

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Volume 163 **June 2024** Number 6

Wednesday June 26th, 2024 @ 7pm, at the Lions' Centre Ryan Vieira for "Our Little Worm Farm" on Vermicomposting (Zoom link available for those who can't attend in person)

Join us in welcoming Ryan Vieira from Our Little Worm Farm to our stage on June 26th. Ryan will be speaking to us about vermicomposting, what it is, how to do it, and the benefits it produces.

Our Little Worm Farm is a small family-run worm farm located in Trent Lakes, just outside of Bobcaygeon. They raise red wiggler composting worms and design, test and manufacture their own worm bins and bokashi composting bin systems, all of which are available for purchase on their website.



Ryan became interested in composting and natural fertilizers when he started his red wiggler farm in 2019. Ryan has spoken about the benefits of vermicomposting at the Fenelon Falls Horticultural Society, the Oakville Horticultural Society and the Thorold Horticulture Society.

Ryan will have red wigglers available for sale following his presentation for \$10 per cup.

President's Message

June 26th will be our last General Meeting of the Peterborough Horticultural Society before we break for the summer and get a chance to focus on our own gardens and summer activities.

We do not meet in July or August; it is a well-deserved couple of months for your board of directors after meeting monthly, working on newsletters, scholarships, a flower show, a plant sale, a bus trip and so much more.

Our Board is a dynamic group of individuals that I have had the privilege of working with these past six months. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for their hard work and dedication in making the Peterborough Horticultural a fun, informative, community-oriented group.

Ryan Vieira will be speaking to us this month about composting techniques. If you are unable to make it to the June meeting, on behalf of the Board I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer



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

and look forward to seeing you again when we resume at the September 25th meeting where MJ Pilgrim will be speaking on "The Dirt on Soap and Home Remedies".

Feel free to send us photos of your garden so we can share the results of your hard work and passion for all things garden related.

Let's enjoy designing, planting, transplanting and even weeding in our gardens this season.

❖ **Anne Trudel-Inglis**
PHS President

Peterborough Horticultural Society Flower Show – May 22

We had another beautiful flower show in May with even more participants!

We had 48 entries. Many of these were from people who hadn't participated in some time or were participating for the first time. This is wonderful. We are excited that there is more interest with every new show!

If you are someone who hasn't yet entered a show, please consider entering our September 25th show.

In June, as we did last year, we'd like you to bring in a bloom(s) (up to 3 per person) from your garden. Just put your name on a slip of paper and put it under your vase(s). This display will be in our meeting room where tables will be set up.

This was quite popular last year. It will not be judged as it is simply for our viewing enjoyment. Hope you will take part.



❖ for the **Flower Show Committee, Shaun Pyper**

Section	Description	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	HM
Class A Section A- Specimen					
1	1 st time exb.	Fred Doris	n/a	n/a	n/a
2	Ferns. 3 stems	Chris Freeburn	Shaun Pyper	n/a	n/a
3	Heuchera. 3Lvs, 2-3 cltvs	Laura Jack	Chris Freeburn	Shaun Pyper	n/a
4	Pansies. 3 blms	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
5	Iris. 1 spike	Annie English	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper	
6	Tulip.single.1 bloom	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
7	Tulip.double.1 stem	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
8	Bulb clctn.3 stems.2-3 cltvs	Anita Clifford	Fred Doris	n/a	n/a
9	Spring Flower Collection	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
10	Hosta. 3 smll lvs.same cltvr	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
11	Hosta. 3 med lvs.same cltvr	Anita Clifford	Laura Jack	Shaun Pyper	Chris Freeburn
12	Hosta. 3 large lvs.same cltvr	Anita Clifford	Chris Freeburn	n/a	n/a
13	Allium. 1 stem	Shaun Pyper	Chris Freeburn	Anita Clifford	n/a
14	Columbine. 1 stem	Annie English	Shaun Pyper	Anita Clifford	n/a
15	Bleeding Heart. 1 stem	Chris Freeburn	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a
16	Solomon's Seal. 1 stem	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
17	Spring branch. Max 30"	Anita Clifford	Chris Freeburn	Laura Jack	Shaun Pyper
18	Sping blb.crm.rhz. 1 bloom	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
19	Any other Perennial,named	Anita Clifford	Shaun Pyper	Anita Clifford	Anita Clifford
Section B – Design					
20	1st time exb."Whispers of Spring"	Marjorie Vendrig	Fred Doris	n/a	n/a
21	"Whispers of Spring"	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a	n/a
22	"Emmergence" Vertical Design	Anita Clifford	Chris Freeburn	Marilyn Homewood	n/a
23	"Petite Petals"	Marilyn Homewood	Anita Clifford	n/a	n/a

PETERBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Spring Plant Sale

RAIN OR
SHINE

The profit for our Plant Sale this year in May was \$1183.85, with 257 plants donated.

