
Peterborough Horticultural Society Newsletter

April, 2010

Volume 149

Number 4



Editor Dianne Westlake
Email: editor@peterboroughgardens.ca



P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7H6

www.peterboroughgardens.ca

APRIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. at the Peterborough Public Library, Aylmer Street. Our speaker will be Paula Anderson and her subject will be Organic Vegetable Gardening. Paula holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science and Comparative Development from Trent University and a Master of Science in Sustainable Systems Design from Slippery Rock University in the USA focusing on sustainable agriculture and permaculture. This energetic woman has over 15 years of vegetable gardening and teaching experience and shares her time between running her own organic vegetable farm operation – Sun Root Organics, teaching within Trent University's Emphasis on Food and Agriculture Programme and working with the community through Peterborough Green-Up.

50/50

Norma Evans was the winner of \$137.00. Other prizes were purchased at Canada Blooms, from vendors that will be our show. The prizes given to those attendees who celebrated birthdays in the past month were purchased at Rural Routes. Many thanks to Joan Clairmont and Pat Lounsbury for their assistance. Dawna Rhodenhizer

YEARBOOK

I am looking for gardening tips for our anniversary yearbook. I need 150 of them for our 150th year. A tip could be something simple like "pinch back your marigolds for a better branching plant" or "put stem cuttings of german ivy in water to make quick roots". Anything that has worked for you in the past, could be a new and effective tip for another member. Send me your tips by email at bcfree@bell.ca.

Have you seen your crocus pop up yet? Snap a few pictures to share in our yearbook.

I also encourage you to write me gardening stories, success stories or learning tales. The success of this special yearbook is in your hands. Chris Freeburn



MARCH MEETING

Garden guru, Paul Zammit, breezed into town to share his garden wisdom. Paul gave us some new insights into ways to use containers to spruce up our gardens. He also provided lots of information and ideas. Can you ever have too many containers? Paul uses every available space for his wonderful plantings, What an energetic presentation!

CANADA BLOOMS

This year Canada Blooms changed its venue to The Direct Energy Centre which proved to be a good move. A near full bus of excited gardeners had a fabulous day in the gardens and at the market place on March 18th.

What a crew of celebrities on hand. There was Dennis Flanagan, Mark Cullen, Paul Zammit, Frankie Flowers (Ferragine) and our very own Joe and Hazel Cook and Gary and Dianne Westlake all offering gardening advice.

Many thanks to Sally Rye for putting this trip together and for the entertainment on the bus.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Frank Blacoe, Frances Killen, John and Shirley McCormack, Claire Sanderson, Lorna Sarbutt, B. Snow Manning-Jones, Jane Tapsell, David Wright.



PETERBOROUGH GARDEN SHOW

www.peterboroughgardens.ca

Friday, April 9, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Road

Admission is \$5.00 per day (Children 14 & under free when accompanied by an adult)

We are coming down to the wire for the 2010 Garden Show! Join us at the Evinrude Centre for our annual spring event. The vendor space is sold out and there is a waiting list! There are great speakers throughout Friday and Saturday as well as ongoing demonstrations in the IGA Arena beginning Friday evening.

Don't forget to visit the judged flower competition and vote for your favourite display. If you would like to enter this competition, pre-registration is required by Tuesday, April 6. Information, categories and entry forms are available on line or contact Donna Hunter at 705-799-6656.

WORKSHOPS

We had quite a few sign up for the four workshops happening this spring, but there are still a few spaces left for each one. There is still time to sign up. You can email me at bcfree@bell.ca or phone and leave a message at 292-8485. Here are the workshops for April, May and June:

Pruning Workshop

Come out and learn the proper way to prune flowering shrubs like hydrangea, mulberry and many more from Master Gardener Rachel Burrows. This workshop will be held at Fleming Park on Saturday, April 24th from 11:00 a.m. You do need to bring your pruners and gloves and wear appropriate clothing as we will be outside and it is still April. If you are able, come at 10:00 a.m. to help with the Fleming Park cleanup.

