

PETERBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Volume 161

June 2022

Number 6

Wednesday June 22 @ 7pm @ Peterborough Lions Centre!

Dr. Verena Sesin “Herbicide Use on Invasive and Endangered Plants”

As a Trent graduate student in 2019, Verena was a recipient of one of our \$1000 scholarships and we are pretty proud of her. She has agreed to visit us this month to share her PhD research which I think will be interesting to everyone.

Verena Sesin received her Ph.D. in Environmental and Life Sciences from Trent University last year, where she studied how herbicide use for invasive plant control may affect nearby native and endangered plants. Verena calls herself a “gardener for science” as she spent a lot of time growing plants for her experiments in the greenhouse and outdoors. Verena has grown several plants herself, including cattails, water milfoil, Canadian waterweed, and scarlet ammannia.



If you have been out on the trails around Peterborough, chances are high that you have seen a huge wall of a specific grass: Phragmites. This plant is invasive and occurs all over Ontario – and it’s not picky at all, even thriving in roadside ditches! But why should you care? Invasive plants such as Phragmites are a serious problem for native biodiversity because they can grow so tall and densely that they can push out native plants and alter the habitat. Land managers and property owners often fight back through spraying herbicides – chemicals that kill the invasive plants. However, many herbicides are also toxic to native plants, and therefore native plants may not only be threatened by invasive plants but also by herbicide spraying. In this talk, I will explore a balanced approach to using herbicides in invasive plant control. I will tackle the question: How can we effectively remove invasive plants with herbicides while keeping native plants healthy?

President’s Message:

And we will have CAKE 🍰. At our meeting this month, we will be celebrating our 160th anniversary as a society with cake. Lots of cake. We’ve been waiting years for this cake. Join us!

Restrictions are being lifted in all sectors, however we’d like to encourage everyone who would like to continue to mask to do so. If people are comfortable unmasking, that is fine too. My favourite line throughout this pandemic has been “You do you”.

Please continue to thank our sponsors as you visit their establishments. Lastly, remember that this is the **YEAR OF THE GARDEN**, and we are all **GARDENERS** and probably also **CAKE EATERS**! Woot. See you all on the 22nd 🍰

❖ **MJ Pilgrim**

Discounts for PHS Members: You must show your 2022 membership card to qualify, and request the discount BEFORE your order is placed.

PETERBOROUGH
LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

15%

On LIVE ITEMS excluding
annuals

Kawartha Capital
Landscape Supply Store
“We’ve got all of your landscape needs covered!”

10%

Does not include delivery fees



10%

KEENE
Gardens
INCORPORATED

10%

On shrubs, trees
and perennials

plant
goals

10%

On all plants
387 Water St near Hunter

NEW

web: peterboroughhort.com newsletter submissions: ptbohortsoc@gmail.com

mail: P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, ON K9J 7H6 instagram: [ptbohortsoc](https://www.instagram.com/ptbohortsoc) & [peterboroughgardenshow](https://www.instagram.com/peterboroughgardenshow)

facebook: [Peterborough Horticultural Society](https://www.facebook.com/PeterboroughHorticulturalSociety) & [The Peterborough Garden Show](https://www.facebook.com/ThePeterboroughGardenShow) twitter: [@PtboHortSoc](https://twitter.com/PtboHortSoc) & [@PtboGardenShow](https://twitter.com/PtboGardenShow)

Bus Trip to Whistling Gardens

For the first time since the beginning of Covid, the PHS was able to organize a bus trip. On Monday June 6th, 40 of us headed off to Whistling Gardens near Brantford. There were many smiles and lots of catch-up conversations aboard the 2 buses. As the larger bus was under repair, we were provided with 2 buses which gave us more space to spread out as well as bring home our treasured plant purchases. For some of us it was our third or fourth time to Whistling Gardens since they opened 10 years ago. Darren has incredible energy and vision and it was amazing to see the difference over the past few years, both in the growth of his many specialized trees, the further development of his garden beds and the refinement he's put into his dancing fountains coordinated with music.

The timing of our trip was to view the extensive Peony collection, now one of the largest in North America with over 1,000 different species. Our own Joe and Hazel Cook of Blossom Hill had donated one of each of their own extensive collection. Usually closed Mondays, they made an exception for us as

we have a long history with Darren and Whistling Gardens through contacts over the past years of the PHS Garden Show. Hence, we had the Gardens to ourselves. Darren gave us an hour tour on arrival. The peonies as well as everything else were beautiful! We had a fabulous catered lunch and time on our own to browse and shop. Then off to Northland Nurseries for some serious plant purchasing. The main highlight however was the weather. Driving out of rain in Peterborough, we had a lovely warm day and the rain started again only as we were loading the bus with plants. All round a successful day!!

