## PETERBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Volume 153 APRIL 2014 Number 4

Newsletter Submissions: tammy.gibson.phs@gmail.com - P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, ON K9J 7H6 - www.peterboroughgardens.ca

## Wednesday, April 23rd at 7:30 p.m.





## Victoria Whitney of Griffin's Greenhouses

" What's New for 2014"

Victoria Whitney is the General Manager of Griffin's Greenhouses (located in Lakefield) her family business which is celebrating its 38th year of business.

Vikki has been actively involved as the Manager since 2002 but grew up in the business and acquired most of her horticultural training during that journey.

Formally trained as a high school teacher, Victoria enjoys leading the numerous seminars and workshops that Griffin's has to offer from Early Spring to Mid December.

Throughout her career she has spoken at numerous events throughout Ontario and has twice in the past been one of the speakers at the Canadian Greenhouse Conference.

When not digging in the the dirt, Victoria is busy at home in her own gardens (her passion is container gardening) and orchestrating the life of a wife to Darryl and mom to Olivia age 10 and Ben age 13.





## 50-50

The 50/50 prize of \$104.50 was won by Marg Hundt.

Additional draw prizes included 2 Herb Gardens, a beautiful book of floral designs and 2 pairs of tickets to the Garden Show. Betty and I are looking forward to shopping for prizes at the Garden Show. Hope to see you at the April meeting.

**Betty O'Toole and Marg Leeking** 

## **LUG-A-MUG**

Don't forget to bring your coffee mug and wear your **Name Tag** to our meeting. Please remember a small donation to the Hospitality Fund is always very welcomed.





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## Fleming Park \* Saturday, April 26th - 10 a.m. till approx. Noon

Spring is just around the corner??? and most of us in the PHS can't wait to get back to gardening. Spring Clean-up in Fleming Park is always done around Earth Day (April 22, 2014). With all our snow, clean-up will be Saturday, April 26 from 10 a.m. till approx. noon. In past years we had great attendance, so don your rubber boots, bring rakes and pruners and many hands will make light work, and we can "Gab about Gardening".

Fleming Park is losing two great volunteers this year. **Kathy Hewitt** and **Inge Buchardt** are retiring after several years of adding expertise knowledge of horticulture and hard work to the beauty of this little park. **Greg and Lorraine Barrow** will return again this year, so the three of us would love to have new volunteers join us. The park is located at the corner of Brock and Aylmer. We meet Wednesday mornings from 10 a.m. till noon. Please contact me at 705-917 3173 or anniemargaret43@hotmail.com **Thank you, Annie English** 

## Library

More new books (literally, a couple of hot new releases) in our Library for your research/pleasure. If there is a book that you recently read and feel like giving us a brief review, we'd love to hear from you and we'll put it in the newsletter.

- 1) **Bird Gardening Book**, the complete guide to creating a bird-friendly habitat in your backyard, by Donald & Lillian Stokes. Let's face it, we all love having birds come and visit.
- 2) **Ground breaking Food Gardens**, 73 plans that will change the way you grow your Garden by Niki Jabbour, author of The Year Round Vegetable Gardener. You'll find a garden that provides salad greens 52 weeks a year, another that supplies your favourite cocktail, one for your balcony, one encouraging pollinators, one that grows 24 kinds of chile peppers & dozens more. Each plan fully illustrated.
- 3) Gardening in Miniature, Create Your Own Tiny Living World by Janit Calvo. On the theme of fairy gardens, journey into the huge world of growing small.
- 4) Power Plants, Simple Home Remedies You Can Grow, brand new from Frankie Flowers/Bryce Wylde. A terrific book listing 49 plants that you can grow in Canada with instructions from planting to harvesting with clear guidelines on putting plants to work fighting everything from constipation to heartburn, high blood sugar to bad breakouts. Pauline Drake



## **Scholarships**

With the proceeds of the Garden Show, we are proud to offer scholarships to qualifying students who are studying horticulture or horticulture-related fields.

Up to four scholarships of **\$1,000** each are presented annually to qualified applicants.

