



# Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

*Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association*

[www.streetsvillehort.ca](http://www.streetsvillehort.ca)



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**NEXT MEETING:** May 8, 2018

**Premium Night**

## Streetsville United Church

**274 Queen Street South**

Doors open 7 p.m.

Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

### The President's Message

I think it's spring. What a rollercoaster of weather we have had in April! We are heading into a very busy time of year for Streetsville Horticultural Society (SHS). We have many things happening. Our May 8 meeting is Premium Night when all members in good standing present will receive a free plant.

What is a premium you ask? The Streetsville Horticultural Society's Constitution (Article III – Purposes) states that the objective of the society is to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture in the following ways: "(e) by distributing seeds, plant, bulbs, flowers, trees and shrubs." Therefore, if you are a paid-up member of SHS you will receive a premium (a gift) at our May meeting.

If you have a family membership you will receive two premiums; single memberships will receive one. Members **MUST** be in attendance to receive their premium. Be sure to sign in at the membership table and get your voucher so that you can receive your premium.

In the past we have distributed plants suitable for sun and shade, so be sure to be on hand so you don't miss out. If there are remaining premiums, they will be sold at the end of the

meeting, plus at the plant sale or used for planting at our community projects (Rotary Park and Leslie Log House). We will also have our first flower show of the year. The flower show schedule was published in the April newsletter and is posted in the May newsletter, as well as posted on our website. Please remember that all flower show entries must be place by 7:15 p.m. at the latest, this allows our flower show committee to listen to our announcements and the speaker.

As always Happy Gardening!

**Monica Ross, President**

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## Speaker's Corner



*Red Baneberry*

Our speaker for the May 2018 meeting is Richard Aaron. Richard has been studying the natural world for over 30 years. His main areas of interest are wildflowers, trees, fungi, dragonflies and ecology. He has done walks, talks and workshops for more than 85 organizations, including naturalist clubs, nature festivals, conservation authorities, colleges and universities. May is ideal timing for his presentation, "The Secret Lives of Spring Flowers".

**Phil Walker, Speaker Chair**

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## Plant Sale 2018

Our Plant Sale is on Saturday, May 26, at the Leslie Log House property as it has been for the past four years. The house will be open so that Plant Sale volunteers can have a break when needed and our members will be providing refreshments for our workers.



It is our biggest fundraiser of the year and provides the money we need for everything the Society does. Preparing for that day, as well as the work on plant sale day, takes many hands and lots of volunteer hours.

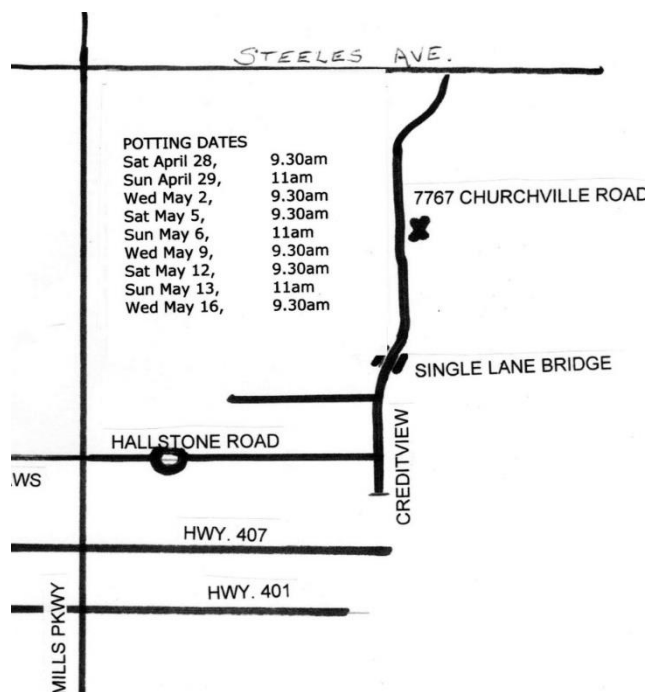
How can you help? First, we need plants, please take a walk around your garden, look for plants that are too big and need splitting, plants that have not performed as well as you expected and might do better in someone else's garden.