♦ **Pat deVilliers**



Year of the Garden "Garden Hero of the Year"



The PHS is proud to recognize **Susan Leask** as our Year of the Garden "Garden Hero". Susan volunteers her time every week at Fleming Park, she stepped up to offer her garden for our garden tour, she helps friends and neighbours with gardens and is a behind-the-scenes worker who is reliable and can be depended on. Thank you, Susan!

Year of the Garden
Année du jardin
2022

Your Board of Directors: It's not all work...

The Board of Directors for the PHS meets 9 times a year to plan and organize the society. The meeting in December is usually more "social" oriented but it was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 because of "you-know-what". We were finally able to share a meal and some comradie at the beautiful home of Steve Riddell and Mary-Rose Daigle last week. There was much laughter, but also some good discussion & planning that evening. I'm so proud of this team!

❖ **MJ Pilgrim**



Postponement of the 2022 PHS Garden Tour



We're sad to announce the postponement of our June 18th Garden Tour until 2023. We had time and a nasty storm working against us. The storm knocked out power and damaged several of our garden locations. This meant finding replacements, then changing tickets. Unfortunately, the printer lost power for 5-6 days preventing access to services. We just got too far behind to hold a successful tour. We learned a lot that we will apply in 2023, though! 😊

We'd like to thank everyone who stepped up to be a host. We know that you have done more prep and planting than usual. All of your gardens would have been a great pleasure to visit. We'd also like to thank the small number that signed up to volunteer that day. Until 2023...

❖ **Shaun Pyper**

Apple Trees – Are they fickle or is it just me?

We have a mature beautiful apple tree in the middle of the yard that produced nothing for years, then great apples for a couple of years and then nothing again. Why so fickle? The answer has nothing to do with the mature tree; it's all about the young one planted a few years ago.

Some fruit trees are 'self-fruitful', meaning they can set fruit with their own pollen. Self-fruitful trees include tart cherry, apricot and peach. Other fruit trees, like apples, pear, plum and sweet cherry, are 'self-unfruitful', meaning they need to be cross-pollinated by a nearby cultivar.

I had planted a new apple tree a few years back, which I now realize was giving the mature tree the pollen it needed to produce fantastic apples. However, the young one died two years ago (another mystery, but I see a lot of chipmunks in that part of the garden so my guess is they disturbed or ate the roots). Now I need to plant another apple tree. Even though I'd like to do it quickly, I'm going to wait until next April. With our harsh winters, I want to give the new sapling as much time as possible in the ground before the cold weather hits.

I'll find a super sunny location near the mature tree, out of the wind as much as possible. The hole should be twice the width of the root system and deep enough so that the sapling graft union is about 4 inches above ground. No compost or other fertilizer will be added as this may burn the roots. My soil is very heavy clay so I'm going to back-fill a deeper hole with some triple mix to give the roots some nice loose soil to nestle into and to bring the hole up to the depth needed.

Once planted, I'll do some pruning for shape and air circulation starting in the first year and apply a 10-10-10 balanced fertilizer in a few years when the young tree starts to produce. Mainly I'll be waiting for the mature tree to get happy again. Until then, I'll still be happy because I can pick up beautiful local apples at our local farmers markets.

❖ **Sandra Caswell**



Plant Sale 2022

To all the dedicated volunteers and members who donated plants and garden accessories, a heartfelt thank you for making this year's plant sale a great success!

Even though this year there was not the expected customer turnout, our sales this year were \$1306.70 with 516 plants donated. Left over plants were donated to Fleming Park and to the Community Gardens. Volunteers also went home with a few extras.

It was a fun event and we look forward to another great event next year. Many thanks!

❖ **Anita Clifford**





Remember to keep your eyes peeled for our signs throughout the city. We're proud to recognize the amazing gardeners in our incredible city. 😊

Announcement about the Peterborough Garden Show

After 20 amazing years, we've decided to hang up our show hats and look forward to what life has for the Society in the future. We're kind of excited about what that might be! The show was an incredible event, and everyone loved it. We were able to donate over \$200,000 to scholarships, community grants and Fleming Park. We were able to bring together speakers from all over the province to share their knowledge.



