

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Newsletter

April, 2009

Volume 148

Number 4

Editor Dianne Westlake

Email: editor@peterboroughgardens.ca



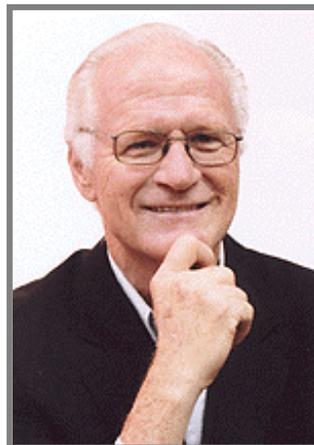
P.O. Box 1372 Peterborough, Ontario K9J 7H6

www.peterboroughgardens.ca

APRIL MEETING

Join us when Ann and Bob Granatier introduce us to the world of irises. Ann has spent many years in the horticultural field as a garden designer, teacher and consultant. Now that she is 'retired', she and her husband Bob run Trail's End Iris Gardens, specializing in bearded irises. The gardens feature perennial beds to showcase their irises mixed in with plantings of peonies, ornamental grasses, shrubs, trees and various rockery plants. There are approximately 6000 Iris plants comprised of over 400 varieties, most of them blooming in the gardens or in the production beds. Tonight they'll tell us how to extend the season of blooming irises. They will also be bringing plants for sale! Visit their website at www.trailsendiris.com

March Meeting



Frank Kershaw took us on a whirlwind tour of small trees and shrubs that are suitable for urban gardens. It was nice to see photos of beautiful plants, many of which, we can enjoy in our own yards. Frank left a list with some of his recommendations. It has been

posted on our website on the Events page and will be available in our library.

Peterborough Garden Show

www.peterboroughgardens.ca

Thursday, April 9, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday, April 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Road

Admission is \$5.00 per day (Children 14 & under free when accompanied by an adult)

The Evinrude Centre is the place to be on Easter weekend. Join us at the Peterborough Garden Show for lots of vendors and displays. On Thursday evening at 7:30, Janet Crosby will present 'Keeping the Interest in Gardening and Keeping Gardening Interesting' and there are more great speakers throughout Friday and Saturday.

Don't forget to visit the judged flower competition with its enlarged schedule. If you would like to enter this competition, pre-registration is required **by Tuesday, April 7**. Information, categories and entry forms are available on line or contact Donna Hunter at 705-799-6656.

Remember to tell your friends and colleagues about the show and bring your weekend guests to enjoy all of the fun.

We need help! Our volunteers at the Garden Show keep people happy and ensure that everything runs smoothly. At this time we still need a few more. Please show your support and help out for a couple of hours. To volunteer, call or e-mail Anne Milne – 741-3995 or rmilne3@cogeco.ca or Etela Vojnic – 749-0730 or etvojnica@peterboro.net





Welcome new members

Sally Bedwell, Sara Brownell, Debbie Fraser, Lois Gray, Lucy Martin, Shelley Preston, Geesje Ranger, Ann Stanford and Monica White

50/50 Draw

In Dawna's absence, Marie did an admirable job with the 50/50 Draw. Vivien Falls was the winner of \$90.50 and there was a table full of prizes. In fact, we had so many items that we've saved a couple for our April draw. Thank you to Beryl Harris for donating some great polka dot garden hats, just in time to protect us while working in the garden. Yes that time will come! Last month we did not acknowledge a donation of two houseplant self-watering glass balls from Griffin's Greenhouses. Our apologies for the oversight and many thanks to Vicki and the Griffin family for their continued support.

Workshops

Because of the For the Love of Gardening Show and our Fleming Park Cleanup, we will not be holding workshops in April, but will have two workshops in May.

On **Sunday, May 3rd**, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., come to the Ecology Park where Cathy Dueck will teach us about our soil. 'Learning About Your Soil' will give us some insight about its components and structure. Bring a sample of your own garden soil in a small clean jar and we will have the opportunity to test it.

