



Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 2 May/June/July 2015

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BHS meets the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Brooklin United Church; except January, July and December.

Email any board member at: information@brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com

Visit us on the web at: www.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com.



“HELLEBORUS” JEFF MASON

Wed May 27
at 7:30PM

When your mother is **Marjorie Mason of Mason House Gardens**, you learn a lot about plants and gardening. Jeff teaches at George Brown College & TBG, consults in landscape design, and leads the occasional international garden tour, in addition to speaking at garden clubs, societies and Canada Blooms.

Jeff will be speaking to us about ‘Helleborus’, an evergreen flowering plant, also known as Lenten Rose. A great addition to any spring garden.



After the meeting, view the entries and winners in our **Spring Show**. You'll see tulips, narcissus, iris, other spring plants, lilacs and other flowering branches, potted plants, early vegetables, and floral designs.

Better still, submit some entries into the show! Check pages 35 - 37 of your year-book for entry criteria. Note the useful tip on page 37 for showing and displaying tulips. Place your entries by 7:15 pm.

Come early for draw tickets and refreshments. Please lug-a-mug.

Saturday May 23 - 8am to 1pm BHS Plant Sale *Bring your friends and neighbours!*

Our annual BHS plant sale will take place on Saturday May 23, from 8 am to 1pm at Grass Park. We will be featuring 26 varieties of heritage tomatoes, numerous varieties of lilies, annuals, perennials and small shrubs. Durham Master Gardeners will be on site selling native plants and herbs, and answering gardening questions.

Once again we are asking for your support with donations of plant material from your gardens. Ideally, contributions should be in quart size or larger pots of soilless mix. Plants potted up as soon as possible will have a chance to settle into their pots and look full

and healthy by the sale. Donations can be dropped off prior to the sale in the driveways of 4 Queen Street or 20 Princess Street, or brought to the park early on the 23rd. Please LABEL plants with NAME and COLOUR, size and conditions required.



This is our major fund raiser for the year so come out, bring those extra plants, pick up a bargain or two, and support your club.

If you can help at the sale, or need assistance with delivering plants, please contact **Kathy Allam** at 905-430-7213, kathyallam@hotmail.ca.

Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

The Spring Show
 Wednesday May 27
 Guest Speaker: **Jeff Mason**, Mason House Gardens, Uxbridge
 Topic: **Helleborus**

Brooklin Horticultural Society's **Plant Sale**
 Saturday May 23
 9 AM - 1 PM
 Grass Park, Baldwin at Cassels Road East, Brooklin
Heirloom Tomatoes, Perennials, Annuals, Hostas, Daylilies, Herbs, Native Plants

The Iris and Peony Show
 Wednesday June 10
'How to Show' Workshop
 A video featuring our Show Committee providing helpful hints for showing floral specimens.

The Rose Show
 Wednesday June 24
 Panel of Experts
What You Always Wanted to Know About Gardening

The Annuals Show
 Wednesday Aug 26
 Speaker: **Faye Collins, The Mad Gardener**
 Topic: **Daylilies in the Landscape**

June 10 Meeting 'How to Show' Workshop

Your show committee is putting together a video on 'How to Show'. We want to give you some 'HELPFUL HARRY HINTS' to encourage those of you who have never shown before or to help improve your entries for those who have shown at previous shows.

Containers, conditioning, grooming, showing three stems, showing collections, what is a spray?, foliage, one bloom vs one stem, showing colour, measurements, entry tags, and miscellaneous general advise, e.g. 'if not perfect, don't worry, bring it in'.

We hope you'll join us. Bring your questions.

Sherry, Judi, Mary Ellen, Ken, Sofie, Barb & Lynda

June 24 Meeting Ask the Experts

The Mad Gardener, **Faye Collins** will lead a panel of knowledgeable society members in answering your gardening questions covering the whole gardening spectrum from annuals to vegetables including garden design, growing conditions, plant care, grooming, and pests. Faye will start with a short discussion on how climate change is affecting our gardens. It's a great opportunity to gain from the wealth of gardening expertise in our own club. Bring your questions!

An added feature - **Dr. Kristn Varik**, a local chiropractor at Knots 'n' Joints Wellness Therapy in Brooklin will provide a brief talk on how to avoid injuries while gardening.

