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# Peterborough Horticultural Society Newsletter

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150 years



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## MARCH MEETING

John Stratham of John's Garden near Uxbridge brightened our evening with his amazing photos of ornamental grasses. It is astonishing to see so many different varieties with diverse colours, shapes and growing habits. After the lovely pictures and a huge amount of information, Gary found some great references, including the book that John recommended. Here are two links of interest: information about ornamental grasses is <http://www.bluestem.ca/> and information about John's Garden is <http://www.goldbook.ca/uxbridge-on/garden-centres/johns-garden-18135/>

I feel a road trip coming on!

## 50/50

The 50/50 for the March meeting was \$132.50, won by Ruth Hillman. Congrats, Ruth! We had lots of other items too: my visit to Canada Blooms did not disappoint. We had a set of lilies and a couple of hosta collections, plus a couple of gourd birdhouses. Dianne and Gary assisted in prize ideas, and found a wonderful big watering can and a lazy-Susan plant stand. I picked up some colourful trugs at the local Costco, and voila! Good stuff for the prize table! With the \$132.50 from this month, I am planning a little shopping expedition at our show. Does anyone have some ideas? Dawna Rhodenhizer

## VOLUNTEER WEEK – APRIL 10 – 16

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers! You are the best!

### Welcome to Our New Members

Jacquie Andrew, Martin Bacigalupo, Darrell Dumaresq, Jo-Anne Dumaresq, Sharon Duffey, Marcia Johnson, Grace Kobes, Liz Kubica, M. Frances MacMullin, Donna O'Brien, Charmaine Rodrick, Lynn Smith, Jill Staples, Gwen Summers, Dianne Tedford and Kay Wright

We are glad to have you with us.



*Wildflower Farm is located at 10195 Hwy. 12 West, just 10 km west of Orillia. Wildflower Farm is an excellent source for nursery grown native North American wildflowers, native grasses and wildflower seed mixes.*

## NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Peterborough Public Library on Aylmer Street. At this general meeting, we will be having our anniversary celebration with cake and additional prizes for our 50/50 prizes. If you have renewed your membership for 2011 and did not receive your anniversary mug at the March meeting, be sure to pick it up at the table just inside the meeting room door. Also if you have already renewed and have not received your membership card and yearbook, please pick them up at the membership table. Our speaker for the evening is Paul Jenkins who will be presenting *Growing Wild Flowers*. A self-taught horticulturalist, Paul Jenkins is the co-founder of Wildflower Farm – Ontario's oldest native plant nursery, which was founded in 1988. Located on a 100 acre farm near Coldwater, Ontario, Wildflower Farm has blossomed over the years into becoming the largest producer of seed for locally sourced native wildflowers and grasses in the province as well as a leading native plant nursery and garden center. Wildflower Farm also developed and distributes Eco-Lawn, its exclusive low maintenance turf grass seed mix. In addition, Wildflower Farm supplies over 120 species of hardy, perennial native plants, seeds and site-specific wildflower seed mixes to homeowners, landscape contractors, municipalities and corporations throughout North America.



# Peterborough Garden Show 2011

## Wasn't That a Party?

The 2011 Peterborough Garden Show is history and it was an overwhelming success. We heard so many positive comments at our new Show Office/Information desk. The entrance was dressed for spring and set the tone for the entire show. An event like this does not just happen and we have many people and businesses to thank for their support.

A special feature of the lobby was the beautiful display for the PHS. Chris Freeburn, elicited the help of her husband, Brian, to create a charming arbour which was a lovely focal point. Many thanks for them both for the extra effort. We would like to commend Griffins' Greenhouses, Hotners Greenhouse and Garden Centre, Lakefield Flowers and Gifts and Peterborough Landscape for contributing to the lobby display as well as Gary Westlake for his construction efforts and Pat deVilliers and her crew for painting. The floral arrangements were beautiful because of Rachel Burrows' talent and creativity with the assistance of Joan Harding and Susan Mackle donated the beautiful paper lanterns that adorned the front lobby. The vendor/exhibitor space was filled with to capacity. Some were new to the show and others have been perennial favourites. (No pun intended)

The Speakers were organized by the Northumberland Master Gardeners. There was a good variety which was reflected by attendance throughout the show. The Peterborough Master Gardeners organized the demonstration area which was also well attended with topics ranging from the care of house plants to building a bird house.