On **Tuesday, May 26th**, Rachel Burrows will lead us in a 'Flower Arranging' workshop which will be held in the library from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This workshop is being held the day before our general meeting in May, so check out the flower show categories in your yearbook and decide which of the four different categories in the Design section you wish to work on this evening. We will provide the floral oasis and some greens. You must decide on your container and bring your flowers and any other decorations that fit the category.

To sign up for these workshops, please contact me at 292-8485 or at bcfree@nexicom.net in order to ensure that we have enough supplies for these workshops. Chris Freeburn.

Spring Plant Sale May 9th

The annual Spring Plant Sale will be held at St Alban's Church (corner of Monaghan Rd and Cameron St - just south of Kenner Collegiate) on Saturday, May 9 - 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Come early for the best selection.

As you do your spring clean up in your garden, take a look at what needs to be divided. Pot up your donations at least a few days before the sale so they will not look wilted. Mark the plants with name, shade/ sun, colour and approximate height. Providing as much information as possible will help to ensure that the plant will thrive. Please mark aggressive plants.

Once again this year we will have "new to you" garden decor items. If you have decorative pots, birdhouses, plaques, trellises etc. that are in good condition and no longer fit in your garden, please bring them along. We would also welcome extra seedlings and garden magazines.

The church will be open from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8th for you to drop off your donations. Or bring them by 8:30 a.m. on the day of the sale.

A big thank you for all those who have already signed up as volunteers to help at the sale! I will be in touch with you by phone before the end of April. Thanks also to those who brought in containers, trays and magazines to the March meeting. If you have extra plastic pots or trays, please bring them to the April meeting. We need lots of plants for the plant sale so even if you cannot come and help out on the day, please bring us your donations.

Mark the plant sale on your calendar, plan to come for some great buys on a large selection of plants and tell your friends. Pat de Villiers

Bus Trips

Thanks to Sally Rye who organized a super trip to Canada Blooms. We all had a great time while enjoying a first taste of spring. Well done Sally! Stay tuned for the next adventure.

Don't forget to bring your mug to our April meeting. This is your chance to help the environment **and** you get a chance at a prize. All donations to the coffee fund to help defray costs are appreciated.





Convention

Plans for the Ontario Horticultural Association's 103rd Convention are progressing well. At this point, all of the major details have been booked and we are now dealing with the finishing touches. Trent University is the site and there will be speakers, boat cruises, bus tours, a silent auction as well as a penny auction at the Friday night barbecue, a Saturday night banquet with great entertainment including Martin Galloway, a live auction and the presentation of some special awards. We also will conduct the business of the OHA at the Annual General Meeting. If you would like to attend the convention as a representative of the society please see Anne Milne. More information is available at

www.convention.gardenontario.org/OHA/index.html

We need volunteers to help in a number of different capacities from setup on Thursday, July 9 to take down during the afternoon of Sunday, July 12. There is a very long list of possibilities but duties might include meeting speakers as they arrive and ensuring that they arrive in time for their presentations, acting as a clerk for the judges or supervising the competition area. At the April meeting, a signup sheet will be available. If you are able to help us at some time during the convention please sign up. On the day you are volunteering, you are welcome to enjoy any of the scheduled activities without paying for the registration. Your only cost would be any meals or excursions that you wish to enjoy. To volunteer, call or e-mail Anne Milne – 741-3995 or rmilne3@cogeco.ca or Dianne Westlake 742-9167 or dianne.westlake@gmail.com

New Conservation Website

While surfing the net, have a look at the new site of the Ontario Horticultural Association's Conservation and Environment Committee. The site contains ideas for "greening" up your life. Visit <http://conservation.gardenontario.org/> and return often.

Peterborough H.S. Plant Sale

Saturday, May 9 at 9:30 a.m. rain or shine at Saint Alban's Church – mark your calendar and bring a friend.

Peterborough's Urban Forest

Last year, working in partnership with the City of Peterborough, Peterborough Green-Up introduced *Our Urban Forest*, a programme designed to build a healthier, more sustainable urban forest. Excellent speakers have educated the public and a small but dedicated group of volunteers assessed the number and condition of the trees in selected neighbourhoods. After the inventory was completed, the information was analyzed and it has been shared with a number of groups.

