

# PETERBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Volume 161 April 2022 Number 4

Wednesday April 27, 2022: Virtual Meeting, 7pm

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## Doris Power, Zoom: “Netherlands & UK Garden Tour”

Doris received her Master Gardener Certificate in March 2013 after completing the Master Gardener Program through the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, now Dalhousie University. Doris discovered she had a real passion for gardening when she moved to Kingston in 2006 and transformed her treeless and empty back yard into a garden with several garden beds, five trees and back fence patio without having any formal gardening education.

During the last course with Dalhousie in 2012, Doris had an opportunity to participate in a credit course called The British Garden which included travel to the UK and The Netherlands to attend The Floriade and tour 18 other gardens.

She is also a watercolour artist and photographer. She has worked part-time as a travel agent, designing and leading tours for small groups of women; in particular, garden and art tours.



**This talk: *The Netherlands and UK garden tour: Discover The Floriade*:** The World Horticultural Expo, the Keukenhof and other fabulous gardens of The Netherlands. Be inspired by several English gardens while learning about plantings and some great history.

## President's Message:

“April Showers bring Mayflowers”. We all know that saying, and many of you will know the followup as well “So what do Mayflowers bring?” I'll leave you to puzzle that one for a minute if you don't know. 😊

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We're entering into what is, in my opinion, the absolute best time of the year and I eagerly wait for it each April. Blooming time! The spring ephemerals never cease to disappoint. Tulips, crocus, daffodils, grape hyacinths are all pushing their heads out of the soil and show us what they've been planning on for the full year behind us. I always wonder at the fact that they can survive such cold temperatures in the soil, and then remember what they're supposed to look like – not only that, but they're making more of themselves as well. Nature is simply amazing.

Our board had a long discussion last week about our April meeting. With case counts rising and covid almost everywhere, we decided it would be irresponsible to host an in-person event for a membership as large as ours. Fingers crossed for our May meeting, though. Cake is definitely on the menu once we can meet because we need to celebrate so many things including our 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a society – the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest continually operating society in the province, next to Brantford, ON.

In the meantime, Doris Power from the Kingston area will bring us a breath of spring on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and we can look forward to that. Hang in there -- we're all in this together.

◆ MJ Pilgrim

## PETERBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

# Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 9am

Westdale United Church

1509 Sherbrooke Street (West of Woodglade)

[peterboroughhort.com](http://peterboroughhort.com)



Peterborough Horticultural Society

2022



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society

### Plant Sale, May 28, 2022:

Barring another lockdown PHS is planning our long awaited Plant Sale which will be held on Saturday, May 28th at Westdale United Church.

**We are in need of volunteers, plant and garden items to make this once again a successful event.**

To sign up to help organize, and sort for Friday night, May 27, or Saturday morning you can email me at [anitaclifford@bell.net](mailto:anitaclifford@bell.net) or call me at 705-748-0267. It's always a fun time that evening.

**We would ask that donations of plants be put in pots so that plants could be sold for \$5.00, \$10.00. Please don't contribute any invasive plants!**

I look forward to getting together once again. We will be following Covid guidelines to ensure safety for everyone involved.

◆ Anita Clifford

## Nature's Nibblers

I have a sweet little Japanese Quince planted on my backyard hill. It blooms early in the spring and is a bright cheery orange- pink colour. I had saved it from a nursery a few years ago. It was looking very sad as the winter had not been kind to it and rabbits had eaten the bark off several branches. I tucked it into the hill, in a sunny spot, and it seemed to settle in well and has made it through a couple winters with a bit of light pruning. But this year, I was a little late to climb up the hill and guess what I discovered? Rabbits had found it! My neighbour one year had a long row of low growing sumacs that were completely striped of the bark above the snow line. She ended up having to dig out all the sumacs, since the rabbits continued to strip the new growth back every spring.

Fruit tree trunks and branches have several layers. There is the outer bark, then inner bark called Phloem, which transports



food made in the trees' leaves down to the rest of the tree. The next layer is very thin and important called the Cambium,

which is the growing part of the tree. Inside the cambium is the Sapwood, which transports water up from the roots and the Heartwood, dead tissue that supports the tree. When the outer bark is nibbled off a branch, the Phloem and Cambium often is removed as well since they are tightly bonded to the

outer bark of fruit trees and shrubs. If half the circumference of the tree bark is removed, the tree is likely to die above the damaged area.

Only two branches seem to be affected on my quince and I have wrapped the entire shrub in burlap for the time being with the top open to the sun. It is also surrounded by sticks, tacking the burlap down to the ground so the scoundrels can't get in! I expect I might get some quick little blooms from the undamaged side of the branches, and will wait to see if any new shoots emerge below the damage. I will be building a barricade this fall though- as Japanese quinces don't really grow fast or too big and I can't bear to keep cutting it back!