Showing Your Flowers

This workshop is for all of us out there who know we have beautiful specimens in our gardens, but just don't know how to make them stars at the flower shows. Have a look in the yearbook to see what flowers are in the classes for our own May flower show. Bring those flowers to this workshop to show judge Toni Sinclair. She will help us choose the proper containers and give tips on how to win the blue ribbon. This workshop is being held in the boardroom at the Peterborough Public Library on Wednesday, May 19th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Vegetable Gardening

The hottest gardening trend this year is growing your own food. This workshop will be held at Kathy Hewitt's home just outside of town, where we will check out what's growing in her garden and get some tips on how to grow good healthy food. All participants will go home with some veggies to plant and grow. This workshop will be held on Sunday May 30th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Directions to Kathy's home will be available to those attending by email or at the May meeting.

Herb Planting in Containers

After hearing Paul Zammit's presentation, don't you just want to go out and buy a million cool containers and fill them to the brim?! Container Gardening is very popular these days and using fresh herbs for cooking is healthy and easy. Learn how to put together a container full of herbs that you can place close to your kitchen door or anywhere in your garden. Join Sally Rye at Joan Clairmont's home on Sunday, June 13th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each participant will go home with a container full of starter plants to grow through the season. You will need to bring your own pot, gardening gloves and planting tools. We will supply the dirt and plants. There will be a \$5.00 charge for this workshop to cover the costs. If you signed up at the March meeting and did not drop off your \$5, you can see me at the April or May meeting.

We have just set up 2 more workshops:

Hypertufa Troughs

Hypertufa, (pronounced hyper-toofa) is the term used for making relatively lightweight, freeze proof Alpine style planting containers by mixing sand, peat, perlite and cement. On Sunday, June 6th, Sue Lajeunesse will lead a workshop in making these garden containers. There will be a charge for this workshop for supplies. More information will be available at the next general meeting along with sign-up sheets.

Cutting and Drying Flowers

Dried flowers are wonderful for home arrangements, can add lovely scents to your home and are fun to do. On July 18th, Hazel Cook will take us through her gardens and show us how to cut flowers for drying. Sign up at the April meeting for this one.

We are still looking for someone who might like to show their hydrangea specimens?

And as always, if you know of someone who would be interested in leading a workshop on a subject we have not covered, please contact me.



All workshops are free to active members of our society unless specified, and any charges would be for materials only. In some cases, you are asked to bring items to use in the workshop such as pruners, gloves or containers. Chris Freeburn

SPRING PLANT SALE MAY 8 AT 9:30 A.M

The annual Spring Plant Sale will be held at St Alban's Church, 567 Monaghan Rd (at the corner of Monaghan Rd and Cameron Street) on Saturday, May 8 – 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Come early for the best selection.

We need lots of plants for the plant sale so even if you cannot come and help out on the day, please bring us your donations. Pot up your plants at least a few days before the sale so they will not look wilted. Mark the plants with name, shade/ sun, colour and approximate height. Provide as much information as possible to help ensure that the plant will thrive. Please mark aggressive plants.

This year we will sell garden decor items in good condition. If you have decorative pots, birdhouses, plaques, trellises etc. that no longer fit in your garden, please bring them along.

We would also welcome extra seedlings and garden magazines.

The church will be open from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7th for you to drop off your donations or bring them before 8:30 a.m. on the day of the sale.

Reminder: Please bring any extra pots and unwanted garden magazines to the meeting.

A big thank you for all those who have already signed up as volunteers to help at the sale! I will be in touch with you before the end of April.

Mark the plant sale on your calendar, plan to come for some great buys on a large selection of plants and tell your friends. Pat de Villiers

GREEN-UP'S LANDSCAPE PROGRAMME

On Monday, April 12, as part of Green-Up's Landscape Programmes, Brenlee Robinson, director with the Ontario Urban Forest Council, will present 'Well-Grounded: The Unexpected Benefits of Being Close to Nature' at the Peterborough Public Library. Brenlee has a background in health research and forest conservation, and she'll be speaking about the human health benefits of active outdoor experiences and contact with vibrant, diverse greenspaces. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. to view displays and speak to group representatives about

their programmes and opportunities to get involved. At 7:30 Brenlee will speak followed by time for questions, socializing and a last chance to visit displays and pick up materials.