When you choose plants to divide for the sale, split off a healthy section that can be divided in to smaller sections and will do well once transplanted into pots. Over the past few years our plant sale customers have told us how impressed they are with the quality of our plants, that they are strong and healthy. They sell more quickly than ones that are too small to

be successfully transplanted. If you are unable to help us pot the donated plants; please place your plant donations in plastic bags; each plant identified with plant name, flower colour and your name, they can be dropped off at the front door at:

Carol Ashford - 1750 Melody Dr.; Monica Ross - 6978 Chilcot Court; Dean Scully - 6592 Eastridge Rd.; Grace McElhinney -1623 Summer-grove Cres., or Grace Nelham - 2576 Inlake Court.



We need people to care for our newly potted plants until plant sale day. All the plants need is a suitable space in part sun to part shade. It could be on a patio, a drive, or unoccupied garden space, all you need to do is water them. We need people to transport plants from Pengilley's nursery to the holding locations. In previous years we have had the use of a pickup truck, loaned by Paul Morrison, an SHS member, we no longer have that option as he has moved away. If you have a van, or pickup

**please help us out.** Timing could be on Wednesdays, or on the weekend, during or after potting up times.

Almost all perennials you have in your gardens will be accepted with thanks. PLUS: shrubs, saplings, fruit-bearing shrubs such as black currants, raspberries, and strawberries.

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 18. 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 them up. Monica: 905-824-7283, Carol: 905-858-0748

Carol Ashford/Monica Ross, Plant Sale Chairs

## From the Membership Desk

I definitely came away with a different view of the spider in my garden! After listening to Malcolm Geast (Insects in Our Garden) and viewing his photos, I must agree that they can be pretty with an "eeek".

Forty-four members, 21 guests and eight new members enjoyed hearing from Malcolm Geast, and socialized and shared garden topics with each other.

We welcome eight new members: **Maria Abrego; Nury Garzon; Rafael Hermida; Joanne Kim; Nancy Lyn; Theresa MacLeod; Cheryl Ray-Kuzemko and Ana Guardron.** We all look forward to seeing you at next month's meeting.

Please remember to wear your name tag 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.

Looking forward to seeing you at April's meeting! ✂

**Vivianne Holmes, Membership Chair**

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## From the Raffle Table

Thanks to all who came up and supported the raffle table in April. We made \$68 last month and I appreciate the support.

I would like to thank the members who have brought in donations over the course of the year but I am still looking for more. I currently have an excess of baskets which I will be putting up for sale at our plant sale in May.

I am looking for new items for the plant sale raffle table as well. We generated close to \$400 at last year's plant sale on our raffle! If you need a letter to ask a local business for a donation please let me know and I can supply you with one. Please inform us of the business you are asking so we do ask them a second time.

Thanks again for your assistance!

I have a few lovely items for May's table so I hope to see you and your toonies!

Cheers,



**Grace McElhinney, Membership Chair**

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## WHISTLING GARDENS FIELD TRIP

Monday, June 11, 2018 9:30 a.m.- 3:30

<http://www.whistlinggardens.ca>

Adults \$13.75

Seniors: \$12.75 (60+)

Cash, Visa, MasterCard, Debit

## Rotary Park



*Members hard at work.*

April 21 was Spring clean-up day and the weather improved just in time for us. We cut back the grasses, cleaned up last year's plants and leaves and filled 15 bags. We also had a small load of top-soil provided by the city and put this on the beds at the rear where the soil was so poor. A good morning's work from six good volunteers.



*Eleanora Roberts relaxing after a hard morning. Steve Fenech and Jon Eldridge finishing up the spread of topsoil.*

The regular maintenance of the park will start on Thursday, May 10, and every two weeks after that. I'll put the dates in each newsletter, though they can change if we're rained out. We're looking for a few more volunteers so come out and join us if you're free on Thursday mornings and like gardening. I'm there from 9.30 a.m. but come whenever is good for you.

