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# Peterborough Horticultural Society Newsletter

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## Next meeting Wednesday, March 28 at Mark Street United Church

Our speaker for the evening, Joyce Higgs, will share her insights on Square Foot Gardening. Joyce came late to gardening, starting with a front-yard garden on a small city lot in Peterborough in 2001. Once their children were out on their own, Joyce and her husband Mike bought a ten-acre property just south of the village of Hastings where they built their retirement home in 2007. With Mike's guidance, Joyce started gardening in earnest – native plants in the front flowerbeds and along the roadside, herbs outside the kitchen door, a fruit orchard and vegetable gardens, many of them heritage varieties. Dismayed by the inexhaustible supply of weeds in what had been a pasture – which swallowed up their first strawberry patch – they built raised beds and Joyce discovered Square Foot Gardening. Soon Joyce was setting up a table at the Hastings Village Market where she sells heirloom tomato plants, native wildflowers and jams, jellies and pickles from the bounty of their garden and local berry patches. Always on the lookout for better and more regenerative ways of gardening, Joyce encourages everyone to try to produce at least some of their own food, whether in person or through her articles in *The Link* magazine. With the recent trend of growing more of our own food, Square Foot Gardening is a particularly useful technique for gardeners who have smaller yards but it can work in every situation. Be sure to come out to hear how you can save time, your back, water, and still grow food for your table.

Mark this one on your calendar and note that the location has been changed to Mark Street United Church, 90 Hunter Street East (across from Tim Horton's.) There is parking behind the building – entrance off Mark Street. This will be our last general meeting before the 2012 Garden Show.

### FEBRUARY MEETING

#### Eating Your Weedies

Kerry Hackett shared some interesting facts about those plants we love to hate. It was amazing to see how many common weeds are in fact edible and downright nutritious. What better way to rid your garden of those pesky weeds and put food on the table! Kerry even brought a delicious rice dish to sample. The recipes she shared can be found on her website at <http://kerryhackett.ca/> Look for the link near the bottom of the page.

### 50/50

This was my first foray into the 50/50 ring and I want to thank everyone for buying tickets. While Dawna was away, I was entrusted with the task of purchasing the secondary prizes and selling tickets for the draw. This is one way to see so many members. My thanks to Brenda Ibey at Avant Garden who provided good advice as well as excellent pricing and Kathy Hewitt who made the task of selling so much easier. The winner of the cash was Ruth Pezzack who took home \$129.00. Congratulation Ruth! Additional prizes included a shovel from Lee Valley and a rake, window decals, a cement frog, a hummingbird feeder and food, a ceramic plaque/plate and seeds from Avant Garden. Green tea roses, provided by Victoria Whitney of Griffin's Greenhouses, were a welcome addition to our prize table. We are extremely fortunate to enjoy the support of our local merchants.

Dianne Westlake

### HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Please note a change for the March meeting at Mark Street United Church. Because we will not be able to make coffee and tea for our meeting, please 'lug-a-mug' full of your favourite beverage and we will supply the snacks. See you there. Gail, Pat and Jo

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**ANNE BROWN, MARG BYER, ANN ENGLISH,  
CLAUDETTE GAUTHIER, BARBARA MCINTOSH**



## 2012 PETERBOROUGH GARDEN SHOW

It's coming up fast – the biggest and best garden show in Central Ontario! Make sure that you have told all your friends and family to keep April 5, 6, and 7 free for a gardening extravaganza! Show admission is still only \$6.00 and is a terrific value. This year's show will be fantastic with amazing speakers, demonstrations, vendors, a flower competition, the Children's Garden and so much more. Charlie Dobbins will be our feature speaker on Saturday, April 7 and she will be broadcasting her radio show live from the Evinrude Centre. Children under 14 are admitted free with an adult and there will be lots for them to do at the exciting, expanded Children's Garden.

We have attracted several new vendors, some of whom have decided to forgo Canada Blooms and come to our show instead.

The Rotary Club will be selling tickets for cash prizes! Everyone likes cash.

A new feature this year should help ease the parking situation. We will be providing free parking and a shuttle bus from the Kinsmen Centre on Sherbrooke Street West to the Evinrude Centre every 15 minutes on Friday and Saturday. Encourage your friends to use this service to ease the congestion.

We are also selling advance tickets for the Show. These will enable holders to by pass the long admission lineups and use a special entrance. These tickets will be available at our March meeting or at Titles Bookstore on George Street, Avant Garden on Sherbrooke Street and Lakefield Flowers, Queen Street, Lakefield. There will also be a correct change booth, which should speed things up. Fred Primeau will be doing a chainsaw carving demonstration outside the Evinrude Centre so even if you are in a line up, you will have something to watch.

