it provides the funds we need to pay for great speakers, pay our rent, contribute to community gardens and tree plantings and give premiums to our members etc.

To make sure that we are successful we need your help. We are asking all of our members to dig up plants from their gardens.

Put the plants in plastic grocery bags and remember to include in a separate small plastic bag the name of the plant and the colour of the flowers.

Take your bags of plants to any of the following locations and drop them off:

Carol Ashford	1750 Melody Drive
Monica Ross	6978 Chilcot Court
Dean Scully	6592 Eastridge Road
Grace Nelham	2576 Inlake Court
Grace McElhinney	1623 Summergrove

We will collect the bags of plants and take them to our **potting up area** at Pengilley's Nursery **7767 Churchville Road** for division and potting.

Potting Up Dates at Pengilley's Nursery are:

- Wednesday April 26, Potting Up Plants 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday April 29, Potting Up Plants 8.30 a.m.
- Sunday April 30, Potting Up Plants 10.00 a.m.
- Wednesday May 3, Potting Up Plants 8.30 a.m.
- Saturday May 6, Potting Up Plants 8:30 a.m.
- Sunday May 7, Potting up Plants 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday May 10, Potting Up Plants 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday May 13, Potting Up Plants 8:30 a.m.
- Sunday May 14, Potting up Plants 10:00 a.m.

Please let Carol Ashford 905.858.0748 or Monica Ross 905.824.7283 know what dates you are available.

Almost all perennials you have in your gardens will be accepted with thanks. PLUS: shrubs, saplings, fruit bearing shrubs such as black currants, raspberries, strawberries etc. we do not need tall bearded iris as we have many left from last year and please no invasive plants such as ribbon grass, and goutweed.

Plant donations will not be accepted after May 13

If you are unable to dig up plants in your garden, please call one of us and we will arrange for someone to come and dig up your plants for you.



Thanks in advance. ✂

Carol Ashford and Monica Ross, Plant Sale Co Chairs

From Membership Desk

Although Mother Nature gave us another touch of winter today, it did not stop 45 of our members from attending another interesting evening listening to our speaker, Edith George, who is an advisor to the Ontario Urban Forest Council. I just felt like running down to hug the red oak, and say "It's going to be all right".

Thanks so much **Joan Chin** for helping me this evening. Your quick tips and suggestions helped with the flow of sign-ins, and putting a name to a face was made delightful. It was truly appreciated.

We welcomed one guest this evening ... **Basil Bahnam!** We hope you enjoyed our speaker, and found the meeting informative and our company pleasant.

Please remember to wear your name tags at all times while at our meeting; it will make it much easier for us to get to know one another. Pick up your name tag when signing in at the desk and return it at the end of the meeting. ✂

Viv Holmes, Membership Chair

Leslie Log House Litter Pick-up – April 29th

If you have a couple of hours to spare on Saturday, April 29 we will be picking up litter at the Leslie Log House (4415 Mississauga Rd. – south of Eglinton and north of 403)

commencing at 9:30 a.m. If it is raining, we shall try again on Sunday, April 30 at 11 a.m.

Lots of trash has blown in from the houses across the road along the entire front edge of the property and there is also trash throughout the entire site. Come out armed with gloves, boots or walking shoes and if you have a litter picker upper bring that as well. Garbage bags will be provided.

Get to know your fellow members better, pick up trash, have a coffee and feel happy that you have done your 'Good Deed' for the day!!

See you there! ✂



Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair

Raffle Table

Well spring has sprung ...just barely! I missed everyone last month, but I hear Shirley did a great job on the raffle table. It seems we brought in \$50.00.

Remember, all these little things add up in our bank account to pay for our rent, our speakers and our premiums! Think about it, \$2 per meeting X 10 meetings is only another \$20 for the year. That's only \$40 for a full year of fun, knowledge and friendship!

It's bring a friend in April and I have four fantastic raffle prizes! I hope to see you ALL at the table on Tuesday, April 11! ☺

Cheers,



Grace McElhinney, Raffle Table Chair



Lug your Mug



Coming Events

April 8	Clean-up Rotary Park 10 a.m.
April 11	Spring Open House meeting
April 22	District 15 AGM hosted by Thornhill Garden & Hort. Society. Registration 8:30. Adjourn 3 p.m.
April 26	Potting up Plants 8:30 a.m.
April 27	Rotary Park clean-up 9:30 a.m.
April 29	Clean-up of Leslie Log House Property Potting up plants 8:30 a.m.
April 30	Potting up plants 10 a.m.
May 3	Potting up plants 8:30 a.m.
May 6	Potting Up for plants 8:30 a.m.
May 7	Potting up plants 10 a.m.
May 9	Streetsville Horticulture Society General Meeting – Premium Night
May 10	Potting Up plants 8:30 a.m.
May 13	Potting Up plants 8:30 a.m.
May 14	Potting Up plants 10 a.m.
May 27	Plant Sale

Update



This Comfort Maple stands in Pelham, Niagara Region. It is estimated to be between the age of 441 and 541 years old. It stands 24.4 metres and has a circumference of six metres. The tree is named after the Comfort family who purchased the land in 1816. *The Toronto Star*. <https://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2017/03/19/oldes-t-sugar-maple-is-entwined-in-canadas-history.html>

Why Flowers for Butterflies is Overated



Some butterflies rarely visit flowers. They prefer mud, poop, (aka skat or dung), sap and rotting fruit.

