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# Peterborough Horticultural Society Newsletter

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Editor Dianne Westlake  
Email: [editor@peterboroughgardens.ca](mailto:editor@peterboroughgardens.ca)



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P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7H6

[www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)

## LET IT SNOW!

What amazing weather we have had this year! So much snow followed by huge melts and depending upon which groundhog you believe, we may (or may not) have another six weeks of winter ahead of us. We hope for an early spring but at the same time are resigned to the fact that we will probably have nasty weather through March. That way, we will not be disappointed! To pass the time, pour a hot drink, enjoy a gardening magazine, plant a few seeds indoors and dream of better weather.



As the snow melts watch for snowdrops peaking up through the snow.

## Amazing Yearbook

Chris Freeburn has done a wonderful job of putting together the 2008 yearbook. Filled with information, it is a great resource for all of us. The yearbook and membership cards have been distributed to all members who have renewed their memberships for 2008.

## February Meeting

On Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, **Cathy Dueck**, from Peterborough Green-Up, will make a short presentation about the Urban Forestry Project followed by our speakers **Craig and Linda McLeod** who will focus on **Native Plants**. Join us downstairs at the Peterborough Public Library at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments, check out our library, renew your membership and buy your 50/50 tickets. The meeting will begin at 7:30. Bring along a friend.

## January Meeting

Helen Battin, our January speaker, gave us tips and encouraged us all to choose the appropriate plants for the right spot in our gardens. Hopefully we will all find those perfect plants for the dry conditions we have experienced in the past few years.

**50/50 Draw** Niki Dufresne was the lucky winner of \$66.50. Thanks to Beryl Harris, who donated a Valentine mug filled with chocolate. The other prizes were seed-growing kits, which included a variety of flower seeds, covered trays and peat pellets. Ken Gadd won the gift certificate from Ve-seys Seeds. Congratulations to all!

If anyone has ideas for a source of prizes or theme please let Dawna know, either at the meeting or at 749-6450.

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## FOR THE LOVE OF GARDENING

### We need you!

Please remember to sign up to volunteer at the garden show in April. There are many ways you can help and everyone has a great time. We will have a table set up at the February and March meetings so come over and sign up. If you're unable to attend those meetings and are available to help at the show, please call either Etela Vojnic at 749-0730 or Anne Milne at 741-3995.

Remember that the show cannot function without YOUR help.

### Library

Thanks to the following for donations to the Library: Joe & Hazel Cook for "Handbook of the Peony" by the American Peony Society; Norma Evans for "Love, Sweat and Soil", a history of Royal Botanical Gardens from 1930 to 1981; and Pat Lounsbury for "Complete Landscaping".

### Committees

On page 7 of your yearbook, you will find the listing of Committees for the year. If you are able to assist in any of these areas, contact the chair. Don't be shy! Joining a committee will provide a great deal of satisfaction and enjoyment as well as making a significant contribution to the group.

### Membership

If you have not yet renewed your membership, your fee for 2008 is now due. Your prompt renewal will ensure that you receive your March newsletter. You must be a Horticultural Society member in order to volunteer at the garden show. The cost is \$15.00 (individual) or \$20.00 (family). For your convenience, a membership form is included at the end of this newsletter. Please make your cheque payable to the Peterborough Horticultural Society.

### Workshops

We are planning a number of great workshops for our members to enjoy over the next few months. Members will be invited into other member's gardens to learn photography tips, rose and clematis care. We will get lessons on flower arranging and make some garden art. If you haven't participated in a workshop, remember this is a great way to meet other members and learn something new in a small group. Workshops are partially funded through our successful Peterborough Garden Show – For The Love of Gardening.