As usual, Master Gardeners will be on hand throughout the show to answer all your garden questions. Make sure that you watch the 5 O'Clock Show on CHEX T.V. on Thursday, April 5th for a preview of some of the exciting things happening at the show.

Visit our website at [peterboroughgardens.ca](http://peterboroughgardens.ca) for full details of vendors, speakers, demonstrations as well as the

details of the flower competition. Why not try your hand and enter?

We also have a facebook page. If you 'like' us, you can get updates.

Remember that the proceeds from the show supports our Society, enabling us to have great speakers throughout the year as well as the many other benefits we enjoy. We are also able to provide scholarships for students in horticultural related studies and to support many beautification projects throughout Peterborough and County. I will have posters and rack cards for distribution at the March meeting. Let's make this the biggest show ever!

Rachel Burrows, Show Committee Chair

### PLEASE

Save your paper towel, aluminum foil or plastic wrap rolls for the rainmakers we will be making at the children's garden this year. Be sure to bring them to the March meeting.

### GARDEN SHOW VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteer Committee of Inge Bucharth, Joan Harding and Pat de Villiers have just finished organizing the volunteer roster for the upcoming Garden Show. Thanks to the generosity of members volunteering their time, especially those who committed to multiple shifts, we seem to be in good shape for covering all areas. A bit of fine-tuning and "tweaking" still remains to balance all shifts. If necessary, you may get a call in the next few days to see if you would be willing to change your time to an adjacent shift. In the next couple weeks all volunteers will be contacted to confirm their days, times and tasks. Again thank you for your enthusiasm and willingness to be involved. Our volunteers are instrumental in making the Peterborough Garden Show the success that it is!

If you had not yet submitted your name and wish to volunteer, you can still contact Pat de Villiers at 705-741-1101 or by e-mail at [patdevilliers@hotmail.com](mailto:patdevilliers@hotmail.com). We always need people to help out.

This year CHEX-TV and The Peterborough Examiner are assisting the show as sponsors.

THE PETERBOROUGH  
**EXAMINER**

**CHEX**  
TELEVISION



## BEAUTIFICATION GRANTS COMMITTEE

Great descriptions, photos as well as 'thank you notes' have been received from both Barnardo Community Gardens and the Peterborough Branch of Canadian Red Cross. The volunteers at Barnardo Gardens were able to plant a variety of shrubs, perennials and bulbs with the money they received from the Horticultural Society (Grants Committee). In preparation for their 100th anniversary in 2014, the volunteers at Peterborough Red Cross were able to upgrade their gardens with many plants. They waited until the fall to take advantage of the local plant sales. The information and photos will be posted on the 'Thanks' board at our March meeting. Please feel free to have a look at the material.

Thank you to the many volunteers at the 2011 Garden Show that made our grant money available to so many community non-profit organizations. Pat Lounsbury 2011 Chair

## MEMBERSHIP

If you have not already done so, it is time to renew your PHS membership for 2012. Benefits of being a member include informative speakers at our nine general meetings, newsletters, yearbook, access to our extensive library and tours. The cost for your 2012 membership is \$15.00 (individual) or \$20.00 (family).

## LIBRARY

A reminder...due to the change in venue for our March meeting, we will not have access to our Library carts so you'll be able to keep your books on loan for an additional month with return at the April 25th meeting. We have several new additions... 'The Complete Book of Potatoes', what every grower and gardener needs to know; 'Easy Growing' by Gayla Trail, organic herbs and edible flowers from small spaces and 'Nature in the Kawarthas' by the Peterborough Field Naturalists. Be sure to take a look at the April meeting.

## PLANT SALE

This year our annual plant sale is being held at a new location...Westdale United Church on Sherbrooke Street West on Saturday May 5th from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Please mark the date, time and location on your calendar. Sign up at the March meeting if you are able to help at the sale either Friday evening or Saturday morning. We welcome any plants, seedlings, garden magazines and garden decor items in good condition you can contribute to the sale. If you have extra garden trays or pots, please bring them to the March or April meetings for those who may

need them. Gardening magazines may also be dropped off at that time. If you have any questions or suggestions for our plant sale, please contact Julie Burch at 705-799-5402 or tyjulie34@gmail.com

## KEEP THIS DATE!

Plans are in the works for a magical Mystery Tour on Sunday, July 22nd. Stay tuned.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The PHS scholarships were established to aid and encourage local (Peterborough city or county) students who are studying any horticulture related program at any college or university, or any Canadian student enrolled in a horticulture related programme at either Trent University or Fleming College. This year, four scholarships of \$1000.00 will be available. Since 2002 we have awarded \$38,000.00 in scholarships. The amazing success of our annual garden show has provided us with funds for these scholarships. Scholarship eligibility and application information can be found at the website: [www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca) Click on Peterborough Horticultural Society grants and scholarships.

