



Streetsville Blooms

Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

www.streetsvillehort.ca



Volume 22, Issue 1

September 2015



Speaker's Corner

Topic: Fantastic Ferns

A fern is a quintessential plant – charming, elegant, graceful, delicate, yet strong and adaptable. Or so Victorians thought. The fern craze of the eighteenth century was well-founded. Come learn about weird and wonderful ferns from the desert to the Arctic. See the fascinating potato ferns that house ants and the iridescent ferns that glow in the dark. What makes a fern? The answer may surprise you. For your garden or home, there is a fabulous fern for you. Let's start the fern craze together.

Presentation Speaker:

Catherine Kavassalis is a passionate gardener and conservationist. A scientist, educator, and inspirational speaker, Catherine endeavors to stimulate interest and awe in the living world. She is a member of the Halton Master Gardener group, the co-president of Oakville Horticultural Society and a former member of the board of directors for the Royal Botanical Gardens. Catherine loves to garden has her own eclectic, organic garden featured on several tours.

NEXT MEETING: Sept 8

CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH

2630 Inlake Court

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

President's Message

September is one of the most glorious times of the year for us as gardeners. The asters and the rudbeckia are showing off their greatest colors and many of the annuals in our gardens are at their best. This is a time to enjoy the peak of garden beauty.

For those of us who have planted vegetables, this is a time when the harvest is coming in. Fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and lettuce from our own gardens are unparalleled in taste and freshness. Our raised gardens, for example, this year have been extraordinarily productive.

As the days cool down it is a good opportunity to work on some of those outside projects you have put off over the summer – perhaps it is putting in a new flower bed or

rebuilding a fence that has been on your “to do” list. Now is the time to get working on it.

Fall is also an excellent time to plant trees, bushes and flowers. The cooler temperatures and abundant rainfall are ideal conditions for transplanting and new plant growth. If you have projects in mind for the spring, this is the time to take photos to remind yourself of what you need to do next year.

Remember that we have our annual sale of fall bulbs coming up. The order forms will be available at our September meeting. The prices as usual are very good and you will be helping out our Society at the same time.

Sue and Rob Harshman, Co-presidents

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Photo Contest



We hope you had a wonderful summer and were able to capture some beautiful images of this world of ours.

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| Class 1 | Falls Bounty |
| Class 2 | Winter Delight |
| Class 3 | Peek A Boo, After the Snow |
| Class 4 | Rain Drops |
| Class 5 | Fallen Wood |
| Class 6 | A Rose (close up) |
| Class 7 | Fruit on a Vine or Branch |
| Class 8 | Floral Tapestry |

Photo Contest Rules:

- Closing Date to coincide with September 8, 2015 meeting;
- All pictures must have been taken by the competitor and should be nature related;
 - Coloured photos, no larger than 4" x 6";
- One entry per class per single membership;
- Two entries per class per family membership;
- If photo does not meet category it will be rejected;
- Previously submitted photos not allowed;
- Pictures to be taken this fiscal year.

We will be submitting our entries at the SHS meeting on September 8.

Write the number of the photo category on the back

of the picture applying to that particular category. This way the judge, or judges can't see who the photo belongs to. Please put your photos in an envelope, with your name on the outside.

If there is a category or categories which you would like to see in the 2015-2016 photo contest, please submit it to me at

h-schouten@hotmail.com .

We will select the best eight categories for the October Photo contest newsletter.

New point system for the 2014-2015 photo contest:

Best in show, Cancelled
First – 5 points;
Second – 4 points;
Third – 3 points;
Honourable mention – 2 points;
Entry – 1 point;
Judge's choice, no points, ribbon awarded.

