

# Peterborough Horticultural Society

## Newsletter

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### JUNE MEETING

Our last meeting before the summer break, is somewhat different from our usual format. On Wednesday, June 25 at 7:00 p.m., we will meet at Fleming Park, at the corner of Aylmer and Hunter Street. This is an opportunity to admire the handiwork of our volunteers and to see they progress of the gardens. Then at 7:30, we are off to the Public Library where we will have some special surprises in store. Visit with some old friends and make some new ones. You will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for our famous 50/50 Draw. Our library will be open so come and borrow a book for the summer. All of this is just a small thank you to our many volunteers. We have seen your handiwork at the garden show, Fleming Park, the spring and fall plant sales as well as your efforts on a variety of committees. Without our volunteers, the Society could not function.

### The 50/50 Draw

The \$111.00 prize, an all-time high, was won by Inge Buchardt. Other prizes were purchased at Griffin's Greenhouses who also generously donated additional items. Johnson's Greenhouses provided a whole flat of Heucheras and our members supplied other items. Joe and Hazel Cook also contributed two gorgeous plants and two bouquets of peonies. Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed and participated. We always have a lot of fun and remember that other half of the monthly prize money is used to purchase the prizes for the following month.

### May Meeting – Joe and Hazel Cook

Joe and Hazel Cook provided a great presentation at our May meeting with beautiful pictures of their amazing peony collection, lots of advice and humour. With such a range of colour, form and blooming time, many of us are considering ways of adding to our personal peony collections.



### Scholarship Report

The deadline for scholarship applications is September 30. Information can be found at [www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca) Just click on the Peterborough Horticultural Society web page under activities. If you know of a Canadian student studying Forestry at Sir Sandford, or Environmental Studies at Trent for example they would be eligible to apply. Any Peterborough city or county student studying a horticulture related programme at any Canadian college or university is also eligible to apply. The Scholarship committee sends out packages to all colleges and universities offering horticulture-related courses in Ontario, as well as all high schools in the city and county. However, frequently students who apply do so because of "word of mouth". So if you know of someone who might be eligible, let them know where they can get information or they can call anyone on the scholarship committee. Gladys Fowler, Claire Sullivan, Julie Burch, Jean McDougall, Pat De Villiers



## Fleming Park

Peterborough Horticultural Society took on Fleming Park as a civic project in 1993. At that time it was planted with heritage type plants which proved to be high maintenance. Over the years, the garden changed somewhat but during the flood of 2004 much of the plant material was damaged and in some cases washed away. This disaster proved to be the catalyst for change and an opportunity to redesign and the rethink the plantings. With the assistance of Kathy Pimmet, the new garden emerged. Now we have more shrubs although it still requires maintenance, this is much less than before. PHS continues to provide funding for the park as well as the volunteers who plant and maintain the gardens. This park is important to the residents of the area who do not have a great deal of green space. The PHS volunteers at the park hear comments about how much the residents of the area appreciate the park. We even have some elves who remove trash and keep the park clean. Kathy Hewitt and Inge Buchardt are at the park on Wednesday mornings from 10 to noon. If you have a few hours to spare come out and lend a hand. What a great way to learn and have a pleasant time in the park.

## Mystery Tour

On Sunday, June 8, approximately 35 hearty enthusiasts braved the heat and humidity to visit David Hinton's Rhododendron Woods on Taunton Road. This five-acre garden is filled with rhododendrons and magnolias most of which he has grown from seed. Our next stop was Strickland's Perennial Farm for some retail therapy prior to lunch. After lunch it was on to Oshawa Botanical Gardens to take a look at the peonies as well as the rock garden and gardens filled with annuals. Our last stop was Goldenbrook Hostas in Blackstock where we visited their beautiful display garden filled with mature specimens of many of the hostas that were available for sale. Great day, great company and a more plants to add to our gardens!

For more pictures from the Mystery Tour, visit

<http://picasaweb.google.ca/gary.westlake/MysteryTour>

*Right: Goldenbrook Hostas in Blackstock*

Welcome new members

Brenda Brandle, Christine Christianson, Di-  
anne Dalton, Karen Hannisse & family, Larry  
& June Moody and Loreen Simpson

## Spring Plant Sale

Our Spring Plant Sale was another great success. We made a total of \$1063.25, which was more than last spring. The plant material was most impressive. The 'New to You' table was a big success and we will do that again next year.

Thanks to everyone who carted and set up the tables, started plants, or divided and potted up plants, priced both on Friday night and Saturday, publicized the sale, worked on the tables selling magazines or garden decor items, gave advice on plants and took in the cash. Many hands make light work and there was lots of laughter.