## OHA DISTRICT 4 SPRING GET TOGETHER MARCH 17TH FROM 1:00 – 3:30 P.M.

All Horticultural Society members are invited to get together to share ideas and to find solutions to problems facing their societies. In addition, a DVD presentation on Accessibility of Meeting Places will be shown and discussed. This event is open to all members, at no cost. The location is the Peterborough Library (downstairs).

## OHA CONVENTION AUGUST 17TH - 19TH

This year's Convention will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Programme details can be found on the OHA website at [www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org) If you would like to attend, please see Pat deVilliers.

### 1812 Rose

The official rose of the 2012 OHA Convention in Niagara-on-the-Lake and War of 1812 Bicentennial Celebration. Floribunda – Old Fashioned, Height: 3' to 4', Very large and full crimson red blossoms, Repeat bloomer. Disease resistant – hardy Zone 5 Cost: Potted plants \$20 Or Bare Root \$15

Unfortunately we have a very short window to order this rose. If you would like to place an order it must be done by noon Wednesday, March 14th. To order, contact Pat de Villiers. 705-741-1101 (a message can be left if I am not at home) or email: [patdevilliers@hotmail.com](mailto:patdevilliers@hotmail.com)



## OHA DISTRICT 4 FALL SEMINAR PHOTO COMPETITION CATEGORIES

On October 20th, 2012 the District 4 Fall Seminar will be held in Peterborough. There will be a photography contest and you may want to start taking photos now, to be ready. You may send photos even if you do not attend the meeting.

The categories are:

1. Blowing in the Wind – garden related subject
2. Clouds
3. Winter's Wonder – focal points as the garden sleeps

## GRIFFIN'S ANNUAL SPRING FLING

at Griffin's Greenhouse – 3026 Lakefield Road, on Saturday March 17. This event is a bonus for Horticultural Societies and gives back to our local community. Each person, horticultural society member or not, who makes a purchase on Saturday March 17 will be asked where he/she would like his/her support 'flung'. A large chart with the name of Peterborough Horticultural society on it, along with four other societies, will be prominently displayed. Ten percent of the pre-tax amount of each sale made at our SPRING FLING will be given to the horticultural society the buyer chooses in the form of a gift card that your group can use at your discretion. Last year we donated over \$350.00 to local horticultural societies in gift cards ranging in amounts of \$30.00 to over \$100.00. Please encourage everyone to visit to see lovely spring plants and our new spring garden decor and, if they make a purchase, know that they are helping their own horticultural society! In addition come out and enjoy: 'What's New for Spring Seminar' at 10:00 a.m. where Victoria will share information about new plants and garden decor for Spring and Summer 2012. When possible, the plants will be shown in their growing state and handouts will be provided. Suggestions for planting combinations and growing tips will all be offered. This is a complimentary seminar; space is limited, so please call to register. Complimentary Refreshments – Spring-time Cookies and Lemonade "B-Lime-y! It's Spring!" – a fun Workshop, will be held at 1:00 p.m. A photo of the container and details can be found at our website: [www.griffinsgreenhouses.com](http://www.griffinsgreenhouses.com). Please register to join.

## GARDENS PLUS

sends out a monthly Newsletter during the growing season and all you have to do is send an email to Dawn at [info@gardensplus.ca](mailto:info@gardensplus.ca). Also look for Gardens Plus on Facebook – just 'like' us and keep informed in the off season.

## RELAY FOR LIFE

As many of you know Dawn Tack from Gardens Plus lost her brother, Barry, last August. In past years, she has given all funds collected from her Daylily introductions and workshops to Breast Cancer. Since Barry's struggle with cancer in 2010, she now directs these funds to the 'Relay for Life'. In 2012, a team of close family/friends called Live, Love, Laugh and Believe will be joining this event. To raise funds, Dawn is selling wristbands with this team name for a minimum donation of \$3.00 each BUT if you 'LIKE' Gardens Plus on Facebook there is an added bonus. Each day she will post a special and if you have one of these bands with her web site on it as well you will get a further discount on the featured perennial. She will bring some of these bands with her to our meetings, so if you are interested in donating to a great cause please see her.