Henry Schouten, Photo Contest Chair

Flower Show

September 8, 2015

DESIGN THEME – Nature

CLASS 1 "Rustling Leaves" – a design using mostly foliage

CLASS 2 "Through the Woods" – a design using wood

MINIATURES

CLASS 3 "Mountain Path" – a miniature using a rock

NOVICE

CLASS 4 "To Market We Go" – a design using fruit and vegetables

CULTURAL

CLASS 5 Antirrhinum (snapdragon) - 2 spikes - same cultivar

CLASS 6 Any annual not listed - 1 bloom or spray

CLASS 7 Any perennial not listed - 1 stem or spray - named

CLASS 8 Aster - Callistephus chinensis - 2 stems

CLASS 9 Celosia - 2 stems - same cultivar

CLASS 10 Cosmos - 3 stems - same cultivar

CLASS 11 Dahlia - 6"-8" - 1 bloom - at least 1 set of leaves

CLASS 12 Dahlia - collection - 5 or more blooms

CLASS 13 Dahlia - single or novelty - 1 bloom –

CLASS 14 Flowering vine - in bloom -1 stem - less than 36"

CLASS 15 Gaillardia - 1 bloom

CLASS 16 Hydrangea - 1 bloom

CLASS 17 Marigold - African (large) - 3 blooms - same cultivar

CLASS 18 Nasturtiums - 5 blooms - with

CLASS 19 Rose - AOV - 1 bloom floating in a bowl - fully open, no foliage
CLASS 20 Rose - climbing - 1 spray or lateral
CLASS 21 Rose - miniature - 1 spray
CLASS 22 Sedum - AOV - 2 stems in bloom - same cultivar with leaves
CLASS 23 Sedum - large flowered - 2 stems in bloom - same cultivar with leaves
CLASS 24 Solenostemon scutellarioides (Coleus) - 3 stems - 1 cultivar
CLASS 25 Zinnia - 2 blooms - over 2"
CLASS 26 AOV fruit - 1 specimen
CLASS 27 AOV vegetable - 1 specimen
CLASS 28 Carrots - 3 same cultivar
CLASS 29 Cucumber - AOV - 1 specimen
CLASS 30 Herbs - 3 or more varieties - named - in a vase
CLASS 31 Hot peppers - 3 on a plate
CLASS 32 Onions - mature bulb - same cultivar - 2 specimens
CLASS 33 Sweet peppers - 2 on a plate - same cultivar
CLASS 34 Tomato - AOV - 3 same variety
CLASS 35 Tomato - cherry variety - 1 truss
CLASS 36 Tomato - 3 same variety - over 3" - calyx on
CLASS 37 Zucchini - 2 specimens - same cultivar

All cultural exhibits to be grown by the entrant and must have been in their possession for 90 days. All entrants must be on the table by 7:30 p.m.

For further information, consult the Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticulture and Floral Design, or the SHS Flower Show Handbook on our website at www.streetsvillehort.ca.

Nicola Hall Flower Contest Chair

From the Membership Desk

Many thanks to my helpers **Shirley Boyes**, **Pat** and **Mike Salisbury** and **Janet Shaw** for helping me on the desk in June. We had a busy night on the desk since it was Bring a Friend Day, but it went off without a hitch. Remember, if you would like to help out, come early there is always something to do. We thank you for your help! You can reach me at gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com or text me at [ail.com](http://www.ail.com)

416-433-1148 if you would like to volunteer.

We had 22 guests for our special night and 3 new members joined our society immediately, 2 members mailed in their applications. Their names are **Luiza Gubernat**, **Monique Van Der Flaes**, **Anne Coutts**, **Marlene VandenHelm** and **Kathy Hansen**. We also had 3 new members who joined during the garden tour and they are **Catherine Hawke** and **Mike Furdas** along with **Enza McGillivray**. Please welcome them into our society and help them to feel comfortable. We have another *Bring a Friend* night in October, so start thinking now of friends and neighbours that may be interested in joining our group.

When you come back in the fall please remember that your fees are due for the 2015-2016 season. Our fees increased slightly to cover ever-climbing costs.

Fees are as follows:

Single: \$20.00; Family: \$30.00; Guests: \$5.00

A supplemental \$10.00 should be added if you would like your newsletter mailed as opposed to being e-mailed.

