

---

# Peterborough Horticultural Society Newsletter

September, 2012

Volume 151

Number 7



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)

**Wednesday,  
September 26 at  
7:30 p.m.**

**AT THE PETERBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
LOWER LEVEL**

**Doors open at 7:00 p.m.**

Welcome back after the summer break – and what a summer it was! Hot and dry. Come and enjoy an evening of fun. The Library will be open, the coffee pot will be on, you will be able to buy your 50/50 tickets and reconnect with your gardening friends after the summer break. An added incentive is the September Flower Show. Preserves and Photography competitions will be held at the October meeting.

Our speaker will be Dugald Cameron who will present 'Spring Flowering Bulbs'. Dugald's gardening career began at an early age in his English Grandmother's garden where he'd occasionally help out with weeding and digging. He must have caught the bug then, because he's been interested in plants and gardens ever since. He, along with his wife, Lynn Pashleigh, and his Father started Gardenimport in 1983 because they couldn't find the quality or selection of plants they wanted for their gardens. Since that time they've had the pleasure of introducing many plants, bulbs and seeds to gardeners all across Canada. Their constant search for new or scarce garden plants has led to close relationships with many of the world's leading plant breeders and gardening authorities. This year they are celebrating our 26th anniversary. An earlier career in advertising together with a degree in biology and several years of photography at The Ontario College of Art were a perfect preparation for the mail order nursery business. They have customers from coast to coast; pioneering a new shipping method for our potted plants. Gardenimport's biennial catalogues are lavishly illustrated and were among the first full colour garden catalogues. They also have a great website and have done



*Dugald Cameron is always looking for new and high-quality additions for Gardenimport*

so since 1997. Visit the Gardenimport website at [www.gardenimport.com](http://www.gardenimport.com)

Dugald was on the board of directors at The Toronto Botanical Garden from 1996 to 2009 where he continues as a volunteer, working on programming and special events. A past President of the Greater Toronto Bulb Society, he also speaks and teaches on many subjects to Horticultural Societies. His current gardening passions are tuberous Begonias, Clematis, Daffodils and Tulips. He and his wife both work in the business where, with the help of an invaluable and dedicated staff of people who love bulbs and plants, they supply the latest in new bulbs, plants, vines and shrubs all across Canada.

## **JUNE MEETING**

Sonia Day is an opinionated and busy writer whose work can be found in the Toronto Star. She shared many Untamed Gardens stories that were sometimes risqué. Lots of fun!

**Be sure to  
Lug-a-mug**





## 50/50

The 50/50 draw for the June meeting was \$142.95. I am not sure how we ended up with this odd number, but I guess I dropped a nickel somewhere... Regardless of that, Geesje Ranger won it. Congratulations, Geesje! The other prizes made for a wonderfully mixed lot: 5 containers of colourful annuals custom-made for us by Hotners, a flower press donated through Claire Sullivan, gift certificates by way of Griffin's, a huge hosta ('Sum It Up') and a workshop coupon from Dawn Tack at Gardens Plus, 3 delphiniums and a book from Joe and Hazel at Blossom Hill, and of course, Sonia Day's new book, signed by the author herself. I sincerely appreciate all the donations and the great deals that our various vendors give me.

Spoiler alert: I have already purchased two more of Sonia's books: "The Untamed Garden" and 'Incredible Edibles', both signed by the author, which will be included in September's draw. Dawna Rhodenhizer

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee must receive applications for the PHS Scholarships for the 2012-2013 academic year not later than September 30th. Application information and scholarship eligibility can be found in the yearbook on page 13 and at the PHS website: <http://peterboroughgardens.ca/Showspending.html>. For more information contact Julie Burch (705)799-5402, [tyjulie@sympatico.ca](mailto:tyjulie@sympatico.ca) or Pat deVilliers (705)741-1101 [patdevilliers@hotmail.com](mailto:patdevilliers@hotmail.com).

## MEMBERSHIP

Welcome back members! Here's hoping everyone had a good summer, albeit a hot one. Membership renewals for this year are down a little, but we've had several new members. If you know someone who would like to become a NEW member, a NEW membership for the remainder of this year (2012) is just \$5.00. What a great deal! For all our current members, starting at the October meeting, you will be able to renew your membership for 2013. Prices will remain the same: Single is \$15.00 and a Family is \$20.00.

Please remember to wear your nametag at each meeting and make our new members feel welcome. Monica White

September 26th is National Tree  
Planting Day

## FLOWER SHOW

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Fall Flower Show is being held on September 26th, a month earlier than usual. We have had a crazy summer but I am sure that there are lots of flowers to bring to the show. We will have the entry tags all ready for you when you bring your entries in. On the morning of the 26th, check your gardens and the schedule on pages 19 and 20 in your 2012 Yearbook and bring in your flowers. We look forward to viewing and appreciating all your hard work. The photography and preserve classes will take place, as usual, on October 24. Flower Show Committee.

