

---

# Peterborough Horticultural Society Newsletter

March, 2010

Volume 149

Number 3



Editor Dianne Westlake  
Email: [editor@peterboroughgardens.ca](mailto:editor@peterboroughgardens.ca)



---

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

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

## MARCH MEETING

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, March 24th .at 7:30 p.m. and Paul Zammit will be speaking about Container Planting. With many years experience in the trade, Paul is the Director of Horticulture at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. His creative container designs have been featured in numerous features on television and in print. Paul, and his wife Uli's, award-winning home garden have been featured in numerous magazines and local garden tours including our own bus trip last year. Paul is energy personified so expect a dynamic and entertaining presentation. Come out to share his love for gardening, learn and be entertained meeting

## 50/50

The winner of February's 50/50 draw was Marie Duchesneau. Sally Rye ran the draw and did a great job – made even more memorable with her prize-winning-flower-covered-dew-worm-hangin' hat. Thanks to Vicki Whitney for donating the planter. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are very much appreciated. The additional prizes came from Home Depot – it's time to start thinkin' about seedlings and stuff!

Prize money - \$83.00

Number of additional prizes - 5

Helpers with hilarious headwear – priceless.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Margaret Higgins, Barbara McGregor, Peggy Schneider



**REMEMBER TO  
LUG-A-MUG**



## FEBRUARY MEETING

Cathy Dueck brought us out of the winter blahs on a cold February evening and into the wonderful world of butterflies and birds. Great pictures and lots of information and her technology even cooperated.

## 150TH ANNIVERSARY YEARBOOK

PHS will celebrate our 150th anniversary in 2011 and we are beginning to plan some special activities. As you know, our flower symbol for this society is the red geranium and it will be featured in our 2011 anniversary edition yearbook. I would like to get lots of pictures of ways our members are using this beautiful annual flower. Do you grow geraniums – in pots or planters or in the ground? If so, I would like to get some photos. If not, perhaps you would like to try some this year...just to experience them again. I will be out and about this spring and summer, taking photos and asking questions to members of our society. If you have a beautiful showing, and no camera, give me a call, so I can come and take a picture. Show off those beautiful gardens! I am also encouraging you to write me gardening tips or advice, stories or adventures. The success of this special yearbook is in your hands. Tell me about it! Chris Freeburn



## WORKSHOPS

We have several workshops coming up in the next few months. Workshops are a great way to meet members of the society in a smaller group. You will learn a few things and have lots of laughs as well. Signup sheets will be available at the next general meeting or you can email me at [bcfree@bell.net](mailto:bcfree@bell.net) (please put 'PHS Workshop' in subject area)

### Pruning Workshop

Come out and learn how to prune those flowering shrubs that need some attention in your gardens. Learn the proper way to prune from Master Gardener Rachel Burrows. Bring your pruners and gloves. This workshop will be held at Fleming Park on Saturday, April 24th from 11:00 a.m.

### Showing Your Flowers

Did you enjoy those flower shows we had last year? Did you think the tulips and iris and columbine in your own garden were just as nice as those that were in the show? Learn how to present them in this year's May 26th flower show. On Wednesday, May 19th, we will hold a workshop for those of you who would love to show your flowers but don't really know what the judges are looking for. Toni Sinclair, an accredited judge, will help us decide what kind of containers to use, how to cut and condition our specimens and what can win the blue ribbon. We will do a practice run for our May show, using the classes listed in the yearbook. So start thinking about what you have in your gardens that you would love to show and sign up at the March meeting!

### Vegetable Gardening

The hottest gardening trend this year is growing your own food. Whether you are getting ready to dig a little patch, planning to enlarge your vegetable garden or want to try some veggies in a container, this workshop will give you great advice on how to get your garden going. Kathy Hewitt has been growing vegetables for many years and we will get a chance to see her garden and how she grows successfully. All participants will go home with some vegetable plants to grow and harvest. 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. Sign up at the March meeting.