The sign-up this year should go smoothly. We ask that you fill in your name only with your payment (**exact cash or cheque please**) unless your information has changed. We will no longer be filling out the questionnaire at this time but doing this in May again to qualify for your premium. For those members who just joined your new name tags and membership cards will be in the line-up for life members as you have already paid for the year. All the returning members please have your monies ready, your form filled in as necessary and line-up in the queue with the first letter of your last name as the directive. Your name tag and membership card for the 2015 -2016 season will be handed out then.

Remember to hand in your nametags at the end of the evening and

take a few seconds to tuck in the string. There will be a box at the exit to toss in the tags.

Don't forget to check the new memo board for important dates and sign-ups for upcoming activities.

Helping Hands

Should you like to add your name to the list please contact me at gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com.

Grace McElhinney Membership Chair

Get Well Wishes

Thinking of you goes out to Jerome Nagy of the Streetsville Horticultural Society.

Our deepest sympathies go out to Ron and Ruthanne Beehoo and their family on the death of their beloved grandson.

Leslie Log House Update

Even though the summer has been hot, dry and humid, the gardens at

the Leslie Log House are looking great! The white peonies were stunning when they bloomed in June bordered by the purple salvia! The daisies and iris made an outstanding show when they were blooming. The echinacea are going full force now along with the cosmos, zinnias and phlox.

Thanks to the following volunteers who have made the job of tending these gardens so much easier and fun:

Janet Shaw, Debbie Webster, Martha Whitney, Lorena Pitz, Christina Anonychuk, Andrea Vertolli, Grace Nelham, Janice Ward, Eleanore Minnes, Sheila Cruickshank, Suzanne Moradian, Marg Rowan, Wendy Arrighi, Carrol Newcombe, Mary Bernier, Michelle Bettig, Enza Lafratta, Terry Boughner, Linda Bush, Dean Scully and Monica Ross. Some came once and others volunteered every week. Three cheers to all of you!!! Also thanks to **Ursula Evanoff**, who donated 2 trays of home grown

zinnias that have added to the colour.

The garden was in pristine condition for the potluck following the garden tour and is sure to be in great shape for the Shakespeare in the Park on August 14th. Two wedding parties were spotted having their photos taken in the gardens over the summer – what a backdrop!

Hope you all have had a chance to visit the Log House over the summer. Come see the gardens or just sit in the shade under the pine trees, or take a walk around the property. There is plenty to see.

Carol Ashford, Leslie Log House Chair

Collecting seeds from Heritage Flowers and Vegetables

Growing heirloom vegetables and flowers is growing in popularity. Heirlooms were first introduced to the



Americas between 1600 and 1950. Many old cultivars can still be found on old family farms and in isolated ethnic communities. A true heirloom has been nurtured, selected and handed down from generation to generation. Gardeners have chosen heirloom or open-pollinated varieties – fertilized by insects, hummingbirds or the wind – for their disease-resistance, long-lasting blooms, pronounced scents and better flavours.

It is important for heirloom gardeners to understand the principles behind plant propagation – seed saving, root division, and cuttings - because mastery of these methods ensures the survival of rare or heirloom plants.

The wet process

1. Squeeze or scoop the insides of the vegetable into a container and leave it to ferment. (The fermentation process encourages seed germination later and kills some diseases.) In three to five days, the mixture will have completely fermented and mould will have formed over the mix.
2. Take a large spoon and scoop as much of the mould-fungus off the top of the seeds as you can. Add a lot of water into the container and swish everything around.
3. Let everything settle in the container for a moment; you will see that some of the seeds float and some of the seeds sink. It is the sinkers that are the keepers; they are viable.
4. Pour off the rest of the debris and most of the water, and keep the sinkers. Put the seeds in a small-holed strainer or a screen-type strainer for rinsing. Rinsing eliminates most of the mould and bacteria.

5. Once the seeds are thoroughly rinsed, it is time to dry them. Place the seeds in a netted bag and hang them in an airy place to dry. You can also put them on a tray or in a container on the counter or a shady windowsill. Stir the seeds occasionally to give them a chance to dry evenly all over. Don't use your oven or direct sun to dry your heirloom seeds. The heat from both can damage the seeds.