I am also having an issue with a red squirrel this year who keeps biting and chewing off small branches of my really tall White Pines! I believe he is going after the sap- he is hungry too, just like the rabbit! I am willing to share some of the fruits of my yard, but I wish it would warm up and the Hosta's would appear, they can eat them! They are trojans and always recover quickly!

◆ Laura Jack

## Another Mystery Solved!

Members will sometimes contact us for help and we aim to please, as you know. The latest mystery involved a member who saw these very odd “droppings” in several nature areas where she went for walks. We both assumed that they were the castings from spring trees, so I searched and searched on google and couldn't find anything that looked like the picture she sent. Then I turned to Facebook.

Had the answer in minutes. Turns out that it's "corn gluten meal pellets" and someone is likely feeding the critters with it. If you're a member of gardenOntario on Facebook, you'll see my post and answers!

Gotta love crowd sourcing for answers. 😊

◆ MJ Pilgrim



## Membership has its Privileges

**Are you getting the zoom link for our monthly meetings?**

**If not, remember to “Renew for 22”!**

**We welcome New Members too!**

Here we are again, joining together for another year of learning and growing together in the **Year of the Garden!** Our membership fees are still a great deal \$20 for single and \$25 for a family. Your membership will give you access for 2022 to our fun and informative newsletter and guest speakers on zoom (many of which are recorded for future reviewing). We will also be contacting local retailers for special discounts again this year.

Instructions for online and print/mail renewals are at:

[peterboroughhort.com/about-the-society](http://peterboroughhort.com/about-the-society)

## Newsletter Contributions Wanted:

Do you enjoy reading our anecdotes, recipes, science or historical facts related to gardening? Do you enjoy viewing our photos too? Well, we would very much like to see yours! Anything garden/plant-related is more than welcome. Good photos? Send those too. We all like viewing other people's gardens.

Members, please send your paragraphs and/or photos to us by replying to one of our messages, or emailing [ptbohortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:ptbohortsoc@gmail.com) directly. Be sure to put Newsletter in the subject line. For our next newsletter, send in by May 11.



Thank you to Diane Cancilla who sent us this picture...😊

Thank you from the PHS board members

# Peterborough Master Gardeners Spring Plant Sale



**Saturday, June 4, 2022: 9am**  
**RAIN OR SHINE**

Westdale United Church, 1509 Sherbrooke St.

[contact@peterboroughmastergardeners.com](mailto:contact@peterboroughmastergardeners.com)

**Details to follow...**

**[Bus Trip to Whistling Gardens, Monday June 6](#)**



**Great news!** We have 42 names of enthusiastic gardeners for our upcoming Bus Trip. This is for a 44-seater Bus with space below for purchases at Northland Nurseries, our side trip en route home. Within the next week, I will be sending an email to those on our list who have expressed interest with final cost, payment options, times and menu choices for our catered lunch. If you would like to be put on a waiting list for the event, contact Pat deVilliers: [patdevilliers@hotmail.com](mailto:patdevilliers@hotmail.com) Until then, [Pat deVilliers](#).



# Earth Day Celebration



**April 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Via WebEx**

All OHA Members Welcome

In celebration of Earth Day, the OHA is bringing you an evening of education and enjoyment featuring:

- Introduction of Agra-Wool - a no foam option
- Easy DIY Floral Design
- Special Guest Speaker, Sean James on "Soil, and the Things Living in it"

**Note: WebEx login information will be shared with all OHA Societies/Clubs closer to Earth Day**

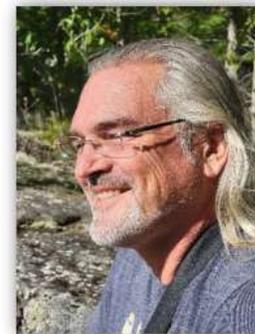
## Special Earth Day Speaker Sean James

### Soil, and the Things Living in It

The latest information and research will be discussed including:

- How do we steward the soil microbiome?
- What are the beneficial bacteria and fungi?
- What activities harm the soil and therefore the plants?
- Can better soil stewardship also mean lower maintenance?

It's a dirty topic, but someone's got to cover it



Named by Landscape Ontario as 2020 and 2021's Garden Communicator of the Year, gardening has been Sean James' hobby

and profession for almost 40 years. A graduate of Niagara Parks School of Horticulture, a Master Gardener, writer, and teacher, Sean focuses on eco-gardening techniques, which makes sense since he grew up surrounded by nature near Crawford Lake in Campbellville.

**Discounts for PHS Members:** You must show your 2022 membership card to qualify, and request the discount BEFORE your order is placed.



**15%**

On LIVE ITEMS excluding annuals



**10%**



**10%**

On shrubs, trees and perennials

**plant goals**

**10%**

On all plants

387 Water St near Hunter



The gardenOntario / OHA Spring Trillium has just been released. Read it at this link: [GardenOntario Spring Trillium](#)