Thank you to **Eleonora Roberts, Asoke Bera, Nick and Enza Lafratta, Steve Fenech and Jon Eldridge.**

**Jon Eldridge, Rotary Park Chair**

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## Whistling Gardens Tour

Monday, June 11, 2018

9:30am- 3:30pm approx.

<http://www.whistlinggardens.ca>

Please e-mail me at

[gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com](mailto:gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com)

to let me know you are coming on this tour. The sooner the better so I can arrange a guided tour. The deadline is May 8 at our May meeting.

Please let me know if you would like to be a driver. Once I know how many members are participating I will know how many drivers we have. I recommend using the 407 to the 403 in Hamilton so if you have a transponder you will need it for this trip. Using the 407 will cut off quite a bit of travel time and there is considerably less traffic. Drivers will be compensated \$5 per passenger for this trip so the cost of the short trip should be covered. You have the choice to use the 407 or not, it's up to the driver. I will provide a map.

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As discussed at April's meeting and in the previous newsletter, I recommend packing a lunch to have a picnic on site. We are not sure if the new snack bar will be up and running at this time. There are washrooms (port-o-potties) on site.



Cost is \$13.75, and if we have enough people a tour is available at this price. Seniors over 60 are \$12.75; however, if on the tour it will be another dollar which I feel is well worth the extra buck. They take cash, Visa, Mastercard and Debit at the gate.

We will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the lower parking lot at Streetsville Arena. From there, we will get into our car-pool cars that will be pre-arranged. If you already have a group to fill your car let me know.

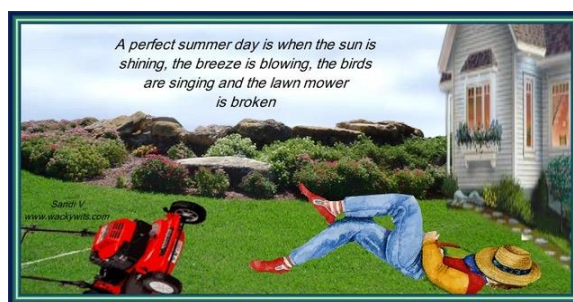


This is a great opportunity to take some beautiful pictures so don't forget your cameras.

Please be advised that this is not a trip organised by the society. The society is not

covering any of the costs associated with this excursion. This is a group of friends getting together for a lovely day in a beautiful garden. We will try and accommodate any members who want to come, but it will also depend on the number of drivers willing to drive the distance.

**Grace McElhinney, Shirley Boyes, Grace Nelham, Carol Ashford,**



## Earth Day



Garbage pickup at the Leslie Log House on Earth Day. We are thankful to **Janice Ward, Monica Ross, Steve Fenech, Robb Dods, Carol Ashford, Alex and Anita King** for picking up the garbage.

## Flower Show Schedule

All plants entered in the flower show must be place by 7:15 p.m. at the latest.

Class	May 8, 2018
	<b>Horticultural</b>
1	Bleeding Heart (Dicentra), any colour - 1 stem
2	Branch, flowering –36" or less
3	Clematis – 1 vine, not over 18 inches
4	Collection of small spring flowers, 5 different cultivars, attached foliage only. 1 entry per exhibitor.
5	Columbine (Aquilegia) – 1 spray
6	Hellebore – any colour, 1 stem
7	Iris, Tall bearded, over 27 inches -1 stalk
8	Iris, any other variety - 1 stalk
9	Lilac (Syringa) – 1 truss (compact cluster on one stem)
10	Muscari – 3 stems, same variety, no foliage
11	Narcissus, large cup, - 1 scape
12	Narcissus, small cup, - 1 scape
13	Narcissus, any other, - 1 scape
14	Paeonia (Peony) Tree – 1 bloom, disbudded
15	Polygonatum (Solomon's Seal) – 1 stem
16	Rhododendron – 1 truss ( compact cluster on 1 stem)
17	Rhubarb, 3 stalks, pulled not cut, leaves trimmed to 2" fan shape
18	Tulipa (Tulip) – single, 1 bloom
19	Tulipa (Tulip) – any other variety, 1 bloom
20	Any other Bulb, corm, rhizome or tuber not listed – 1 stem
21	Any other Perennial not listed – 1 stem or bloom
	<b>DESIGN Theme: Spring Pallet</b>
22	Green Man - a design using only green plants
23	Pretty Baby – a MINIATURE design
24	Spring Shout – a PAVE Design
25	Rites of Spring - NOVICE design

## Hints and Tips for Capturing Floral Beauty

These hints and tips are for basic point-and-shoot cameras.