For eligibility and application instructions, please see: http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca/Showspending.html

Questions?
Contact Scholarship Committee Chair
MJ Pilgrim, mjpilgrim@live.ca



## Thank you/Bulletin Board

Please look at the "Thank You/Bulletin Board" over by the library for our recent thank you notes or announcements of upcoming events.

The suggestion box which is also in that area is available for any of our members to communicate any suggestions regarding our meetings/garden club. Suggestions will be taken to the board executive meeting to be discussed. Please give us your contact information on the form that is provided OR if you wish to remain anonymous, that is okay too! Your input is valuable! Pat Lounsbury

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# PHS PLANT SALE

## Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Rain or Shine

It has been a long cold winter and we are all eager to get back working in our gardens and to dig up some lovely plants for our annual **PLANT SALE!** 

The sale will take place at Westdale United Church, 1509 Sherbrooke St. West on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. The church is located on the south side of Sherbrooke, just west of Woodglade Blvd. The entrance is at the back and there is plenty of parking. The church will be open from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. On Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, to drop of your donations. WE NEED LOTS OF PLANTS – as many as we can get! This is the perfect time to divide those overgrown clumps and the end result will be a happier plant. As you work in your gardens, keep our plant sale in mind. Pot up your extra plants a week or two before the sale and keep them watered so they look their best. Larger pots (6inches or larger) sell the best. Please include as much information about your plants as possible – annual or perennial, sun/shade, height, colour, etc. If you have multiple plants you could use your computer, print the label and attach to a popsicle stick or to the pot. This could save you a lot of time and effort. Please identify any aggressive plant. If you have any gardening magazines, garden decor to donate please bring them to the sale.

# PLEASE DROP YOUR PLANTS AND ITEMS AT THE CHURCH FRIDAY NIGHT 6:00 p.m. – 7:30p.m.

Bring any extra clean containers or garden trays to the April meeting to share with those who may need them. Thank you to all who have already signed up to help at the sale. If you want to add your name to the list, please sign up at the April meeting. Each person who has volunteered to help will be contacted by phone a week before the sale. Our plant sale will take place rain or shine.

Try to plant in 6 inch or larger plants. People want instant colour and large sells before small. We can also sell it for more. Special plants: If you are sending in plants that are special – i.e., named varieties, more unusual plants or a division of a plant that you purchased for more money – make sure we know! Those will be marked at a higher price.

If you have any questions or suggestions please contact:

Anita Clifford: 705-748-0267 anitaclifford@bell.net

Pat de Villiers: 705-741-1101 patdevilliers@hotmail.com
Pat Lounsbury: 705-745-2134 glounsbury@nexicom.net

## 2014 Garden Show Committee

I have served as show chair for 3 years and have been lucky enough to have amazing people on the committee with me. **Gary and Dianne Westlake** were my predecessors and set a very high standard for me to follow. This year's committee has worked so hard and spent countless hours on meetings, research, community outreach and countless other jobs. They all deserve special praise for their dedication and enthusiasm. The **Horticultural Society** works hand in hand with the **Peterborough Master Gardeners** and we have a balance of both members on the committee.



**Kathy Hewitt** has been on the committee for several years and works tirelessly behind the scenes on set up day and during the show and this year she helped with the decorated step stools.

**Joan Harding** got the word out to all the Ontario Horticultural societies and Master Gardener groups and did an amazing job on advance ticket sales and bus trips. **Joan** also helped **Pat** with the volunteers and **Cauleen** with the Horticultural Couture.

**Cauleen Viscoff** joined the committee this year and her artistic flair and great ideas are obvious in the décor and our new venture, Horticultural Couture.

**Karen Strano** brought new ideas to the Children's Garden this year as it continued to build on past successes.

Margaret Higgins reached out to communities far and wide in her efforts to get the word out about our show. She did a great job on PR and media.

**Pat deVilliers**, in her role as Horticultural Society president, has been on the committee for some years. **Pat** has done a terrific job organizing the catering and volunteers. **Inge Buchardt** ably assists **Pat** with the volunteers at the show.

**Judy Harris**, from the **Northumberland Master Gardeners**, is responsible for keeping our budget on track, taking the minutes and liaising with Northumberland who organize the speakers.