Omeme Horticultural Society organized and supervised the Floral Competition. With many stunning entries, the flower show is a very popular feature. The People's Choice for design was Sharon Carothers' foliage design in a basket – 'Spring Leaves' and for the Horticulture (house plant) was Susan Tainsh for her Orchid. Congratulations to everyone who entered.

This year, for the first time, we invited parents to bring their children to enjoy activities at 'Little Green Thumbs.' It was manned by Fleming College students. Crafts, planting and story areas gave parents and other caregivers an opportunity to enjoy some relaxing time with the young ones. Lots of smiling faces!

The Rotary Draw will take place on Monday, April 18th at 1:00 p.m. during the Peterborough Rotary Club's weekly meeting at the Holiday Inn.

Rotarian, Lloyd Graham, took on the coordination of the parking during the event. This was an enormous undertaking and we appreciate all of the Rotary volunteers.

Throughout the show, Carol Mitchell and Megan Westlake took photos which will be posted on the website and shown at our April meeting.

Of course, we cannot forget the many volunteers who helped throughout the show. Without them, we would not have such a successful event. A special thank you to Julie and Ty Burch, Pat deVilliers, Chris and Brian Freeburn, Kathy Hewitt, Pat Lounsbury for helping with the take down at the Evinrude and hauling equipment to the storage unit. Organization of the show volunteers was coordinated by Inge Buchardt, Pat deVilliers, and Etela Vojnic, along with new trainee, Joan Harding. This is another huge job and we are lucky to have such a hard-working team.

The organizing committee included Gary Westlake (Chair), Susan Bowie, Carol Bulmer, Rachel Burrows, Betty DeLong, Pat deVilliers, Susan Fairs, Kathy Hewitt, Pat Lounsbury, Susan Mackle, Sandy Spremo (Coordinator) and Dianne Westlake.



*Here is a look at the new PHS display. It was a busy location with lots of interest from the public. Shown are Karen Fisher and Chris Freeburn taking their turn greeting the public. 8000 people attended the show.*



## Our Garden Show – Our History

In 2001, to celebrate the 140th Anniversary of PHS, a garden show was organized. Called 'For the Love of Gardening 2001', it was held on Friday, April 13th and Saturday April 14th at the Evinrude Centre. With more than 50 vendors and a full slate of speakers, the show proved to be a success. We are so pleased to be continuing this wonderful tradition.



*Published in the Peterborough Examiner to promote the 2001 For the Love of Gardening Show, this photo features Velma Doris, one of our current Life Members*

## 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Members were pleasantly surprised at our March meeting, when they were greeted with the gift of our Anniversary Mug. We gave out almost 100 mugs that night. All members in good standing will receive this lovely keepsake, so if you missed the March meeting, be sure to stop by the table in April and pick up your gift. Our thanks go out to Gary Westlake for his wonderful artwork on the mug. Great job, Gary! We will have extra mugs available for sale at our General Meetings. The cost to buy your addition mug is \$5.00 each. There is a limited supply.

We will be celebrating our 150th anniversary at the April meeting with a celebration cake, so don't eat dessert at home that night!

Our Members Only Garden Tour is shaping up nicely. We have had a good response but we can still involve a few more gardens, so if you have been thinking about opening your garden and would like to share it with other members, please see anyone on the anniversary committee at the April meeting. Remember, we want to

share our garden ideas, successes and trials. Every garden is bit of paradise.

Canada Day Parade is on a Friday this year and we invite all members to join in and celebrate Canada Day and our 150th Anniversary. The theme of the parade is Celebrating Peterborough through Team Spirit which fits in nicely with our idea of teaming up to push our wheelbarrows down George Street. I know it is still early days yet, but I encourage you to start thinking about a teammate and ideas for decorating your wheelbarrow. Prizes will be awarded. 150th Anniversary Chris Freeburn, Dianne Westlake, Gail Deck, Pat deVilliers

## FLOWER SHOW

Our first Flower Show of 2011 will be held at our May 26th meeting. The complete listing of categories can be found on pages 26 and 27 of your yearbook. Rules and Regulation for Exhibitors are on page 24 and 25 and Tips can be found on Page 23. Take your yearbook out to the garden and check to see what specimens you have to enter and take a look at your houseplants. Perhaps this is the year to enter a Design. There is a change in the photography section this year. You no longer need to have your photos mounted. We appreciate all the members who have shown flowers in the past but would enjoy seeing entries from other members as well. The more entries we have, the better the show. Look at the new schedule and enter the results of your hard work in the garden. Thank you. Kathy Hewitt