## Fall Plant Sale

Our Fall Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, September 13 at St. Alban's Anglican Church at 9:30 a.m. Once again the church will be open for people to drop off plants from 6:00-7:00 the night before. We did very well last fall because the plants are much bigger and there is not as much competition from other plant sales. If you started perennials in the spring and felt they were too small for the spring plant sale put them in the ground for the summer and donate them to the fall sale. Fall is a great time for dividing your perennials, which have begun to take up too much room in the garden. Remember also that people are looking for houseplants in the fall sale.





## Library

Thanks to Marilyn Simpson, Mary Jane Parker and Joyce & Mike Higgs for recent donations to the Library.

## Old Looking Pots or Statuary.

One container of organic yogurt and one handful moss. Just put it in the blender and voila! Paint it on and place in a shady spot. Keep it moist by misting regularly. Vicki Taylor Scott's

## Workshops

We had a great day for our Photography in Your Garden workshop. The sky was cloudy (and a bit cool for June 1<sup>st</sup>), and Gary & Dianne's garden was in spring bloom for our picture taking. Jamie Cole won a \$10 gift certificate for Black's Photography. Thanks to Gary for some wonderful tips to make our shots better and for helping us discover our cameras!

Our next workshop is 'Roses in Your Garden' on Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at Inge Buchardt's home in Millbrook. For those of you who have signed up, I will be contacting you early that week with directions. Please try to carpool.

The clematis workshop still has a few spots open, so if you are interested, call Chris Freeburn at 292-8485.

## Tips and Techniques

Layering is one way to form new plants with no special tools or complicated procedures. It method works on plants with flexible stems. Work the soil around the plant so that it is loose and crumbly. Add compost if necessary. Choose a young, low branch and carefully bend it until it makes contact with the soil. Make a small trench in the soil five or six inches from the tip of the stem. Damage the stem by scraping the bark and place it in the trench. Hold it in place with a forked peg or a brick or stone. Bend the stem so it faces up with a few inches of the tip showing. Do not sever the new plant from the parent until roots have formed. Climbing Hydrangea, the Fairy Rose and a Golden Mock Orange can be propagated. Other possibilities worth trying are evergreen azaleas, ivy, clematis, wisteria, magnolia and lilac. However, you might try this on any plant that has low growing branches. It does not hurt the plant, and you might end up with some new additions that can be planted in your garden or shared with a friend.



*Cloudy skies provided great conditions for taking pictures at our workshop and we learned how to use the timers on our cameras.*



## Omemees

Monday, June 16 – Anna Mizyn has invited us to visit *Anna's Perennial's* for a tour of her display beds, accompanied by loads of information about plants for every type of garden. Contact Carol Mitchell at 799-6282 for more information

## Lakefield

Tuesday, June 17 – 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Annual Rose and Flower Show at the Lakefield Marshland Centre. Free Admission

## Peterborough Art Gallery Garden Tour

Sunday, June 22 – Admission \$10.00 per person in advance, \$12.00 on the day of the tour. Tickets are available at the Art Gallery of Peterborough, Avant Garden Shop, Burley's Nursery & Display Garden and Happen-Stance, Lakefield.

## Big Sisters Big Brothers Garden Tour

Sunday June 22, 2008 Tickets are \$20 and are available by calling 905-885-8435 or 1-888-278-2484. Tickets are going fast!

## This Month in the Garden – Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

### June

- Plant annuals and tender perennials.
- Deadhead flowers after blooming.
- Pinch back mums, tall sedums, asters, mums and other late bloomers.
- Prune evergreens and hedges if necessary.
- Mulch using grass clippings or compost to conserve moisture and control weeds.
- Thin out crowded vegetables and annuals.
- Stake/cage dahlias, tomatoes, gladiolas, etc.
- Prepare cuttings of shrubs for propagation.
- Prune shrubs and trees after flowering.
- Weed and water as necessary.
- Move houseplants outdoors to a protected location.
- Inspect your garden regularly and deal with any diseases or insect infestations early.

### July

- Finish pruning spring-flowering shrubs and evergreens.
- Stake plants that tend to fall over (Delphiniums, Euphorbia, etc.) and pinch back as necessary.
- Fertilize vegetable, annuals and roses.
- Raise cutting height of mower blade.
- Pinch back annuals to make them bushier.
- Cut out old raspberry canes after fruiting.
- Mow, weed and water as necessary.
- Transplant ornamental cabbage and kale.
- Turn compost.
- Deadhead and trim perennials as necessary

### August

- Plant fall vegetables (spinach, lettuce, etc.)
- Keep compost moist.
- Trim and divide irises. Treat for iris borer.
- Prune climbing roses.
- Water wisely and weed as necessary.

**Have your gardening questions answered – The Master Gardener hotline is now open. Call 741-4905 or visit their website at [www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)**