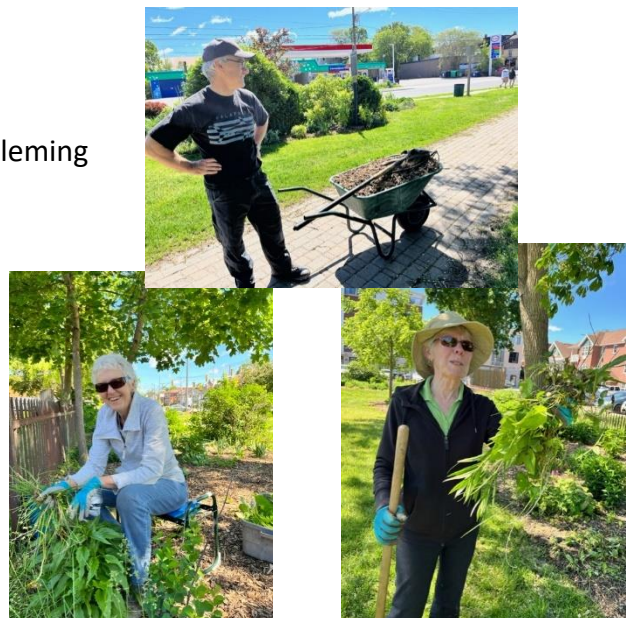
However, behind the scenes there was a tremendous amount of year-round effort that took place, especially as the show grew and grew. With so much uncertainty still surrounding large gatherings, aging volunteers and increasing costs, we've decided to switch gears and look to perhaps a different type of event that we haven't actually finalized yet. We want to THANK each and every volunteer (especially those on the show committees) – you know that you all were the heart of the show!

Fleming Park Cleanup

On June 4 at 9:30am a great group of intrepid gardeners met at Fleming Park for its annual spring cleanup.



**THANK
YOU
ALL!**



Why Use Native Plants in your Garden?



Native plants are generally resistant to diseases and insects, therefore no pesticides are needed. They are usually drought-tolerant and rely solely on natural precipitation unless in a prolonged drought period. If you buy plants hardy to your zone, they don't require extra maintenance to prepare them for winter. Once established in your garden, they will provide you with beautiful color and interest. They require less fertilizer and less work, but be careful to buy plants for your garden location i.e. sun/ shade/ part shade. Native ornamental grasses provide winter interest plus shelter and seeds for our birds. There are numerous native plants for sale in our garden centres plus it's always fun to swap with friends!

Some of the most popular native plants ... Butterfly Weed, Milkweed, Serviceberries, Honeysuckles, Columbine, Dogwoods, Willows. Coneflowers, Black-eyed Susans, Sunflowers, Sages. Goldenrods, Blazing star, Asters, Lobelia, Iris, Gaillardia, Coral Bells, Coreopsis, Sweetspire, Creeping Phlox, Stonecrop and Pussywillow. But there are so many more that will attract pollinators to your garden. So, with a little planning you can have a wonderful native garden with lower maintenance and just sit back and enjoy!

◆ **Annie English**

Norwood & District Horticultural Society
invites you to join us on our

30th Anniversary Bus Tour



**Royal
Botanical
Gardens**

**Thursday, July 7, 2022
8AM - 7PM**

Summary

Depart **Norwood, and Peterborough** on Thursday, July 7th. (8:00am in Norwood, 8:30am in Peterborough at the GO Transit Lot) Travel by highway coach to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington, Ontario. While at the RBG there will be **three guided tours, a catered lunch and free time** before we return home for 7:00pm via the 407. All is included for **\$75.00** including HST.

Tickets

Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Full payment must be received to secure a booking. Participant information is to be given to NDHS member **Brenda Bunker**. Payment can be made by E-Transfer, cash, or cheque.

Tickets available for purchase until Tuesday, June 13, 2022.

Payment Methods:

Cash or cheque:

Contact Society Member **Brenda Bunker** by phone (1-613-889-6791) and then arrange delivery of payment.

E-transfer

Contact **Brenda Bunker** by phone and then send e-transfer to NDHS Treasurer, Shane Hodge at shane.hodge@gmail.com Funds will be auto-deposited. In E-transfer message write: "RBG Bus Tour payment for [your name]"

Lakefield & District Horticulture Society 2022 Garden Tour



July 9

10:00am
to
4:00pm



1st Prize

**A Celebration of
"2022 The Year of The Garden" and
the Society's 60 years of "growing strong"
with 7 hosted gardens and 3 speciality gardens,
- that are maintained by the Lakefield Horticulture Society.**

Tickets \$20 - include a ballot for prizes. The 1st prize is a framed, original painting from local artist Pam Buckler.
Ticket are available as of June 6 from

Griffins Greenhouse - 3026 Lakefield Road
Avant-Garden - 165 Sherbrooke Street, Peterborough
Dianne - 705 742 2561 Joanne - 705 652 8417



<http://www.lakefieldhort.org>



VOLUNTEER PINS:

Please consider returning your previous pin rather than have it collect dust in a drawer or saving it for your children to “inherit”. We can reuse them! We will be handing out these pins at the June 22 meeting.