Thank you for all the donations of lovely plants and thanks to all the volunteers. None of this could happen without all your help.

It is always a fun event and this year the Master Gardeners joined us, selling their vegetable seedlings. We also had a raffle with three prizes.

Our annual sale next year will be held on Saturday, May 10th. We feel that Friday nights have not been as successful as we had hoped.

More information about the sale will be available in April of 2025.

♦ Anita Clifford

Did you attend the Plant Sale? If not, please email ptbohortsoc@gmail.com to say why (too many other sales, Friday night doesn't work, sale is too early/late in the year, etc.)

Interesting Life Span of Mourning Cloak Butterflies

Mourning cloak butterflies have one of the longest life spans for a native butterfly in North America and Eurasia- up to 10-12 months! They overwinter by hibernating under loose bark and other tree cracks and cavities. Their body temperature drops to the temperature around them and enters a state of Torpor. They can withstand temperatures as cold as minus 10 degrees or less Fahrenheit when tucked into a sheltered crevice. They will be one of the first butterflies to emerge from the trees in the forest once we have a sunny Spring Day.



As soon as they wake-up they start to mate and lay eggs, staying together in large groups to appear larger to deter predators. As soon as the larvae(-caterpillars) hatch they will begin to feed on the hosts leaves as well as any unhatched eggs and pupate to become a butterfly. Since they emerge so early there are not many flowers and nectar to feed on, so they get nutrients from mud, dung, tree sap, and rotting fruit left on the trees over the winter.

Their dark burgundy colour, blue dots and yellow edging on the top of their wings is quite distinct but when they close their wings and land against the bark of the tree they are well camouflaged with dark brown/black and gray markings. They fly in groups so you can

often spot them on a sunny day in early Spring flying around sunny patches of mud on the trails through the woods. If they are on a branch and you knock against them, they will sometimes 'play dead', and fold their wings and fall to the ground and just lie there for several minutes! If they fall into a pile of leaves it is hard to see them.

The females can have 2 to 3 broods in the early spring and summer. By mid to late summer these new butterflies will go into a light dormant state until fall and then wake to eat as much as they can to prepare for the winter hibernation. They will be the ones to emerge next year, on a warm, sunny Spring Day to start the cycle again!

Sources: mileshearn.com, You tube-Dave the Butterfly Guy, The Butterfly Farmer, Butterflies of Ontario

❖ **Laura Jack**



Discounts for PHS Members: You must show your 2024 membership card to qualify, and request the discount BEFORE your order is placed.



15%

On LIVE ITEMS excluding annuals



10%

Does not include delivery fees



10%

On everything



10%

On perennials



10%

On perennials under \$11



Member Discounts

When you are looking for plants, garden supplies or information, consider one of the local businesses that support the Peterborough Horticultural Society.

PHS Bus Trip – June 11, 2024

What a great day it was!

Synopsis of our day:

- 4 stops.
- LOTS of plants.
- 44 lunches.
- One cast iron statue of LMM.
- Thousands of peonies!
- No rain.



Funds raised for scholarships: Priceless.

“Thanks so much to you MJ for all of your time and effort put towards this fabulous day.” Janet H.

Upcoming Events and Activities.....

Peterborough Master Gardeners Bus Trip – July 9 & 10

Bus trip to the Brockville area. Some of the highlights of the trip will be Natural Themes, Adair Gardens Flower Farm, Maitland Garden of Hope, Van Berlo Gardens and Connon Nurseries. We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Express in Brockville. The cost of the trip is **\$335.00 per person for a double room and \$435.00 per person for a single room**. It includes the bus, hotel, all meals except one lunch and any entrance fees to the gardens. Super fun, well-organized trip! Email gardenwithshar@gmail.com if you're interested.



Free Gardening Webinars

Blooming Boulevards (Mississauga, ON)

All webinars are held on Saturdays at 10:00am – 11:00am

Click the link below to register, space is still available!

<https://www.bloomingboulevards.org/book-online>

August 24th - Understanding Your Soil

September 7th – Four-Season Beauty & Biodiversity

September 14th – It's Easy! Seed Saving 101

September 21st – Growing Native Plants From Seed



Enjoy the Summer Everyone!