Pansy Potting Party

The third annual pansy potting party was held on the afternoon of April 28 at The Court in Brooklin. There were about 15 residents in attendance with **Don, Sofie, Margaret & Kathy** assisting. A couple of extra pots were made up; one for a resident who had a birthday that day, plus one for a resident that was under the weather.



'Here We Grow'

Brooklin Horticultural Society will once again be participating in Here We Grow – Kitchen Garden, an event sponsored by the **Brooklin Optimists Club**. This hands-on event will organize and provide the material for younger children to create their own take-home garden of tomato and parsley plants. BHS members will be busy assisting at the potting stations. The event takes place on Tuesday, May 12th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm at St. Thomas Anglican Church, 101 Winchester Road East. If you would like to help out next year, please contact **Kathy Allam** at 905-430-7213 or kathyal-lam@hotmail.ca.

Other Gardening Events

Saturday May 30
9 AM – 3 PM

Oshawa Garden Club Plant Sale offers a variety of plants including perennials, tomatoes, specialty geraniums, clematis, dahlias and pottery. Durham Master Gardeners will be selling herbs and answering gardening questions. South Oshawa Community Centre, 1455 Cedar St. www.oshawagardenclub.ca

June 13 & 14
10 AM - 4 PM

The **Peony Festival**, Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens, 155 Arena Street Oshawa. Canada's largest contemporary peony collection. Includes judged flower show, bonsai display, artisans, advice, demonstrations, entertainment and local cuisine. Free parking and admission to gardens. Come anytime in June to see early, middle and late blooms. Visit www.oshawa.ca/peony.

Saturday June 20
10 AM - 5 PM

Artists in the Garden Tour in support of **Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre**. Local artists and musicians featured in beautiful gardens in Ajax, Whitby and Oshawa. Tickets: \$25 (\$20 advance) www.artistsinthegarden.com

Saturday June 27
11 AM - 3:30 PM

Ontario Delphinium Club's Field Day at Sofie Bigham's property featuring plant sales, BBQ, door prizes, and **Martin Galloway** speaking on "Adaptation of Shrubs & Perennials to Climate Change". BBQ: \$5 & side dish. Register at 905-986-0310. www.ondelphiniums.com

Saturday July 11
10 AM - 5 PM

Gardens of Uxbridge, Community Care Durham of Uxbridge. 18th annual self-guided tour of a variety of gardens. Tickets: \$25 includes box lunch. Tickets: 905-852-7445 www.ccdgardensofuxbridge.org

Saturday July 18
10 AM - 4 PM

Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour - the fourth annual garden tour is showcasing eleven of Whitby's most unique and colourful residential properties. Your free tour ticket and brochure will guide your personal driving tour to the properties. Non-perishable food donations will be collected for Whitby-based Food Banks. To register, contact 905-430-4310 or www.whitby.ca/whitbyinbloom.

District 17 AGM

On April 25, 16 BHS delegates and those from eleven other clubs attended an informative and enjoyable District AGM in Beaverton. Speakers included **Paul Laporte** on *The Role of Native Plants in the Life Cycle of Insects* and **Dale Leadbeater** on *The Challenges that are Faced by Native Species Today*. During the elections, our own **Don Wick** who is District Treasurer was also elected

Assistant Director for the District. BHS earned second place in the group challenge for the 'pave' design based on a Log Cabin

quilt using 8 varieties of carnations (shown here), created by **Ken Brown, Mary Ellen Simerson, Barb Borchuk, Sofie Bigham and Sherry Howard**. **Mary Ellen** also received Best in Show for her horticultural specimen, a daffodil.



Recent Speakers

On February 25, **Ken Brown** spoke on maximizing an urban garden landscape for a variety of vegetables including using garden structures for vertical tomato planting, and taking advantage of inter-planting species and using containers. The extensive Q&A session reflected Ken's ability to inspire and the universal appeal of vegetable gardening.

In March, **Frank Kershaw**, spoke about gardening with southern plants. With winter protection, many will thrive in our growing zone (same as Carolina and Cincinnati). Plants that can be grown include tulip tree, sweet chestnut, redbud, black gum, sassafras, Virginia creeper, Kentucky wisteria and Crocosmia Lucifer. A well-attended session.

