

# PETERBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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Number 8

**Wednesday October 25 @ 7pm, Lions Centre:**

**Gary Westlake, Ptbo MG, "What Plants Eat: Soil"**

Gary has a PhD in Biology from Texas A&M and is a retired biologist having worked for 30 years in environmental science. He has been a Master Gardener for about 20 years. He and his wife Dianne look after an acre of property on a hill overlooking the city. For a couple of years Gary was a director on the board of Master Gardeners of Ontario. Dianne and Gary were editors of the Master Gardeners of Ontario newsletter for several years. Both are past presidents of horticultural societies. A few years ago Dianne and Gary were awarded the Silver Medal from the OHA.



Over the years Dianne and Gary's garden has changed to suit their tastes and capabilities. Very few gardens outlive their gardeners, so it is best to enjoy the activity of gardening rather than trying to create a finished garden.

Gary is going to share with us some new science on how plants function with respect to how they get their nutrients and what you can do (or perhaps not do) to allow them to thrive.



*MJ with a giant Royal Empress leaf*

## President's Message

Greetings! As October unfolds and the vibrant colors of autumn surround us, I'd like to share some thoughts about this beautiful season in our gardens. The changing leaves paint an amazing landscape of reds, oranges, and golds, reminding us of nature's remarkable artistry.

In our gardens, this is a time of transition and preparation for the next growing season. While we bid farewell to the summer blooms, we welcome the opportunity to plant the promise of spring in the form of bulbs. October is the perfect month to get your hands in the soil and plant those tulips, daffodils, and crocuses that will burst with color and fragrance when the warmer days return. The act of planting spring bulbs is an act of hope and optimism, reminding us that even in the quiet of winter, life stirs beneath the earth, waiting for its moment to shine. Make it a great month!

◆ **MJ Pilgrim**

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facebook: [Peterborough Horticultural Society](https://www.facebook.com/PeterboroughHorticulturalSociety) twitter: [@PtboHortSoc](https://twitter.com/PtboHortSoc)

## Summary of Dan Cooper's Talk from our September Meeting

For those of you who missed Dan Cooper this month, I recommend you take a look at our video recording while you still can: Members received an email message with a link or they can view on our Member Login page). I took the time to rewatch Dan's talk and found it very helpful, and even better the second time through!

Dan talked about the **Top 10 features of a low maintenance garden**, being plants that:

- Require little or no deadheading;
- Are Heat tolerant;
- Don't need fertilizer;
- Don't need frequent dividing;
- Are Disease and insect resistant;
- Are drought tolerant;
- Don't need pruning;
- Naturalize without becoming invasive. (an example is Daffodils);
- Are non-invasive (do not spread aggressively);
- Are long blooming or have nice textured/coloured leaves.

Dan shared a wide variety of plants that meet the criteria above, but there were just way too many to share in this article.... If I've grabbed your interest you'll just have to watch the video or buy his book! He also shared the following tips to Happy Gardening:

- Have a plan – don't buy on impulse
- Don't be a perfectionist
- A few weeds are ok – if you step back 15 paces and can't see it, leave it
- Water deeply weekly once a week, never at night
- Plant selection is key! Do your research and pick the right plant for the right conditions
- Start with good soil & a good layer of mulch (2-3 inches)

♦ **Mary-Rose Daigle**



### Special Raffle Opportunity

This fall, we have a special raffle opportunity for you all. Maura Holek, our PHS Secretary and accomplished artist, has painted the PHS Geranium as a fundraiser. It has been professionally mounted and is frame ready.

We will be selling raffle tickets \$5 each for the months of September, October and November, and the draw will take place in November!

### 2024 Membership Renewal at our October and November General Meetings

- Etransfer \$20 single/\$25 family to [ptbohortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ptbohortsoc@gmail.com)
- Debit payment at membership desk using Square
- Cheque made out to PHS
- Cash in envelope with your name on it, unsealed



## An Ode to Fall

Friends and family know that my favorite season is Fall. When I came upon this poem, it totally sums up how I feel about this season. It was untitled and I'm not sure if this is the entire poem, but it spoke to me. The author's name was included.

Oh that I could bottle Fall  
And make the magic last  
Too rapidly the colours fade  
The leaves depart too fast

But then the winter snow will come  
And afterward, the green  
And so I'll treasure every step  
And each breath in- between

~ Laura Jaworski

### ◆ Annie English



CLICK ON THE Trillium cover above to read it...

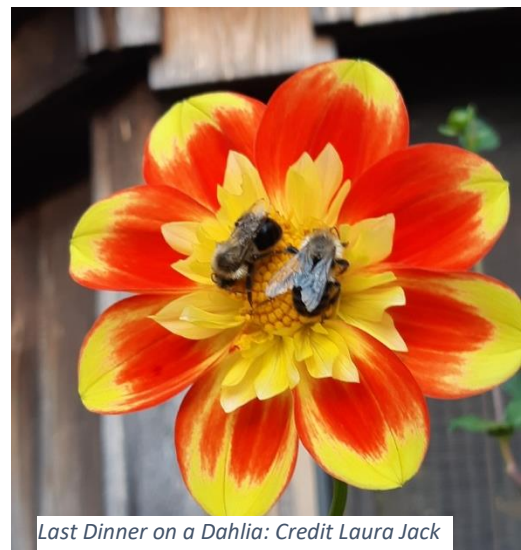


## We're Looking for a Few New Board Members

At our AGM in November, we're going to be thanking two of our long-standing board members who are coming to the end of their 2 year terms as directors of the PHS. We'd be thrilled if some others would be interested in joining us. In particular, we're looking for someone with an interest in newsletters and communications in general. Computer skills are a definite asset! We're a fun bunch. If you're looking for more info, just let us know: [ptbohortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ptbohortsoc@gmail.com).