Want to help butterflies? Think beyond providing flowers for nectar in the height of summer.

Many butterfly species we see in Canada don't migrate. You can provide habitat and food for their entire lifecycle — eggs, larvae, pupae AND adults — throughout the year. You'll need:

Host plants: Adults need a place to lay eggs where their caterpillars will forage. (Plant species that will get eaten and not just look pretty!)

Mud puddles: Some butterflies rarely visit flowers. They prefer mud, poop (a.k.a. "scat" or "dung"), sap and rotting fruit.

Blooms from spring through fall: Don't limit your garden to an end-of-July colour extravaganza. You'll need a diversity of native nectar plants to flower over a few months.

Overwintering habitat: Consider not raking leaves to provide a butterfly nursery! Most butterflies in Canada overwinter as caterpillars, others as pupae. A few species winter as adults, hibernating in hollow trees, under bark and firewood piles, or in garden shed cracks and crevices. Few spend winter as eggs.

Sunshine: Make sure you (or your neighbours) have sunny spots.

Nectar plants: Most butterflies will feed from more than a few plant species.

Think about the role of your yard: Is it a habitat source (high-quality patch that supports

population increases)? Or is it more of an island? Some yards can provide for one butterfly species' entire life cycle. Some are disconnected from other habitat patches. Walk around the block and view your neighbourhood through a butterfly's eyes. Chat with your neighbours and see what they're planting. Note possible connecting corridors between butterfly-friendly patches. Can schoolyards, boulevards and local green spaces where you live help support butterflies?

Get to know native butterfly species: Not every person in Canada can create monarch butterfly habitat (e.g., they aren't native to Vancouver Island).

What will you do this season to help butterflies?
✂

Lindsay Coulter, a fellow Queen of Green

http://www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs/queen-of-green/2017/02/how-to-garden-for-butterflies-year-round/?utm_campaign=queenOfGreen-digestFebruary-en-08mar2017&utm_source=mkto-none-qogSubscribers-link-body&utm_medium=email&utm_content=testB-butterflies&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRRMFpERmlaRGc0TjJFdylsl nQiOiJCeDk2Q09kUTdXbXNOVVJoREdSSGNObXFLRE02VH BreDM1REIKcmxQU nFaSfhwbnJ1Uk5BVdQ1Y2IBOENIRVw vc0w2M0I0MnVjOUJEUVp1aHBZVHE3dWtTZWFhRWIzR05 iVnhiTEtBc2s0b3NXZHV4N2lxVTI4RIITU2dmN3dXZVMifQ%3D%3D

2017 APRIL FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE

Class	April 11, 2017
	MEMBERS' CHOICE- Judged by members
	Horticultural
1	Large Houseplant –9 inches in height or greater from soil surface
2	Small Houseplant – 8 inches in height or less from soil surface.
3	Terrarium
4	Dish Garden

Streetsville Blooms

President: Monica Ross

Vice president: Marg Rowan

Secretary: Marg Rowan

Assistant Secretary: Arlene Crothers

Past president: Sue Harshman

Treasurer: Martha Witney

Editor: Debra Lemire

Webmaster: Nigel Roberts

Flower Show Chair: Janet Shaw
hotfive7@yahoo.ca

**Questions, concerns, ideas, or
would you like to volunteer for
a position on the Board?**

Contact Monica Ross at
905.824.7283 or at
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Article suggestions; please
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Jobs for the month of April (ZONE 6)

General

- Cut back ornamental grasses to a few inches above ground level;
- Clean up the garden in preparation for the growing season ahead;
- Remove last year's dead plants and top dress beds with compost.

Trees and shrubs

- Plant roses, trees and shrubs weather permitting;
- Trim forsythias after they have bloomed to maintain their shape;
- Check supports for existing climbers.

Lawns

- Rake and brush over lawns once dry;
- Top-dress the lawn with compost if there is no snow.

Vegetables

- Once beds are repaired, plant cold-weather vegetables, such as potatoes, peas, spinach, and other leafy greens, as well as beets, turnips and carrots;
- Put up a trellis for peas as soon as they sprout;
- Start some vegetables, like tomatoes and peppers indoors.

Flowers

- Start slower growing flowers indoors, like zinnias, marigolds, under lights;
- Late in month, transplant pansies outdoors and sow seeds for nasturtiums and sweet peas.
- Dig, divide, and replant perennials, such as fall asters, Shasta daisies, chrysanthemums, and phlox. ✂