The dry process

1. Unless wet weather is in the forecast, these types of seeds can be dried right on the plants. As the seeds begin to look mature, secure paper bags over the seed heads and attach them to the stems of the plants. This will catch any seeds that ripen early. Chaff is stuff you are left with after collecting these seeds and is a mixture of seeds, pod or husk coverings, and other debris that fall in with the seeds.

2. Next, separate the seeds from the covering and chaff. This is called

threshing. Put the collected seeds into a bag, pillowcase or a small sack, secure the ends, and roll it around, lightly crushing the contents a bit. Be careful, you don't want to crush the seeds.

3. Finally you need to get the loosened chaff off your seeds. This is called winnowing. Place the seeds in a bowl and shake the bowl a bit. Most of the chaff is lighter than the seeds and it will rise to the top. Gently blow into the seeds to remove the light-weight chaff. Repeat this process until all of the chaff is gone. Another option is to use a screen or sifter where the holes are smaller than the chaff and sift them apart. The size of the sifter holes will depend on the size of the seeds and the chaff.

Excerpts of this article:
<http://www.idiotsguides.com/home-and-garden/fruits-and-vegetables/how-to-collect-and-store-heirloom-vegetable-seeds/>

Debra Lemire, Newsletter Chair



THE WINDSOR ORCHID SOCIETY
La Société des Orchidophiles de Windsor

The Windsor Orchid Society is pleased to announce its *third* American Orchid Society judged International Orchid Show.

DATE: Saturday, October 24 and Sunday, October 25, 2015

NEW LOCATION: Columbus Centre (Knights of Columbus Hall), 2401 Columbus Dr., Windsor, Ontario (located just off Northwood Drive)

This show is Windsor's premiere floral event with many exhibits of live plants from around the world being displayed and also includes an art and photography exhibit.

The sales area includes orchid hybridizers offering a range of outstanding plants and supplies.

NEW: Your members may use a Word Coupon. Simply mention **DISTRICT 15** when you pay your admission. You will be extended \$1 off a \$6 admission fee. Your admission fee is valid for attendance either day of the show during hours open to the public. Attendees have their hand stamped so they

may come and go as often as they like.

We hope you will support the Windsor Orchid Society in making this a successful event.

For more information, contact us at:

www.windsororchidsociety.ca

or, contact us by email at

windsororchidsociety2015show@gmail.com

or, telephone

Ed Cott at 519.252.7342 or
Deb Boersma at 519.257.8000

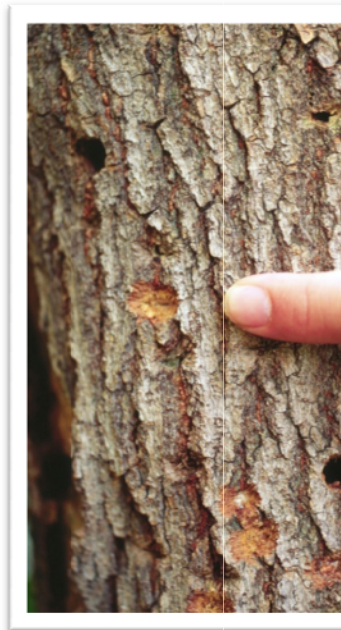
Check your trees in August for Asian Long- horned Beetle

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has established regulated areas in parts of Mississauga and Toronto to prevent the spread of the Asian longhorned beetle (also known as *starry sky beetle*).

The **ALHB** can attack several common species

of hardwood trees, such as maple. It eventually kills infested trees. It can fly short distances but can also spread through the movement of infested wood.

Residents are advised to check their trees in August for signs of ALHB.



Signs of infestation may include perfectly round exit holes (about 3/8 to 1/2 inch in diameter) made by adult beetles when they emerge from trees; pockmarks on tree trunks and branches where female beetles deposit eggs; frass (wood shavings and coarse saw

dust) produced by larval feeding and tunneling; early fall coloration of leaves or dead branches, and running sap produced by the tree at the egg laying sites, or in response to larval tunneling.