We will talk about light, subject matter, composition, positions, distractions, reflections, angles, background and framing.

### Light

Everyone thinks of gardens as the place to be on a sunny day, but this is rarely the best time to photograph them.



The ideal time to take pictures is from sunrise to 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to sunset.

Taking pictures in the garden is best done at these times or on an overcast day. On a sunny day, wait for a cloud to pass over the sun; it will give out a soft white light and the picture will not be harsh as it would be in direct sunlight. Bright sunlight rarely works well for shots of flowers, as the shadows over complicate the scene and obscure the colours.

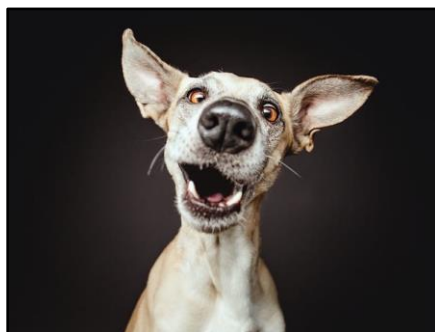
### Back lighting



Have the light behind your flowers for a transparent look.

### Subject matter

If you are taking portraits of your flowers, hunt for the best blooms. Take your time, take time to focus, some cameras have a two-stage shutter release. Push the button half way to focus, then press full down. If it's breezy, use a screen against the breeze to stop the flower moving. Look for contrasts in colour and a picture to fill the frame. We all have our favourite spots in the garden.



Don't ignore pets, children, workers and critters, trees.

Dark bee against bright flower makes for a good contrast. Don't get your shadow in the picture, unless you are using it to shade the bloom.



Include gates, doorways, fences, water features, statuary and seating areas.

If you are redesigning an area, take a pre- and post picture of that area.

### **Composition**

Create balance and movement. Have a leading line to lead your eye through the picture.

Compose the picture in the viewfinder; move around until you see the picture you want to capture. Think outside the box. Pick a perfect bloom. Zoom into the middle of the flower for a close up, but don't always shoot from above. Catch the garden just after a frost or shower, or fake it and use a water sprayer to add attractive highlights on your favorite blooms.

### **Reflections**



Look in your ponds for reflections. You can either shoot the subject and the reflection or just the reflection.

Use the reflection in a gazing globe. Be careful not to get yourself in the reflection.

### **Angles**

Try not to shoot all your pictures from normal eye level. Often you can improve the

shot by getting down low or shooting from a high vantage point, say a balcony. Lay on the ground, kneel or whatever it takes to get the right angle for your shot. It's all your choice

Hold the camera upright for a vertical format. Look out of the garden. Look into the garden. Look up; the sky makes a good background. Be aware of distractions.

### **Background**

White flowers popped out against the dark green background

With flash, the background can be a little distracting. You could use a white or black sheet of card behind the subject

### **Framing**

Natural frames allow you to change the effective shape of your picture. Adds a feeling of depth to the shot. Frame the picture in the branches of a tree, an arbor, a window or doorframe.



Take pictures in all seasons, Snow accentuates a winter garden.

Best advice:

- Watch the light,
- Take your time,
- Hold the camera steady,
- Compose the picture in the view finder.

The creation of your garden would have been very personal. You will have created areas in your own garden that are your favourites. Look at it from all angles.