### Herb Planting in Containers

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 while she shows us how on Sunday, June 13th. 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. We will supply the dirt and plants. There will be a \$5.00 charge for this workshop to cover costs of dirt and plants. Sign up at the March meeting!

We are also planning workshops on the following topics: lilacs, hypertufa, drying your own flowers and forcing bulbs. Is there anyone in our membership who is a collector of hydrangea? Would you be interested in showing your specimens? If anyone knows 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

## MEMBERSHIP

It is time to renew your membership for 2010. Benefits of being a PHS member include informative speakers at our monthly meetings, newsletters, a yearbook, access to our great library, workshops, bus trips and other tours. And remember, for insurance purposes, you must be a Horticultural Society member in order to volunteer at the garden show. The cost is \$15.00 (individual) or \$20.00 (family). The membership table will be set up at the door leading into the meeting room. Please make your cheque payable to the Peterborough Horticultural Society. **Also note that this will be the last newsletter that will be sent directly to you if you have not renewed for 2010.**

## FLEMING PARK - APRIL 9, 10 AND 11

No one knows what the weather will be like for the rest of the winter. However, 'Earth Day' will arrive in April regardless of temperatures. Saturday, April 24th from 10:00 a.m. until noon is the clean-up get together at Fleming Park. If you can spare some time to lend a hand, it would be greatly appreciated. Please bring a rake and/or a shovel, pruners and a wheelbarrow if you can. Thank you and see you at the park. Kathy Hewitt

## NEW IN THE LIBRARY..

Following up on last month's 'What Grows Where in Canadian Gardens', we now have 'What Grows When in Canadian Gardens', '1000 Plants Recommended for Seasonal Interest and Variety', 'Trees of Ontario' by Linda Kershaw. Our website also has a new section on Growing Food at Home and we have 'Square Foot



Gardening, Grow More in Less Space'; and, 'Lasagna Gardening', no, not that lasagna, but rather a novel layering system for bountiful gardens. Check it out! Pauline Drake

## **GARDEN SHOW - APRIL 9, 10, 11**

The Garden Show is only a short time away. Most of the details have been dealt with and we are all looking forward to a great show. Take a look at our website for a complete listing of our vendors, speakers, demonstrations and flower show rules and categories.

**We need your help!** At this point we have 35 volunteers signed up to work at the show and we need approximately 90 people to make sure that the show runs smoothly. Most of the assignments last only a few hours and generally consist of greeting, directing and assisting our visitors, assisting vendors if necessary, working in the ticket booth, covering the coat and parcel check room, etc. You will have lots of fun, meet new people and will have your entrance paid for the day you are volunteering. At our March general meeting, look for the volunteers' desk at the entrance to the meeting room. If you are not able to attend the meeting, you can reach Etela at 749-0730 [etvojnec@peterboro.net](mailto:etvojnec@peterboro.net) or Anne at 741-3995 [rmilne3@cogeco.ca](mailto:rmilne3@cogeco.ca) to sign up. Please help out.

## **BUS TRIP**

There are still some spaces left on the bus to Canada Blooms on Thursday, March 18th. We leave from the Coach Canada yard on Webber Avenue at 8:00 a.m. sharp and will return at approximately 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$45.00, which includes the bus, entry into the show and the show magazine. This year the show has moved to the Direct Energy Center at Exhibition Place. Call or email Sally Rye at 749-6135 or [kar@nexicom.net](mailto:kar@nexicom.net)

## **BARNARDO GARDEN SOCIETY**

The Donations Committee received a letter from the Barnardo Garden Society to thank PHS for the contribution which was used to purchase bushes and mulch. The garden is located at Barnardo and Wolsely and is taken care of by neighbourhood volunteers. The garden was totally renovated; the old garden bulldozed, pond and weeds removed and new soil and mulch applied before rescued and new plants were planted. The most unexpected challenge that faced the group was theft. Over 150 clumps of plants plus roses, bushes, mulch and even a magnolia tree were taken. Neighbours were asked to keep an eye on the garden and report any unauthorized activity.