In April, **Ken Brown** again entertained and informed us on the topic of garden design, when he filled in for **Vicki Taylor-Scott**. He showed us photos of England's Sissinghurst Gardens, the Japanese Garden in Portland Oregon, the Montreal Botanical Gardens and the evolution of his own gardens. Quotes include: 'Paths should draw you in and seduce you', 'Use what you have', and 'Mix things up'. Great presentation!



At the March Meeting



BHS APPAREL

We thought it was about time to freshen up our BHS attire. We are having shirts made up for us. They will be hunter green with our BHS logo embroidered over a pocket on the left side. A lady's and man's shirt will be available for sizing at our May meeting. All shirts will be pre-ordered. Price of shirt should be about \$20. Please come take a look at these in the hall – near the ticket table before the May meeting.

Kathy Allam

OHA Convention

July 3 - 5, 2015

Ancaster

“Summer in the Southern Tier”

www.gardenontario.org/sho/up_conf.php

Save the Date!

April 30, 2016

BHS is hosting the District 17 AGM

At Westminster United Church

“All Gardens Great and Small”

Keynote Speaker: DAVID HOBSON

Author/Gardener/Humourist

Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour - July 18



For the fourth year, Whitby in Bloom is holding a free garden tour on July 18th from 10AM to 4PM. Eleven gardens will be featured. One new property, designed by Durham Master Gardeners will display plants from Sheridan Nurseries for the tour. Another, only two years old, is a teaching garden with all plants named. Donations for the food bank will be accepted at any garden. Register online at: www.whitby.ca/whitbyinbloom. Phone: 905-430-4310 or parks.rec@whitby.ca. More details on the Town website.

Don Wick

WIB/BHS Speaker Series

In March Frank Kershaw spoke to us about 'Gardening Outside Our Zone'. Vicki Taylor-Scott was scheduled for April but due to a last minute illness, Ken Brown stepped forward to fill the spot and spoke about Garden Design. Thank you again, Ken!

Between the two meetings, 600 pounds of food and \$92 were donated to the Brooklin United Church food bank. Any food not needed in Brooklin is delivered to two other food banks in the area.

Jane Austin



Members enjoying refreshments before the April meeting.

Welcome, New Members!

*Christine Amsden
Wendy Barnes
Ruth Bridge
Doug Foster
Eileen Foster
Anne Keefer
Phyllis Langley*

*Rose Reid
Judy Rodrigues
Jody Smith
Erin Tate
Ian Tate
Natalie Taylor
Ruth Taylor*

We hope that you are enjoying our speakers, shows and special events. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact Membership Chair, Leslie Tate at ltate@rogers.com or 905-665-0486.

President's Message

The 2015 BHS Season has gotten off to a great start. Attendance at our meetings has been very good, and our partnership with **Whitby in Bloom** has proven once again to be successful.

We are fortunate to have **Ken Brown** as a BHS member, and we opened the season with his presentation on Vertical Vegetables. We were able to call on him to step forward in April when **Vicki Taylor-Scott** was forced to cancel. In between his appearances, **Frank Kershaw** spoke of his efforts to push the growing zones in horticulture north to our planting areas.

The growing season has been slow to develop this spring, but those able to submit entries for the April General Meeting Horticultural Show competition are commended for their efforts. I was pleased to see the number of plants entered, and the Show committee has made an excellent addition to the April competition with the new photography categories.

I was able to attend my first District 17 AGM held in Beaverton this year. The event was staged at the BeaCan Presbyterian Church, an excellent facility that supports the parishioners and citizens of the Beaverton, Cannington and Sunderland area. BHS participated with 16 members in attendance,

behind only the Oshawa club, and of course the host Society. Our **Don Wick** was elected as an Associate Director of District 17. Excellent presentations were made by speakers on Native and Pollinator Plants.

April weather accommodated this year's pruning demonstration, hosted by the **Durham Master Gardeners** at the Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden. As well, BHS brought our planting talents to The Court at Brooklin in our afternoon with the residents putting together pansy planters. The Society is engaged in a busy May with "Here We Grow" with the **Optimists Club**, our Plant sale on May 23, and our preparation for the park grounds entrance display at the Brooklin Spring Fair. June is equally busy with two general meetings and show competitions. The meetings will feature BHS members executing the Show Workshop (Show Committee) and "Ask the Panel" (our BHS experts).