If you believe that you may have found this beetle, please contact a [local CFIA office](#) or call 1.800.442.2342. In Mississauga and Toronto, please call 647.790.1012. There are several native Canadian insects (White spotted Sawyer beetle, *Monochamus scutellatus*, Western Conifer Seed Bug, *Leptoglossus occidentalis*, Banded Alder Beetle, *Rosalia funebris*) which look similar to the Asian longhorned beetle.

The public is also asked not to move firewood. Moving untreated firewood, even just a few kilometres to or from a campground or cottage

is a common way for invasive insects and diseases to spread.

Why do we garden?

I'm sure there are as many reasons as there are members of Streetsville Horticultural Society. There are lots of reasons why people in general garden.

Some of them could be: creating something beautiful, breathing fresh air, exercising, growing your own food, gaining a sense of accomplishment, impressing the neighbours, or saving the planet. It's quiet and peaceful; gardening should not be a noisy activity. The most common reason given, however, is I can't imagine not gardening.

Returning from vacation, the first thing I usually do is to inspect the garden. Often, I spend hours staking, dead heading, weeding,

harvesting vegetables and generally puttering around. At times I have asked myself; 'Why am I doing this after being away for a week or two? You really should be unpacking and doing the laundry!' Why is it that I spend so much time, as well as physical and



mental effort, on the garden?

I have gardened for close to 55 years. First, as a young child tagging along after the elderly gentleman who looked after our extensive food garden and tasting everything that grew there. Yes that's me with part of the vegetable garden. I planted flowers with my mother, followed by work as a summer student six days a week from sun up until exhaustion dividing perennials and replanting them at the farm location of a well-

known Canadian nursery. I always enjoyed my gardening. I love the results of my hard work, my plant choices, how they were arranged and the compliments of friends and neighbours.

The real attraction was the opportunity to be outside, enjoying the smell of things growing in the soil, getting dirty and not feeling guilty, and taking the time to soak up a little peace and serenity. It's also a great way to avoid housework.

It is a relief to leave the busy, noisy outside world and get my hands in the soil. This is probably one reason I prefer not to wear gloves or often shoes when I garden, though there are occasional complaints about mud on the floor and in the bathroom sink.

One of the best things about a garden is the anticipation it provides. It is an act of faith. Take a small seed or bulb, put it in a hole in the ground, water and wait. Sometimes the waiting period is short, from a few days for

arugula seeds to more than six months for many bulbs. It teaches us patience. Even in minus 20 mid-January the idea of the coming spring is a promise of new life.

Gardening is for me an activity whose goal is to provide delight in the beauty and fragrance of the flowers, shade of trees, tastes of fresh fruit and vegetables on the table and the wildlife that are attracted to my garden-yes even the mink that ate 31 fish from my garden pond. My garden is something I created, its personal and it isn't and shouldn't be the same as your garden or the one down the street.

Gardening creates connections to other people perhaps they are neighbours to come to admire, we hope, or to ask advice. Gardening connects me to the larger community through shared interests, membership in horticultural societies and community activities. I can't imagine not gardening.

Why do you garden?
Let us know perhaps we could create our own inspirational story book.

Monica Ross, Education Chair

Volunteer Hours

Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time over the course of this year. Our year officially ends August 31.

Tally up your volunteer hours from September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015 and please give them to me via email, by phone or in person so I can calculate the totals for our Annual General Meeting.

Please e-mail
Eleonora at
gattescohouse@rogers.com
or telephone 905.302.4491.

Thank you,

Eleonora Roberts, Volunteer Chair

Refreshments

The Refreshment Table could use your help. If you would like to bring some refreshments (squares, cheese & crackers, cookies, etc.) to the September meeting it would be greatly

appreciated. **NO NUTS** please as the Church is a "Nut Free Zone".

Call Mary Hachey at 905.858.8897 if you are able to volunteer. The refreshment table is a great place to meet other members and enjoy a little snack as well.

Mary Hachey, Refreshment Chair

Save the date!

Friday, November 6, 2015; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Full day registration: \$75.00 pp, including lunch.