FLEMING PARK CLEANUP

Saturday, April 24th at 10:00 a.m.
Please bring gloves, shovels, wheelbarrows, etc.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES' EVENTS

LAKEFIELD

Tuesday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Marjorie Mason of Mason House Gardens (www.masonhousegardens.ca) . Tickets are available from The Avant-Garden Shop, 165 Sherbrooke St. Peterborough. 743-0068. Seating is limited.

Tuesday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Trent Rhodes, Ecological Garden Design

BOBCAYGEON AND DISTRICT SPECIAL EVENT

Thursday, April. 15 at 7:00 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church Hall, Joseph Street, Bobcaygeon – Marion Jarvie: Creating a Beautiful Garden. Tickets are \$5.00. Call Ruth and Margaret McIsaac at 705-738-2397 for information.

NORWOOD

Monday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – Philadelphia Garden Show

OMEMEE

Monday, April 19 at Trinity United Church, fellowship time from 7 to 7:30. Refreshments will be available at 7:15. Meeting begins at 7:30. Erika Thimm – Stewards of the Earth

MILLBROOK

Wednesday, May 5 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church Hall, Centre St, Millbrook – Andy Harjula – Eating Your Landscape (discussing edible trees and shrubs) \$2.00 admission at the door. Contact Wendy 944-8912 or Joan 799-5378 for more information

OTHER EVENTS:

Saturday, April 17 – District 4 Annual Meeting: hosted by the Omemee HS. Please contact Anne Milne if you would like to attend.



Saturday, April 17 and Sunday, April 18 – Scugog Spring Garden Show at the Scugog Community Recreation Centre, 1655 Reach Street, Port Perry

Saturday, April 24 from 10:00 a.m. until noon – Fleming Park Cleanup

Sunday, April 25 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Opening Day at Ecology Park – compost and trees will be available for sale

Sunday, May 2 at 2:00 p.m. at Westdale United Church, 1509 Sherbrooke Street – Community Care presents Gardening with Ed Lawrence – Tickets are \$20.00 and are available at Avant-Garden Shop 742-7067 or at Community Care 742-7067.

May 29 to June 6 – 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Lindsay Lilac Festival. Logie Park, Lindsay Street South and Logie Street. www.lilacgardensoflindsay.com

June 12 – 13 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – 6th Annual Peony Festival at Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens, 155 Arena Street, Oshawa

PLANT SALES

Sunday, April 18 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Toronto Rhododendron Society Annual Plant Sale at the Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto. – Ontario Grown Rhododendrons and Azaleas, Fertilizer, Mulch and Planting Advice. Come early for the best selection.

Sunday May 2 – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Hardy Plant Sale – Ontario Rock Garden Society at Toronto Botanical Garden www.onrockgarden.com

Saturday, May 8 – 9:00 a.m. – noon. PHS Plant Sale at St Alban's Church, 567 Monaghan Rd.

Saturday, May 8 – 9:00 a.m. Omemee Plant Sale at the Omemee Curling Club

Saturday, May 8 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. – Wildflower Sale at the Markham Civic Centre, Atrium, 101 Towne Centre Boulevard, Markham

May 23 – Annual Spring Plant Sale at Ecology Park

THIS MONTH IN THE GARDEN – APRIL

PETERBOROUGH & AREA MASTER GARDENERS

Prepare annual beds for planting. Incorporate a generous amount of compost and other organic material.

Apply dormant spray to fruit trees and pest-prone shrubs (non-freezing temperatures, before buds open).

Cut down ornamental grasses. Remove all debris from perennial beds.

Top dress perennial borders with compost.

Gradually remove protection on rose bushes; prune and apply dormant oil before the buds break.

Move dormant bushes if needed.

Direct seed cool weather vegetable seeds (peas, spinach) and frost resistant annuals (larkspur, sweet peas).

Repair lawn with compost, seed, rake and fertilize (late April early May).

Plant/move shrubs, trees, and hedges.

Mow the lawn only if necessary

Begin to move ornamental grasses and perennials

Setup water collection system

Open your pond

Have your gardening questions answered – The Master Gardener hotline is now open throughout the entire year. Call 741-4905 or visit their website at www.peterboroughgardens.ca