Tips for preparing your entries: Remember, grooming is important. Remove spent blooms and dead/dying foliage. Clean soil and pot. Remove bugs. Clean vegetables but do not scrub. Look carefully at the criteria for the class. Entries can be disqualified if they don't conform to the rules.

## DAFFODILS

The Canadian Cancer Society will be selling packages of daffodils at the September meeting. They will be \$10.00 for 10 or \$22.00 for 22. This proceeds will be used for their Wheels of Hope campaign. Volunteer drivers take cancer patients to appointments in Toronto and Kingston as well as locally. All monies raised will go towards paying for gas for these wonderful volunteers.

## MYSTERY TOUR

On Sunday July 22nd, a wonderful sunny day, 41 adventurous folks headed out on a mystery tour. The first garden we visited was that of Judy Harris near Cobourg. It sure was the wow factor of the day! Judy and her husband have a large acreage with some very unusual trees and plants and even a putting green. The pond was a real eye catcher, frogs and all. In Cobourg, we had the choice of different restaurants for lunch followed by a stroll on the main street to enjoy the municipal pots and window boxes filled with flowers. (Peterborough could take some lessons). A gentleman is out every morning to water and they show the love. After lunch we headed east on Hwy 2 to Colborne where they had knitted socks on some of the trees in the village. Yarn bombing, also known as yarnstorming, guerrilla knitting, urban knitting or graffiti knitting, is a type of street art that started in the Netherlands in 2004. It is non-permanent and easily removed, and does not harm the trees. The Scheming Skeiners of Colborne did this for their Apple Blossom Festival in May. We visited the Ecology Garden that



was developed by the Cramahe Horticultural Society – they have worked hard on their lovely garden and it is a real butterfly magnet. These kind people even had the washroom facilities open for us. Then a visit to the sweet garden of Sandra Compton, which included her own artwork on easels as well as many interesting roses and a trumpet vine that requires continual trimming as it would cover everything. A treat of lemonade was a nice touch on such a warm day. Then we were off to the home of Shirley Ross on the shores of Lake Ontario. Roses, roses, and more roses – she has quite a collection and this year has been a struggle with the heat. She has many very old trees on her property that are magnificent. Unfortunately she lost quite a few during a windstorm this spring and that caused problems with her shade garden (sound familiar). Next stop was to Old Barn Perennials and of course some retail therapy. Owner Peggy Howden was ever so friendly and helpful. I hope everyone checked out the canoe laden with flowers in the pond! Our last stop was Gibosihill Hostas. They list 1300 varieties of hostas in their amazing garden, which also included unusual trees. After enjoying a day of beautiful gardens, a great lunch and retail therapy, a tired happy group of folks wended their way home. I had fun – hope you folks did. I find these tours bond us as friends – people who don't normally connect, other than at our meetings, become closer and we share so much in just one day. We made memories! Sally Rye

## HELP WANTED

As a volunteer run organization, PHS needs volunteers to help out in a variety of ways. At this time we are looking for people to join the Board of Directors to help the Society run smoothly. Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month except July and August. Even if you do not wish to join the Board, and there are many opportunities to pursue your interests and use your own expertise. You could sit on a standing committee (listed in the yearbook on page 7) or just come out and help when needed. Please see Pat deVilliers or Anne Milne if you would like volunteer. Attend one of the Board meetings and find out what a great group we have.

## CELEBRATING THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

To commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth, the Ontario Horticultural Association, through its Districts, will plant a Bur Oak in each of its 19 Districts. Oaks were chosen because at the time of King George VI's Coronation, acorns from the oaks in Windsor Great Park at Windsor Castle were shipped to Canada to be planted across the country. 'Coronation Oaks,' as they were called, still stand in Ontario. An oak seemed an ap-

propriate tree to commemorate the 60th anniversary of his daughter's Coronation. The Bur Oak was chosen because it has a wide range in Ontario. A draw to decide upon the planting location was made within District 4 and on September 26th at 2:00 p.m., everyone is invited to attend the planting ceremony at the Municipal Offices (corner of 123 East St. S. (Hwy. 36) and King Street) in Bobcaygeon.

## 106TH O.H.A. CONVENTION 'GARDENING THEN AND NOW, 1812 – 2012'

Pat deVilliers, Karen Strano and Gary and Dianne Westlake represented Peterborough HS at the Ontario Horticultural Association 106th Annual Convention in Niagara-on-the-Lake where delegates from 278 Horticultural Societies from all over Ontario came together to learn, share ideas, reconnect with gardening friends and conduct the business of the OHA Annual General Meeting. Our District's Past-Director, John Sellers, was declared the President of the OHA Executive. Of special note for District 4: Bev. Silk, long time member of Grafton HS was presented with two awards at the Convention. She received the Award of Merit for her ongoing work within her society, at the district level (as secretary) and within her community. She also was recognized with the Youth Leader Award.