## PLANT SALE – SATURDAY, MAY 14.

Spring has officially arrived on our calendars and hopefully spring weather will be here soon. The PHS annual Spring Plant Sale will be held at St. Alban's Church (567 Monaghan Road-just south of Kenner Collegiate) on **Saturday, May 14 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.** The church will be open from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 13 so that you may drop off your donations or bring them by 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. We need lots of plants. As you work in your gardens, keep our plant sale in mind. Pot up your extra plants several days or a week before the sale and keep them watered so they look their best. Please include as much information about your plants as possible-annual or perennial, sun/shade, height, colour etc. Please identify any aggressive plants. If you have gardening magazines to donate, please bring them to the April meeting or to the sale. "New to You" garden decor items such as decorative pots, trellises and bird houses will also be





sold. Please drop these off at the church. Please bring any extra containers or garden trays to the April meeting to share with those who need them. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to volunteer to help at the sale. You will be contacted by phone. We still need more help. To add your name to the list, please sign up at the April meeting. For information or to make suggestions contact Julie Burch at 705-799-5402 or [tyjulie@sympatico.ca](mailto:tyjulie@sympatico.ca). Our plant sale will take place rain or shine so keep your fingers crossed for good weather.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The PHS scholarships were established to aid and encourage local (Peterborough city or county) students who are studying any horticulture related programme at any college or university, or any Canadian student studying a horticulture related program at either Trent University or Fleming College. Past recipients of these scholarships have studied Landscape Architecture, Retail Floristry, Arboriculture, Urban Forestry, Viticulture, Environmental Sciences, Botany, Turf Management and Ecological Restoration to name a few. If you know someone who may qualify for the scholarship, pick up an information flyer at our general meeting. Scholarship eligibility and application information can also be found in the yearbook on page 10 and at the PHS website: <http://peterboroughgardens.ca/Showspending.html>.

## LIBRARY

No doubt, after seeing Frankie Flowers at the Garden Show, you'll want to read his new book 'Get Growing', an everyday guide to high-impact, low fuss gardens. But don't forget about all the other books in our collection. Our library is open to all members before and after our general meetings so come and take a look. The listing of books in the PHS Library can be found at <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/phsbooks>. At this site, you can even sort by topic, title or author.

## EARTH DAY

Friday, April 22 is Earth Day which has been celebrated for over 40 years. This celebration has been a valuable tool for inspiring and mobilizing citizens and organizations to demonstrate their commitment to environmental protection and sustainability. This is the year to make an Earth Day Resolution. Even a small thing can make a difference. Resolutions might include a commitment to use vinegar and natural cleaners in your home, bike or walk to work, reduce water

consumption, buy recycled products, buy Fair Trade, eat less meat, use cold water and biodegradable laundry soap, use energy efficient light bulbs, use recycled toilet paper... The list is endless and only limited by your imagination. Because the 22nd is Good Friday, look for lots of our neighbours out helping to improve our community with a general cleanup on Thursday.

## FLEMING PARK

On Saturday, April 23rd, join us at Fleming Park (at the corner of Brock and Aylmer Streets) for our annual Earth Day Cleanup. The fun starts at 10:00 a.m. and we will be finished at noon. Bring gloves, tools (rakes, secateurs, etc) and a wheelbarrow or two will come in handy. Come to the park, provide a valuable service and have a great time with gardening friends. For more information contact Shaun Pyper at 705-740-2411

## COMING EVENTS

### Norwood

Monday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – What's New for 2011 – Victoria Whitney – Griffins Greenhouses, Lakefield.