If you’ve been a member for 5+ years, and do not yet have a pin, please do contact us as mistakes are sometimes made. Email ptbohortsoc@gmail.com.

5 Year Membership Pins

Congrats!

- Susan Barrett
- Diana Belehumeur
- Jen Bird
- Joan Brown
- Diane Cancilla
- Rebecca Carpenter
- Margaret Cole
- Lee Edwards
- Chris Edwards
- Laura Jack
- Cathy Lowes
- Marion Manley
- Janice Matthews
- Maggie Mormul
- Janet O’Rourke
- Deb Ralph
- Annette Stern
- Diane Wolf

15 Year Membership Pins

Impressive!

- Louise Beanish
- Cheryl Brady
- Vera Briscoe
- Helen Cliff
- Ingrid Fallaise
- Heather Grassie
- Susan Richardson
- Joanna Primavesi
- Shaun Pyper
- Linda Stedwill
- Calvin Stillman
- Nancy Stillman
- Karen Strano
- Cauleen Viscoff

10 Year Membership Pins

- Orion Bamborough
- Daniel Biro
- Bonnie Biro
- Eleanor Cavanagh
- Annie English
- Jim Falls
- Debbie Fraser
- Tammy Gibson
- Amelia Gibson
- Dough Golloher
- Lloyd Graham
- Kaila Hill
- Dawn Macklin
- Carol Mitchell
- Barb Morrision
- Donna O’Brien
- Sharleen Pratt
- Al Sippel
- Kirsten Smith
- Jill Staples
- Margo Tant
- Dianne Tedford
- Annette Thomson

Amazing!

20 Year Membership Pins

- Vivian Falls
- Karen Fisher
- Kathy Green
- Kathy Hewitt
- Etela Vojnic

30 Year Membership Pins

- Pat deVilliers
- Dawn Golloher
- Ruth Hillman
- Doreen Jones

Simply Incredible!

35 Year Membership Pins

- Claire Sullivan

On Wednesday June 8 members of the PHS Board attended the GardenOntario OHA District 4 “June Celebration” to honour 3 of our own as recipients of 25 year pins.

Congratulations to
Dawna Rhodenhizer, Julia Burch and
Elaine Goselin!



Have a great summer everyone!!

- 1.) Where does a cantaloupe go for summer vacation?John Cougar's Melon Camp.
- 2.) What's green and goes to a summer camp? A Brussels Scout!
- 3.) What do toads drink on hot summer days?Ice cold croak-a-cola!
- 4.) What is brown, hairy and wears sunglasses?A coconut on its summer holiday!
- 5.) A young couple are trying to save money on their summer vacation. They bring their bags to the discount airline desk to check in. "Do you have reservations?" asks the woman behind the counter. "More than a few," the young man answered, "but we're flying with you guys anyway."

♦ Donna-Marie Fennell



Other Info for Gardeners!

Free Seeds!- Dawna Rhodenhizer has a LOT of packets of seeds, mostly vegetables, some herbs, and some flowers. If you would like some, please e-mail her (Rhody.77@hotmail.com) or text your request (705-749-6450) and she will prepare it for you. NO Delivery - must pick up either at her house near the hospital or at the next PHS meeting. Please take only what you will plant. If you know of other people or organizations who would use them, please forward this information to them. All packets are Canadian companies, and includes organic seeds. [See this link for the list of seeds.](#)

Steve Thomson, Beekeeper Extraordinaire, is offering a free 3-hour introductory beekeeping workshop to anyone interested. Contact Steve at stephann777@gmail.com.

Bobcaygeon Garden Tour: \$15 Saturday July 9, 10am – 4pm. Includes Kawartha Settlers Village. For information, contact robert.blane@gmail.com or cap.peters@gmail.com.

Stirling & District Horticultural Society's JULY 16-17 FLOWER FESTIVAL & GARDEN TOUR

celebrating 125 years of Horticulture in Stirling! **ADVANCE TICKETS** are now on sale to members of OHA Garden Clubs and Societies. The garden tour is on Saturday, and the Flower Show is on Sunday. [See this link for more information](#). Purchase a \$30 2-Day Pass, valid for BOTH days by clicking this link: [SDHS 2-DAY PASS \(July 16 & 17\)](#) Best value!

WANTED: Hostas! The [Ennismore Garden Club](#) is in need of hostas (approx. 350)! Anyone who can split some of their hostas, please call Ian Deslauriers at 705-868-8936 for directions for dropping them off. Thank you!