## **JOIN IN THE FUN**

District 4 OHA will hold their annual general meeting which will be hosted by the Omemee Horticultural Society in Downeyville (just north of Omemee) on Saturday April 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Vicki Taylor Scott whose presentation is entitled 'Ideas to Inspire – Years of inspiration and perspiration culminate in many, many tips and tricks on landscaping.' In addition, a full lunch will be served. The Peterborough Horticultural Society is making 5 registrations available to our general membership. The paid registration will cover your lunch. The 5 registrations are offered on a first come – first served basis. If you wish to obtain one of the registrations, please phone Marie Doyle at 745-1338 or email me at [doyle.marie@sympatico.ca](mailto:doyle.marie@sympatico.ca) to reserve your place. The registrations are available for members in good standing only.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

April 22, 2010 is the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day.

## **ANN'S CAT.**

Meet Toby. He was Ann Greer-Wootten's cat and Toby needs a home. He is a small, neutered male, and he will be eleven this month. Affectionate, friendly and playful, Toby is also very spry and agile. Our veterinarian finds him to be quite healthy but with a skin condition that can be controlled by diet. Toby gets along well with dogs and is comfortable with commotion and change. Though Ann would occasionally allow Toby outside, we have been keeping him as an indoor cat and he has taken to that well. Realistically Toby needs an owner who can afford food that costs a little more as well as an occasional veterinarian visit. Call Clifford Ballantine at 876-0415.







## NORWOOD

Monday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion  
–Seed Planting Workshop - George Wiczorek

## OMEMEE

Monday, Monday March 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity  
United Church – Cathy Dueck, Peterborough Ecology  
Gardens – Beyond the Backyard: the Growing Need for  
Community Trees

## LAKEFIELD

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland  
Centre – Linda McLeod, Colour in the garden for the  
full season.

## MILLBROOK

Wednesday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church  
Hall, Centre St, Millbrook – Paula Anderson – Growing  
Vegetables. \$2.00 admission at the door. Contact  
Wendy 944-8912 or Joan 799-5378 for more information

## OTHER EVENTS:

Saturday, March 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St.  
James United Church, 221 Romaine Street – Seedy  
Saturday

Saturday, March 20 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the  
Village Inn, Lakefield. District 4 – Spring Get Together.  
Please contact Anne Milne if you would like to attend.

Saturday, April 17 – District 4 – Annual Meeting: hosted  
by the Omeme Horticultural Society.

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. –

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

Saturday, April 24th 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 for sale

Ecology Park Workshop Series ‘Starting a New Garden’ –  
Learn the basics of building a new garden from scratch as  
we work on designing and installing a new Pollinator  
Garden at the Ecology Park. The first two sessions  
(Thursday, March 11, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. and Thursday,  
March 25, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.) will be held at the  
Peterborough Green-Up office, at 378 Aylmer Street  
North followed by two ‘work bees’ on-site at the Ecology  
Park in late April and mid May.

Preregistration Required. Fee \$10.00 is refundable to  
those who participate in the site preparation and  
installation of the garden.

Call Cathy at 745-3238, ext. 212 to register

### ***THIS MONTH IN THE GARDEN – MARCH***

#### ***PETERBOROUGH & AREA MASTER GARDENERS***

Visit your local greenhouse.

Order summer-flowering bulbs.

Prune summer-flowering shrubs (e.g. Hydrangea)

Plant flower and vegetable seeds indoors.

Prune grapevines.

Start summer flowers and tender perennials (tuberous begonias, cannas, callas and caladiums in pots).

Loosen packed mulch and press back frost heaved perennials.

Cut some spring flowering shrub branches for forcing inside.

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](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)