### Omeme

Monday, April 18 at Trinity United Church, Dianne and Gary Westlake – Thinking Outside the Planter Box – Container Gardening for Smart People. Fellowship time from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available at 7:15. Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

### Millbrook

Wednesday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church Hall, Centre St, Millbrook – Terry Hotner Container Demo focusing on 'What's New for 2011' – \$2.00 Admission at the door. Contact Wendy 944-8912 or Joan 799-5378 for more information

### Lakefield

Tuesday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Gary and Dianne Westlake: Our Favourite Garden Mistakes

## OTHER EVENTS

April 23 – 24, and April 30 – May 1 – from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Open Garden Fundraiser for Cancer Society. 1596 McEwen Road, Cobourg, Ontario. Entrance to the garden is by donations

April 29 – April 30 – Kawartha Lakes Garden Show at the Victoria Park Armoury Lindsay. Sponsored by the Lindsay Rotary Club



April 30 – 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Green Expo at the Evinrude Centre for more information [www.greenexpo.ca](http://www.greenexpo.ca)

May 24 – 31 – Lindsay Lilac Festival – Logie Street Park in Lindsay

June 26 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Hillside Haven and Lakeside Retreats. Visit eight idyllic rural properties in the Cobourg area. Tickets \$25.00 (available after May 1.) All proceeds go to support Northumberland Big Sisters Big Brothers. For more information call 1-888-278-2484 or [www.heartofnorthumberland.ca](http://www.heartofnorthumberland.ca)

July 15 – 17 in Sudbury – OHA Annual Convention – Even if you are not planning on going to the Convention, you can enter in a number of categories because items can be mailed to the judges. For more information go to <http://www.gardenontario.org> or see Dianne Westlake.

## PLANT SALES

Sunday, May 1 – 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. Hardy Plant Sale at Toronto Botanical Garden, For more information visit [www.onrockgarden.com/plantsale](http://www.onrockgarden.com/plantsale)

Saturday, May 7 – Omemee HS Spring Plant Sale – 9:00 a.m. at the Omemee Curling Club

Saturday, May 15 – Peterborough HS at St. Alban's Church (567 Monaghan Road – just south of Kenner Collegiate) on Saturday, May 14th from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

May 7, 8 & 14, 15 from 10:00 to 4:00 each day – Plant Sale at Ander-Vale Farm, Art Gallery and Country Gardens, 937 Webster Road, (705) 652-6637 – <http://www.ander-vale.ca/Plant%20Sale.htm>

Thursday, May 19 at noon – Norwood HS Plant Sale – Norwood United Church lawn at the corner of Highway 7 and County Road 45.

May 28 – Parkinson's Plant Sale at 8:30 a.m. at 480 Gilmour St. at the Annual Giant Gilmour St. Yard Sale

## APRIL NEWSLETTER CONTEST

The winner of the March Newsletter Contest is **Nancy Lewis**. Congratulations!

Questions for the April Newsletter Contest

1. Name the new book in the Library.
2. What is your Earth Day Resolution?
3. What is 'Little Green Thumbs'?
4. Who is our speaker for the April Meeting?
5. When is the Fleming Park cleanup?

## ALLIUM – A COLOURFUL NATURALIZER

Brighten up your garden and help raise some funds for PHS and the Ontario Horticultural Association. Alliums are naturalizers, deer resistant and drought tolerant. They are suitable for fall planting right through until heavy frost. Premium high quality bulbs are available at an excellent price and you have a choice of four different varieties – Purple Sensation (10 per package), Bulgaricum (10 per package), His Excellence (1 per package), Sphaerocephalon (50 per package). The cost is \$5.00 per package. Place your order with full payment at our April or May meeting and bulbs will be distributed at our September meeting.

## BECOME A MASTER GARDENER

A Master Gardener is a trained volunteer who has completed two years of study and volunteers his or her time by sharing gardening knowledge with others. We offer non-biased, science-based horticultural information and advice to home gardeners in our community.

As you provide this valuable service to your community, you will:

- Increase your knowledge of gardening and plants in Ontario,
- Network, share ideas and work with others who have similar interests,
- Develop your communication, presentation and leadership skills,
- Participate in technical updates and other ongoing educational activities,
- Work with the members of our group to improve and educate your community.

Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners have monthly meetings; man advice clinics at local events; answer gardening inquiries on our telephone and email hotlines; organize educational programmes for adults, children and seniors; make horticultural presentations to local groups; develop and staff displays and write articles for various local publications.

To join the Peterborough Master Gardener Group as a MGIT (Master Gardener in Training) you will need to attend an information session, write an eligibility test and take part in an interview. Once you are accepted, you will be required to give 20 advice hours and 10 administrative hours per year. After the successful completion of the education and volunteer requirements, you become a Master Gardener.

Please contact Dianne Westlake at 705-742-9167 or at [mgcontact@peterboroughgardens.ca](mailto:mgcontact@peterboroughgardens.ca) for information.