Hungry Pumpkin: Credit Laura Jack



Last Dinner on a Dahlia: Credit Laura Jack





*Great Fall Colour: Credit Laura Jack*



*A Stunning Fall "Pink Sky" Morning: Credit Maura Holek*

**[ Do you have a story or picture to share? We LOVE getting newsletter input from members.**

**Email them to [ptbohortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ptbohortsoc@gmail.com) ]**

## **Advanced Notice of a Motion to Increase the PHS Membership rate by \$5 to \$25 individual/\$30 family at the November 2023 AGM effective for 2025 Memberships (one year from now)**

### **Rationale:**

- Our meeting room costs have increased.
- We'd like to bring in more professional speakers like Sean James and Dan Cooper.
- We'd like to increase our high school scholarships from one school at \$100 per scholarship (current) to 6 interested local high schools at \$250 per scholarship (proposed).
- The rate hasn't increased since 2015.

# Flower Show Results from September 27, 2023

	Best in Show – Anita Clifford				
	Judges Choice – Anita Clifford				
	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>	<b>HM</b>
1	Bring Your Best Bloom (1 <sup>st</sup> time exhibitor)	MR & Steve Daigle			
2	Bring Your Best Bloom	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper		
3	Marigold - 3stems	Anita Clifford			
4	Marigold - 1 spray	Anita Clifford			
5	Collection of Herbs – 3 diff. Cultivars	Calvin Stillman			
6	Dahlia – 1 stem 4" & under	Chris Freeburn	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper	
7	<b><i>Dahlia – 1 stem 6" &amp; over</i></b>	<b><i>Anita Clifford – BIS</i></b>	Doreen Jones		
8	Dahlia – 1 stem 6" & under	Anita Clifford	Marilyn Homewood	Shaun Pyper	
9	Zinnia – 3 stems – same or diff. Cultivar	Anita Clifford			
10	Hydrangea – 1 stem	Chris Freeburn	Calvin Stillman	Anita Clifford	
11	Orn. Grass Collection – 36" max.	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper		
12	Orn. Grass – 3 diff. cultivars	Chris Freeburn	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper	
13	Rose -1 spray	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper		
14	Rose – 1 bloom	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper	Calvin Stillman	
15	Anemone	no entries	no entries	no entries	
16	Any other annual – 1 bloom – named	Anita Clifford	Marilyn Homewood	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper
17	Any other bi-ann, perennl, - 1 stem, named	Chris Freeburn	Calvin Stillman	Shaun Pyper	Anita Clifford
18	Sedum – 1 stem	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper	Calvin Stillman	
19	Stem with seeds or berries – 1 stem	Shaun Pyper	Calvin Stillman		
20	Ass. cut flowers – 5 stems any cultivars	Anita Clifford	Marilyn Homewood	Calvin Stillman	Shaun Pyper
21	1 bloom floating – small	Anita Clifford	Calvin Stillman	Shaun Pyper	
22	1 bloom floating – large	Anita Clifford			Marilyn Homewood
	<b>Design</b>				
23	Design in container with Fall Colours	Anita Clifford	Marilyn Homewood	Diane Cancilla	Shaun Pyper
					Chris Freeburn
25	<b><i>Season of Gold – Vertical Design</i></b>	<b><i>Anita Clifford – JC</i></b>	Chris Freeburn		
26	Halloween – seasonal container	Shaun Pyper	Marilyn Homewood	Anita Clifford	





*Best in Show: Anita Clifford*



*Judge's Choice: Anita Clifford*

## September Flower Show

Another lovely flower show! Thanks to all who participated. We were so happy to see more entries in the design categories. There were many beautiful flowers entered. I hope everyone enjoyed viewing them. If you've never entered before I hope you were encouraged by our show and will enter next spring. With each show in our new room we learn how to better organize the space to make for ease of flow for our entrants and visitors.

**At our October meeting we'd like you to share whatever is still blooming in your garden.** I've had roses blooming in the snow in years past. Maybe you have some long-lasting blooms too. Bring them in for all of us to enjoy. Small papers will be available for your names. Also, October is typically our photo sharing month. **Please bring in any photos of plants, animals or insects that have visited your garden.**

Photos should be 4x6". Please put your name on the back of your photos so that they may be returned to you. All photos will be displayed on poster boards for our members to enjoy.

Thanks, **Anita and Shaun**

Congratulations to  
**Anita Clifford**  
for winning both the  
**Best in Show** and the  
**Judge's Choice** for the  
September Flower Show.  
**Wow!**

## Upcoming Events

### OHA District Fall Celebration – Saturday October 21:

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - hosted by the Ennismore Horticultural Society. Contact MJ ASAP if you wish to attend; free to first 6 requestors before October 15: [ptbohortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ptbohortsoc@gmail.com)



Free, but  
registration  
is required

## AGM

Annual General Meeting



Please join us for our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday November 22 at 7pm at the Peterborough Lions Centre.

## Blue Frog Water Gardens

Plants  
Equipment  
Maintenance/ Repairs  
Aeration Systems  
Water Features  
Fountains

[bluefrogwatergardens@gmail.com](mailto:bluefrogwatergardens@gmail.com) tel: 905-373-5103 [bluefrogwatergardens.ca](http://bluefrogwatergardens.ca)