Grace Nelham

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## District AGM



*The District 15 AGM was attended by six members from Streetsville. Anita and Alec King, Grace Nelham, Viv Holms, Marg Rowan, and Martha Witney.*

Competitions were entered and Anita won two-second place ribbons for cultural and an honorable mention for her orchid. Grace Nelham received a first and two-third place finishes in the photography competition and Debbie Lemire received two honorable mentions for the Newsletter entries in the Publications competition. As usual good food was enjoyed, good times and good prizes were had. It was a great day meeting up with fellow

gardeners. Grace Nelham retired as Secretary of the District after 18 good years.

## Gardening Jobs for May

- Don't cut the leaves off spent spring-flowering bulbs. Dying and yellowing foliage may look unsightly, but leave it in place (and don't tie it up) to help the bulbs ripen for next year's show.



- You may place houseplants outside once the nights remain above 10 degrees Celsius.
- Thin early seeded root and leaf crops. Keep well watered.
- Cover tender plants if late frost is in the forecast.
- Sow a second crop of beets, carrots, radishes, leaf lettuce, and chard for continued harvest.
- In many areas, it's time to plant beans, sweet corn, potato slips, pumpkin, and watermelon.
- Protect beets from leaf miners by placing row covers over them.



Start cucumber, cantaloupe, summer squash, and watermelon seeds indoors.



- Before transplanting indoor plants, harden them off. Put in a sheltered spot during the day and bring them in at night. Then gradually increase their exposure to sun, wind, and cool temperatures.
- Harvest rhubarb. Pull off leaf stalks instead of cutting them.
- Start hardening off tomatoes. Set up stakes or cages when you transplant.
- Be sure to weed your garden before the weeds go to seed.



- Be aware of insects. Many bugs appear in May, including lace bugs, aphids, and bagworms.



- Plant annuals
- Spread a little lime or wood ashes around delphiniums and peonies.
- To encourage constant flowering, routinely remove spent blossoms and keep them from



getting bone-dry.

- Prune spring-flowering shrubs as soon as the flowers fade. For forsythias, cut the oldest stems to within a foot of the ground, but be sure to let the plant keep its arching form; don't turn it into a gumdrop or cannonball.
- If delphiniums need to be divided, remove and replant the new little plants growing around the outside of the clump. Discard the hard old heart.
- Begin planting warm-season annuals and summer bulbs, such as dahlias and cannas.
- Mulch around your newly planted flowers, vegetables, shrubs, and trees to help reduce weeds and retain moisture.
- Stake up and support any tall plants before they start to fall over.





## Streetsville Blooms

**President:** Monica Ross

**Vice president:** Marg Rowan

**Secretary:** Marg Rowan

**Treasurer:** Martha Witney

**Editor:** Debra Lemire

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

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Article suggestions; please  
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[debra.lemire@gmail.com](mailto:debra.lemire@gmail.com) or  
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**OHA Website:**  
[www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org)

P.O. Box 42048, 128 Queen St.  
S. Mississauga, ON L4M 4Z4

- As the weather warms up, increase the frequency of watering. Keep your plants well-watered throughout the growing season.
- Pinch back growth of newly planted annuals and perennials; this will help the plants develop more flowers.
- Watch young transplants carefully. Water them shallowly but often and close to the stem so that the water will reach roots.
- Continue fertilization of your rosebushes; liquid fertilizers can be added every two weeks.
- Take care to keep deciduous fruit trees well watered this month. Do not prune.
- When fruit trees are in full bloom, avoid spraying insecticides that will kill honeybees.
- Start looking for tent caterpillar nests in fruit trees and remove. Spray water or B.t. to safely remove them without harming trees.
- When adding mulch around trees, do not spread up to the tree trunk, and remove old mulch.
- Mow your lawn when the grass is dry. To keep a healthy lawn, never cut more than one-third off the total grass height.



- If you're growing plants outdoors in containers, don't use a soilless potting mix. Be sure it contains at least half soil. Or make your own blend for window boxes and patio containers by mixing one-part compost, one-part garden soil, and one-part builder's sand.
- Sow cabbage, Brussels sprouts, and cauliflower indoors for fall garden transplants.



<https://www.almanac.com/gardening/tips/>