**Kathy McMahon** wasn't able to put in as much time on the committee this year as she took on a full time job. However she was still able to assist **Cauleen** with the décor and Horticultural Couture.

**Tammy Gibson** spends hours working on all our printing needs for the show and does an amazing job.

**Sandy Spremo**, our paid co-coordinator, does a fabulous job of pulling everything together and working with the vendors and the Evinrude centre.

**Claire Sullivan**, the Horticultural Society treasurer, is also responsible for keeping track of the Garden Show finances and does a superb job at the show of looking after all the cash.

Thank you to all of them for being a great bunch to work with and for making the show the success it is.

Next year **Cauleen Viscoff** and **Pat deVillers** will take over as co – chairs for the show and I know that they will do a great job.

#### **Rachel Burrows**

## 2014 Garden Show Volunteers

Thank you to all those members who gave so generously of their time and for many of you multiple shifts. It's a huge commitment with over 100 volunteers and about a thousand volunteer hours, but it is what sets our Show apart and part of what makes it so appreciated and looked forward to in the community and beyond. We get so much positive feedback every year. People love coming to our Show! Thanks for being such an essential part.

## Membership

Well, considering the weather this winter, we've had some good success with the renewal of memberships. We are currently at 125 paid members out of last year's total of 210. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting. Please remember to renew your membership. Thanks, Monica

## **Welcome New Members**

Marcy Adzich Dianne Gordanier Issa Horani Mary Jane Parker Lois Scott

We had guest in January and guest in February.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **OHA Convention 2014**

This year's annual OHA Convention will be held in Cornwall on July 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>. With delegates from Horticultural Societies from all over Ontario, a full list of speakers and tours, it is an interesting event. If you are interested in more details you can visit the OHA website at <a href="http://ohaconvention2014.org/">http://ohaconvention2014.org/</a> or contact Pat de Villiers at patdevilliers@hotmail.com or 705-741-1101. Anyone who is a member of PHS is eligible to attend.

May 10 - Jamaica Self Help Plant Sale 9 - 12 at my house 170 Morrow St. Ptbo. If anyone has plants to contribute, they would be most welcome. Please pot up and label and drop off the day before. Thank you, Marg Hundt

June 21 - Peterborough Master Gardeners' Garden Tour, 10 - 4, \$20 -- http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca/tour

**July 5** - **Open the Door Home and Garden Tour 2014** - www.ptbogardentour.com 10.00am to 4.00pm \$25 per ticket All proceeds from our Homes and Gardens Tour will support Cameron House ("Women Helping Women")

July 12 - Bobcaygeon and District Horticultural Society Garden Tour and Tea

July 12 - Campbellford and District Horticultural Society Garden Tour

## PETERBOROUGH AND AREA MASTER GARDENERS

http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca/MGhome.html http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca/mg\_factsheets/Task%20Facts%202008.pdf

## April Garden Tasks . . .

- Prepare annual beds for planting. Incorporate a generous amount of compost and other organic material.
- 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 shrubs, trees, and hedges.
- Mow the lawn only if necessary
- Begin to move ornamental grasses and perennials
- Setup water collection system
- ♦ Open Pond

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## Notes from March 26th, 2014 - Daylilies - David Retallick

## Where is the best place to plant daylilies?

You need to consider four things in determining where to plant your daylilles:

## Sun or Shade

Most daylilies do best in full sun. They will tolerate part-shade conditions, but require a minimum of six hours of direct sun per day.

 Light yellow cultivars, many shades of pink, and delicate pastels need full sun to bring out their lovely colorings.

 Many red and purple cultivars benefit from partial shade in the hottest part of the day because dark colors absorb heat and do not withstand the sun as well as lighter colors.

#### Type of Soil

Like most plants, daylilles show maximum performance in soils with good aeration, fertility and microbial activity. The ideal soil holds sufficient moisture to sustain the plants, yet is at the same time well-drained. These characteristics can be improved in soils that have too much sand or clay by amending with compost.

#### Drainage

For maximum performance, daylilies should be planted in well-drained soil. In some regions raised beds may be beneficial where drainage is a problem. However raised beds should be approached with caution in cold winter regions as being elevated can make the plants more vulnerable to temperature extremes and fluctuations. Note also that raised beds generally require more irrigation during the summer.