An invitation was extended from District 14 to attend the 107th Convention in Thunder Bay 'Up North and Down to Earth', which will be held July 19-21, 2013 at the Valhalla Inn in Thunder Bay.

## CROCOISMIA AND CAMASSIA

The OHA is once again holding a fund raiser by selling bulbs. A little change this year, in that they will be shipped on two different dates. The orders are to be in by November 1st with the Crocosmia to be shipped in the spring and Camassia in the fall. For your information the Camassia is a native plant.

## TREASURED TREE HUNT

Is there a special tree in your life? Peterborough Green-Up is looking for nominations for the City's second 'Treasured Tree Hunt.' The deadline is fast approaching for nominating a tree that you think is amazing, or has wonderful memories for you.

You can enter the contest in one of three ways:

1. Nominate a special tree and explain why it is a treasure, or



2. Write a story about a tree in Peterborough that is a treasure to you, or

3. Enter a picture or photograph of your treasured tree.

Each of the three categories will be judged separately, with prizes awarded for winners at a Gala Awards Ceremony in November. Entry forms and detailed contest information can be found on-line at [www.treasuredtreehunt.com](http://www.treasuredtreehunt.com). The deadline for entries is Monday, October 1, 2012. You can enter on-line or deliver a printed submission to the Peterborough Green-Up office on Aylmer St.

Join the hunt! This is a great way to raise the profile of Peterborough's green heritage and identify trees that may qualify for special heritage status. The 2009 contest raised a great deal of excitement, with entries from people of all ages. We know there are plenty more exceptional trees out there, just waiting to be recognized!

Further information or copies of print materials are available by calling Vern Bastable at Peterborough Green-Up at 705-745-3238, ext. 210.

### **OHA DISTRICT 4 FALL SEMINAR**

The Peterborough Society will host the 2012 Fall Seminar on October 20 at Westdale United Church. All PHS members are invited to attend so if you wish to join in, please see Pat deVilliers. This is a great way to meet members of other societies and to learn more about gardening. There is a fee for the day (Programme and Lunch) that will be covered by PHS. We need volunteers for a variety of tasks and even if you cannot attend on the actual day, we can use some help with set up on Friday.

### **JUNE CELEBRATION EVENT**

As the name implies, it is a celebration...a time to get to know our fellow district horticulture members, present awards, enjoy a speaker and, of course, eat! The theme was 'Hats' and everyone was encouraged to wear a decorated hat.

This year, the district implemented a new policy of awarding members who have served 25 years or more with a 25-year membership pin, so societies were asked to submit names to the district. Claire Sullivan and Myrtle Wilson were presented with their pins at the luncheon and George and Stella Barber were given their pins at a later date. In future, members with 25 years will be presented with pins at this event.

The speaker was Jillian T. Bishop who has organized Peterborough's seed exchange for seven years. She gave us many tips on holding a successful seed exchange.

### **BARBARA EARLE**

Sadly Barbara Earle passed away on September 5, 2012. Barbara was a long-standing member of PHS as well as being highly involved in a number of other organizations including Hutchinson House and Peterborough Art Gallery. In fact, she was a driving force behind the Art Gallery Garden Tour. Peterborough will miss her.

### **COMING EVENTS**

#### **NORWOOD**

Monday, September 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – John Stratham – Shade Gardens

#### **OMEMEE**

Monday, September 17 at Trinity United Church, fellowship time from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available at 7:15. Meeting begins at 7:30. Matt Logan (Logan Tree Experts) – Taking Care of Your Trees

#### **MILLBROOK**

Wednesday, October 3 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church Hall, Centre St, Millbrook – \$2.00 Admission at the door - Vikki Griffin – Spring Bulbs. Contact Wendy 944-8912 or Joan 799-5378 for more information

#### **LAKEFIELD**

Tuesday October 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Steven Charest: Ponds and Lighting

#### **OHA DISTRICT 4**

Saturday, October 20 at Westdale United Church, Sherbrooke Drive, Peterborough – District 4 Fall Seminar

### **SOME LINKS OF INTEREST**

Check out these videos:

Paul Zammit Planting Bulbs Between established perennials

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqVTjjMIN8A&feature=plcp>

Bulbs in the pollinator garden <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGZTKQxb26I&feature=share>

Publications:

OHA Fall Trillium: <http://gardenontario.org/docs/Trillium2012-03Fall.pdf>