Our first workshop is **FLOWER ARRANGING 101**, scheduled for Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Peterborough Public Library, general meeting room. Rachel Burrows will help 10-15 interested members create a lovely fresh flower arrangement using 1 of 3 different themes:

1. Spring cleaning – a design to include a household item
2. Spring fever – a design of spring flowers
3. Hint of spring – a miniature design not to exceed 6" in any dimension – fresh flowers

The Sign up sheet will be available at the February general meeting. Come join us for a fun night where you will learn how to arrange to meet judging standards and make a beautiful spring arrangement. Participants need to bring their own container, snips, fresh flowers and any articles they want to put into their arrangement.

Chris Freeburn 292-8485

### Newsletter Delivery

Hopefully everyone who made a request to have the newsletter sent electronically has received it without a glitch. To arrange for electronic delivery or to make future changes in your email address please contact [editor@peterboroughgardens.ca](mailto:editor@peterboroughgardens.ca).

**Welcome to new members:**

Sharon Carothers and Anne and Gary Corke

**Events February 2008****Get the Jump on Spring**

Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – at the Toronto Botanical Gardens (777 Lawrence Avenue East at Leslie Street.) – This annual horticultural open house showcases horticultural societies, garden clubs, environmental organizations, nurseries and garden stores from across Ontario. Gain information on environmentally friendly products, organic foods, health services, plant and floral supplies and great gifts for garden lovers. Speakers and presentations round out the day and it is free!

**Omeme**

Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Paul and Beverly Williams, Williams' Design Studio, Bethany – "Creating Enjoyable Water Features & Fun Garden Accessories"

**Norwood**

Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Legion on Alma Street – Betty and John Bennett – A View of Tunisia

**Urban Forestry Project**

On **Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** Peterborough Green-Up presents:

Bruce McGauley, retired urban forester from the City of London will speak about 'Treasured Trees Growing a Green Heritable' a regional look at species conservation issues and heritage tree programmes. Followed by a panel discussion.

At the Peterborough Public Library 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information contact (705)745-3238 [urbanforest@cogeco.net](mailto:urbanforest@cogeco.net)

**OHA District 4**

Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – District 4 Let's Get Acquainted at St. Paul's Catholic Church Hall, Reid Street, Lakefield from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Our speaker that day will be Jan Bonhomme – 'Staging Successful Small Town Events' The coffee pot will be on – Lug-a-Mug. All Welcome.

**Seedy Sunday**

Kawartha Organic Growers are holding their annual Seed Exchange on **Sunday, March 9** from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Sadleir House 751 George Street. Seeds will be available to trade or buy. For more information contact Jillian Bishop at [urbantomato@gmail.com](mailto:urbantomato@gmail.com) or phone 705 742-9652.

**Lakefield**

Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Dawn Tack of Gardens Plus – 'Low Maintenance Perennials and Water Conservation Techniques' There will also be a seed exchange and sale at this March meeting and a Photography Competition "Stages or Seasons" – grouping of photos, 4" X 6" in size, that show a progression or growth of your subject.

**Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** a bus tour to **Canada Blooms** sponsored by Lakefield Horticultural Society – \$47.00 per person, which includes bus fare, show magazine and admission. Contact Dot Smith at 652-0684 for more information or to reserve your seat.

**Tips and Techniques:**

When taking slips from geraniums, cut the stem on the diagonal, remove the leaves from the lower two or three nodes and any flowers. Allow the cuttings to dry for 24 hours. Gently insert into moist soilless mix. A cover of clear plastic may be used but is not necessary. Keep the pot moist but not soggy.



***This Month in the Garden – February***

***Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners***

- ✓ Take stem cuttings of geraniums and fuchsias.
- ✓ Plant impatiens, peppers and eggplants indoors.
- ✓ Prune fruit and shade trees except maple and birch.
- ✓ Check out the dates of garden shows.
- ✓ As we enter the time of the year when temperatures repeatedly fluctuate, keep an eye on your plants. Some, like heuchera, will heave themselves out of the ground. *Gently* step on them to press them back into contact with the soil.

**Peterborough Horticultural Society**

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Please list the names of members who are included in the Family Membership.

**Please print neatly:**

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