Inventory in other areas of the city will continue this summer and the training of new volunteers or a refresher for last year's volunteers will take place at the Green-Up office at 378 Aylmer St. N. Volunteer Training Workshops are scheduled for
April 2 or 7 – Evergreen Tree ID:
April 14 or 16 – Broadleaf Tree ID:
April 21 or 23 – Mapping Locations & Measuring:
April 28 or 30 – Evaluating Tree Condition:
Contact the Green-Up office

You will never look at a tree in the same way again.



Fleming Park Cleanup

In Canada the entire month of April is now designated as Earth Month with Earth Day on Wednesday, April 22. Across the city, volunteers of all ages will be out to help clean up after a long cold winter. Clean up day at Fleming Park (at the corner of Brock and Aylmer) will be on Saturday, April 25 from 10:00 a.m. to approximately noon. There are many jobs to be done and you can choose one that will suit your abilities. If you can spare some time, please come out and give us a hand. Bring along a friend as well and be prepared to have a good time while you are helping out in your community. Bring gloves, tools (rakes, snips, wheelbarrows, etc.) and lots of energy. Hope to see you. This is our chance to make Peterborough shine.

In May our regular weekly work sessions will be held on either Tuesday or Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Kathy Hewitt





Coming Events

Lakefield

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Lakefield Marshland Centre – Linda McLeod, Colour in the Garden for the Full Season

Tuesday, May 12, Ann & Bob Granatier, Four Months of Glorious Colour with Bearded Iris

Norwood

Monday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwood Legion – Myrna Reilly – Hostas

Omeme

Monday, April 20 at 7:30 at Trinity United Church – Melissa Spearing – A New Method of Growing Native Trees

Millbrook

Wednesday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church Hall, Centre St, Millbrook – Arborist, Matt Logan – \$2 Admission at the door. Contact Wendy 944-8912 or Joan 799-5378 for more information

Bobcaygeon Horticultural Society

April 16 at 7:00 p.m. – Paul Zammit – Bringing Colour to Your Shade Garden at Knox Presbyterian Church on Joseph Street (across from Home Hardware) – All welcome – \$5.00

Lindsay

April 21 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul Parish Hall, 45 Russell St. W – David Tomlinson – Merlin's Hollow (A Magical Garden)

Scugog Spring Garden Show

April 18, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and April 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Scugog Community Recreation Centre, 1655 Reach St., Port Perry 905-986-5330.

PLANT SALES

Ontario Rock Garden & Hardy Plant Society

Sunday, May 3, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Toronto Botanical Garden, Lawrence and Leslie

Omeme Spring Plant Sale

Sat. May 9: at Omeme Curling Club - 9:00 a.m.

Norwood

Thursday, May 14 at 1:00 p.m. on the United Church Lawn at the corner of Hwy #7 & 48

Lakefield

Saturday May 16, Annual Plant Sale 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. at Lakefield Cenotaph

Ecology Park

Sunday, May 17 at 1:00 p.m. at the Park – native and non-native trees, shrubs and perennials, vegetables,

This Month in the Garden – Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners

April

- ✓ Prepare annual beds for planting. Add a generous amount of compost and other organic material.
- ✓ Apply dormant spray to fruit trees and pest-prone shrubs (non-freezing temperatures, before buds open).
- ✓ Cut down ornamental grasses. Remove all debris from perennial beds.
- ✓ Top dress perennial borders with compost.
- ✓ Gradually remove protection on rose bushes; prune and apply dormant oil before the buds break. Move dormant bushes if needed.
- ✓ Direct seed cool weather vegetable seeds (peas, spinach) and frost resistant annuals (larkspur, sweet peas).
- ✓ Repair lawn with compost, seed, rake and fertilize (late April early May).
- ✓ Plant or move shrubs, trees, and hedges.
- ✓ Mow the lawn only if necessary
- ✓ Begin to move ornamental grasses and perennials
- ✓ Setup water collection system
- ✓ Open your pond

Have your gardening questions answered on the Master Gardener Hotline. Call 741-4905 or visit their website at www.peterboroughgardens.ca