## Compatibility with Other Plants

Daylilles may not do well near or under trees that compete for moisture and nutrients. They are often reported to do well under pine trees, however, and each situation should be assessed individually. Plants that must compete with tree roots often do better if supplied with extra waterings.



#### How do I plant my daylilies?

When you receive your new daylilies, use the following technique for planting them.

## **After Plants Are Received**

New daylily plants received bare-root by mail may be "parked" in damp sand or other suitable media until they can be planted. Many daylily enthusiasts like to soak the roots for a few hours or overnight in a bucket of water, however others do not agree with this practice. Some gardeners also include a weak fertilizer in the soaking water, but this isn't necessary and, if too strong a solution, may actually be detrimental.

## **Before Planting**

Make sure that your daylilies are clean and healthy before planting them.

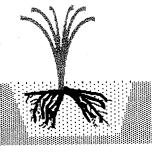
## **Prepare the Soil**

The soil where you intend to plant your daylilies should be worked into a good loose condition to a depth of at least 1 foot.

- Dig a hole larger than the root mass.
- Make a mound in the center of the hole.
- Set the plant in place with the roots spread on all sides of the mound.
- New plants should be planted about as deep as they grew originally. The original depth can be determined easily by the band of white at the

base of the foliage which indicates the part of the plant which was underground.

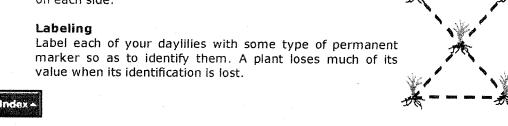
- Do not set the crown (i.e., the point where foliage and roots join) more than 1 inch below the surface of the soil.
- Work the soil around and between the roots as you cover the plant.
- · Firm the soil and water well.



- Make sure that there are no air pockets; this can cause the plant to grow poorly.
- When all the water has soaked in, finish filling in the soil, leaving a slight depression around the plant.

#### Spacing

Daylilies should be spaced no less than 18 to 24 inches apart on each side.



## How do I care for my daylilies?

The wise daylily gardener will apply a proper cultural program which includes watering, fertilizing, mulching, possibly spraying, grooming, controlling weeds, and sanitation.

#### Watering

Water is essential for good daylily performance.

- Water, supplied in sufficient amounts, almost certainly increases the number and size of daylily blooms.
- For daylilies, watering is most important in spring when the plants are making scapes and buds, and in the summer during the bloom season.
- Daylilles benefit more from deep watering, which reaches 8 to 10 inches into the soil, than from a succession of brief, surface waterings.
- Caution 1: Overhead watering during the heat of the day will cause any open blooms to spot and/or wilt.
- Caution 2: Watering in the evening can also cause spots on the next day's blooms.
- Caution 3: Be careful not to over water.

## **Fertilizing**

Daylilies grow in a wide range of soils and conditions.

- To determine the nutrient needs of your soil, take a soil sample and have it analyzed. Contact your local county agricultural agent for instructions.
- Daylilies can do well over a relatively wide soil pH range and adjustment of pH need only be considered if the plants appear to be doing poorly. A soil test as recommended above should always be conducted before amending with sulfur or lime.
- In the average home garden, a single fertilizer application in the spring is usually sufficient, although even that may not be necessary every year.
- In extremely poor soils or on light or sandy soils which tend to leach badly, more frequent application may be required. Consult with your local agriculture office for recommendations suitable to your soil and climate.

#### Mulching

Mulching, although not essential in every area, generally does contribute to better daylilies by improving the soil and helping retain moisture.

#### Grooming

Keep your garden neat and tidy.

- Many gardeners remove the day's blooms at the end of the day to give their gardens a pristine appearance.
- If you hybridize, expect to leave the pollinated blooms on the plants until the blossom sheds and the tiny seed pod is formed.

## **Controlling Weeds**

The most effective weed control measures for the home garden are mulching and hoeing.

## Sanitation

Proper sanitation measures lead to healthier daylilies.

 In the spring, dead foliage and debris should be cleared away from around your daylilies.