Toronto Botanical Garden presents a one day **Beneficial Biodiversity Symposium**. The symposium connects over a dozen presenting stakeholders in urban biodiversity, including scientists, educators, landscape designers, farmers, artists from Canada and the United States. Presentations will be complemented with hands-on workshops, pollinator-themed artwork and key note speaker Dr. Ari Novy.

Streetsville Blooms

Co-presidents: Rob and Sue
Harshman

First Vice president: Debra
Buckler

Second Vice president: Eleonora
Roberts

Secretary: Lynn Merritt

Treasurer: Christine McEwan

Fundraising: Amgad Boles

Editor: Debra Lemire

Web Master: Nigel Roberts

Questions, concerns, ideas, or
would you like to volunteer for a
position on the board.

Contact Rob and Sue Harshman
at 905.607.2802.

Article suggestions, please
contact Debbie Lemire at
debra.lemire@gmail.com or
416.268.4348.

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OHA Website :
www.gardenontario.org

For further information,
contact

<http://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/learn/adult/biodiversity-symposium/>



2015 - 2016

Membership Application/Renewal

MEMBER'(s)

NAME(s): _____

(Contact info is not necessary unless there are changes since last renewal)

ADDRESS:

POSTAL CODE: _____

Home Phone # _____

Cell Phone # _____

Email address: _____

(Will only be used to communicate info from SHS)

Date: _____

NEW ☐

RENEWAL ☐

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$20.00 ☐

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$30.00 ☐

Supplemental Mailing Fee \$10.00 _____

Only applicable if you have an email address and prefer to have a hard copy of the monthly newsletter mailed to you.

We ask you to continue your valued support of the Streetsville Horticultural Society. Your membership fee goes to partially support our monthly program speakers, flower shows and special events.

The newsletter is mailed to all of our members nine times per year.

We hope that you have enjoyed getting together with other gardeners over the past year, to learn, share and enjoy the benefits of gardening.

Please complete the membership renewal form and return it along with your cheque or cash (exact amount) to the membership committee at the meeting or you may mail your cheque to:

Streetsville Horticultural Society
P.O. Box 42048
128 Queen Street South
Streetsville, ON
L5M 4Z0

If we do not receive your membership renewal by November 15th, 2015, your membership will be terminated and you will no longer receive our fabulous newsletter.

You can participate by donating your time, skills and knowledge, in our activities or as a member of a committee or the board of directors. In the columns overleaf please check off everything that interests you now or might be of interest in future.

STREETSVILLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Please assist us in making our Society better by completing the following questionnaire.

My primary motivation for joining the Society is:

My Career/Occupation/Industry (present or previous if you are retired):

My Hobbies/Interests/Skills: _____

My specific knowledge/skills on any horticultural topic that I'm interested in sharing:

SHS is a voluntary organization and relies on the participation of all its members to help with all of its activities. How will you help?

(Circle all that apply)

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Participate in Community Plantings | Find Guest Speakers |
| Donating to our Refreshment Table | Attend Bus Tours |
| Donations for Draw Table | Field Trips |
| Garden Tour: | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor <input type="checkbox"/> Host |
| Advertising and Marketing | Enter Flower Shows |
| Computer Literacy: | Excel, Web Page, PowerPoint |
| Set-up & clean-up at meetings | Volunteer at Plant sale |

**Would you consider a position on the Board of Directors?
If so, what position is of interest?**

What workshops would be of interest to you? (Circle all that apply)

Flower arranging/Centerpieces for your home

Christmas designs, crafts, decorations

Design for exhibiting (i.e., miniatures, modern, oriental)

Photography in the garden

Annuals vs. Perennials

Practical landscaping basics

Water wise gardens and landscapes

Plant propagation, seedlings, cuttings, etc.

Soil Amendments

When is the best time for workshops for you?

☐ During meetings ☐ Weekends ☐ Evenings

Are you interested in helping with member workshops?

☐ Presenting ☐ Presenting with a group

Topic of interest: _____

Are there any topics or subjects you might like to see in the newsletter or at meetings?