## BLOSSOM HILL

has a new 2012 catalogue. In an attempt to save paper and mailing expenses, Joe and Hazel Cook have issued their 2012 catalogue of delphiniums, peonies and other perennials electronically. You will also find other information and growing tips in the catalogue. If you wish to receive this catalogue contact Blossom Hill at (705) 742-9923 or [info@blossomhillnursery.com](mailto:info@blossomhillnursery.com)

## HORLINGS GARDEN CENTRE

is hosting 'Gardener's Lover Affair' every Saturday in April with free seminars, interesting demonstrations, special discounts, Horticulturists on-scene, complimentary beverages and door prizes. For more information visit <http://horlingsgardencentre.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Horlings2.pdf>

## LOOKING AHEAD . . .

Camp Kawartha Environmental Centre, one of our recipients of a beautification grant, has graciously offered a tour of their facilities. On May 16th at 5:30 pm, the Peterborough Horticultural Society members are invited to have a tour of their building, wet lands and arboretum. It is located at 2505 Pioneer Rd. off of River Road, N. just south of Trent University. The tour may be 45-60 minutes long, depending on numbers of people and questions that arise. They suggest wearing comfortable footwear and suitable clothing for weather conditions. Let's take advantage of this great opportunity. You will also get to see where our money goes to benefit the community!! Information will be shared at the March and April meetings and on our "thanks" board. Pat Lounsbury, 2011 Beautification Grants Chair





## ECOLOGY PARK

### OPENING DAY AT THE PARK

This year the Ecology Park's Garden Market opens Sunday, April 29, from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Compost, mulch and trees will be available for sale at that time, and weekly thereafter. Perennials, annuals and vegetables will not be ready for sale until the Spring Plant Sale in May. After that day, we'll continue our traditional hours for sales Tuesdays from 1-5, Thursdays from 1-5 and 6-8, as well as Sunday afternoons. Activity in the tree nursery starts in early April, so if you can drop by to lend a hand, we'd love to see you!

### SPRING PLANT SALE

Circle your calendars for our annual plant extravaganza. Sunday, May 20 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., the Ecology Park is a plant-lover's paradise. See you there!

## COMING EVENTS

### LOCAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES

#### LAKEFIELD

Tuesday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Paul Heydon – Wildflowers and Invasive Species

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Vicki Taylor-Scott – Garden Focal Points and Garden Rooms – This will be a fundraising event. Admission is \$5, by ticket. Best to get your ticket from a board member or at The Avant-Garden Shop in advance, as there are a limited number of seats. Door prizes and refreshments are included. For tickets or information contact Dot at 705-652-0684 or Brenda @ 705-743-0068.

#### NORWOOD

Monday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – Beryl Harris – Peterborough Master Gardener and Flower Show Judge – Flower Arranging and Preparing for Judging

Monday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – Kerry Hackett, Medical Herbalist, – Edible Weeds

#### OMEMEE

Monday, March 19 at Trinity United Church at 7:30 – Brian Nichols – The Garden as a Therapeutic Space

Monday, April 16 at Trinity United Church, at 7:30 – Terry Hotner of Hotners Garden Centre – Hydrangea 101

## OTHER EVENTS

March 16 – 25 – **Canada Blooms** at the Direct Energy Centre <http://www.canadablooms.com/>

March 17 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. **District 4 Spring Get-Together** for all executive officers and members. Location: Peterborough Public Library. No Charge

March 14 to April 11 – **Northumberland Big Sisters Big Brothers Spring Into Gardening Speaker Series**

March 14: Jack Kent – Working with Ornamental Grasses

March 21: Paul Zammit – Planning and Planting for All Seasons

March 28: Martin Galloway – A Naturalist's Garden: Growing Native Plants

April 11: Sonia Day – Our Love Affair with Plants

Lecture location: Calvary Pentecostal Church, 401 Croft Street, Port Hope

Dates: 4 Wednesdays – March 14, 21, 28 and April 11, 2012

Time: 7:30 p.m. Tickets are limited:

For more information: Call NBSBB - 905 885 6422, out of town, toll free 1 888 278 2484 or contact Helen Lackey - 905 377 9803, [wlackey@cogeco.ca](mailto:wlackey@cogeco.ca)

March 21st at 7:30 p.m. – **“Wildflowers” Catherine Parr Traill Historical Gardening Presentation** by Joyce Higgs, Historic Gardening Volunteer at Lang Pioneer Village Museum, 104 Lang Road, Keene. No charge for this event but donations to Lang Pioneer Village are welcome.

April 12 – 15 – **Success With Gardening** at the Toronto International Centre, 6900 Airport Road, Toronto <http://www.home-show.net/successfulgardening/>

May 5 – 9:00 a.m. – **Peterborough HS Plant Sale** at Westdale United Church, Sherbrooke Street

June 24 – 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. – **Northumberland in Bloom – The Big Sisters Big Brothers Heart of Northumberland Garden Tour**

Sign up for e-news from the Toronto Botanical Garden.

Receive the latest horticultural news and information on events, workshop, lectures and other horticultural happenings. Free registration at [torontobotanicalgardens.ca](http://torontobotanicalgardens.ca)