As members, let's focus on participation in big or small ways, and encourage your friends and neighbours in Brooklin and Whitby to come out and enjoy the gardening meetings of the Brooklin Horticultural Society in May and June, and then August to November. Our Society works because each and every day our members are doing something to make our organization, and the community we live in, better.

Reach me at thehague5@yahoo.com.

Hans Paats



New Banner Introduced!

Brooklin Horticultural Society has a new banner displaying our sunflower emblem. **Faye Collins** was instrumental in designing and ordering the new banner which automatically rolls up for easy transporting and storage. The stable base ensures that the banner stays upright even in windy conditions. **President Hans Paats** is shown in the photo on the left with the old and new banners. The former banner was beautifully hand quilted and represented our presence at many district and local meetings and events.

Corporate & Discount Members

Jane Austin and her committee members had another successful year in selling memberships and yearbook advertising to the local business community.

Please support the businesses displaying their business cards and listed on pages 50 & 51 of the yearbook.

Twelve businesses offer product discounts to our members this year, including a couple of non-gardening enterprises. These are listed on the back of your membership card. Our thanks to all businesses for their support, and to Jane's committee for their efforts on behalf of BHS.

Our Gardens Need You !

I would like to encourage each and every one of you to put some time in our two gardens this gardening season. Not only will you be giving back to the community, it is an excellent opportunity to hone your gardening skills working alongside fellow gardening enthusiasts and enjoying the camaraderie of like-minded Society members.

The Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden located on the southwest corner of Carnwith and Montgomery meets every Tuesday from 6-8 PM or til dark, May through to October....unless it's pouring rain that is. As always there is an annual pruning demonstration with Durham Master Gardeners to kick off the season. This year it took place on April 28. It was a perfect spring evening, well attended and a lot was accomplished.

The Butterfly Meadow is located at the entrance to The Lions Trail, behind and just to the west of The Luther Vipond Arena on Winchester. We meet less often...twice a month on either Saturday or Sunday for basic maintenance as it is well established.

Below you will find the 2015 schedules for both gardens. And if you wish to volunteer and the dates scheduled do not suit, we can accommodate you. Just ask. Please bring your gardening tools, join the crew and dig in. Any questions or concerns can be directed to **Faye Collins (The Mad Gardener)** at 905-655-9695 or madgardener23@hotmail.com.

2015 DATES

Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden

Tuesdays from 6-8 PM or til dusk

May 5, 12, 19, 26

June 2, 9, 16*, 23, 30

July 7, 14, 21, 28

August 4, 11, 18, 25

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

*watch for a special Gardens Ontario event on Tuesday June 16



The Butterfly Meadow

Sunday, May 17 -	1-3 PM
Saturday, May 30	10 AM-12 PM
Sunday, June 14 -	1-3 PM
Saturday, June 20 -	10 AM-12 PM
Sunday, July 5 -	1-3 PM
Saturday, July 11 -	10 AM-12 PM
Saturday, August 8 -	10 AM-12 PM
Sunday, August 23 -	1-3 PM

College Bursary Program

Did you know that we have been providing a bursary to a deserving student in the Landscaping program at Durham College? This was our second year of giving this financial award to a first year student selected by the college and going into second year. We have renegotiated our contract with Durham for a five year term at an increased bursary amount of \$500 (was \$300).

Kathy Allam



Legacy Committee

The Legacy Committee has moved forward with the purchase of two benches for the Brooklin Horticultural Society Park. This purchase was approved by the Brooklin Horticultural Society board of directors. The benches follow the same design and colour as is presently in the park and will sit on a cement pad that guarantees full accessibility and follows the accessibility standards of the Town of Whitby. The Town of Whitby hopes to have them in place by early June.

Jane Austin

About the BHS Newsletter: This newsletter is published quarterly - February, May, August and October.

You are invited to submit articles, questions and comments about the newsletter to the

Editor Jone Webster at 905-666-2489 or brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com.