



Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club Newsletter

Volume 24 Issue 3 Aug/Sept/Oct 2022

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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. The November meeting is at St. Thomas Anglican Church.

Visit us on the web at:
www.brooklinwhitbygardenclub.ca
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<https://www.facebook.com/bhs1921/>



Keeping Ontario Beautiful

Pruning Wed Aug 24, 2022 7:30pm

Join us in person or via Zoom for a presentation by **Jim Lounsbery** on what you need to know about pruning. Jim has worked in the horticultural business for over forty years and has been an instructor in the horticultural program at Mohawk College (Hamilton) for over 30 years. He is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and the American Conifer Society. Jim along with his wife Simone, are owners of a family nursery business, Vine-land Nurseries (Beamsville ON), which specializes in rare and unusual trees and shrubs.

All BWGC members will be sent a Zoom link prior to the presentation. The link will be available starting at 7:00pm. We hope you will attend in person to enjoy coffee/tea and treats (don't forget to lug-a-mug) as well as the Annuals flower show after the presentation.

BWGC Plant Sale

We had our first plant sale since 2019 on the Saturday of the May long weekend. It was great to have it back! We were in a new location; the parking lot opposite the Brooklin Community Centre and Library. There was lots of space for the tables of BWGC plants and for the vendors who joined us. We were very gratified by the large number of plants that were donated for the sale by our members. We weren't sure what we would receive but our members came through in a big way once again. We also had a number of plants for sale at the members' meeting the Wednesday after the plant sale and were very pleased with the number of plants that were purchased. We made approximately \$1200 before expenses so the final profit should be around \$900. All in all a very successful event. Thanks to those who donated or purchased plants. A special thank you to those who priced the plants on Friday night and those who worked the sale on Saturday.

Paul Cloutier



President's Message



After a short summer break from meetings, we're ready to get back at it. There are a number of events coming up over this half of the season that need planning, details set in motion, and activities scheduled. And September 30 is the end of our fiscal year, but not our BWGC year!

Among the events are the Brooklin Harvest Festival in September, a delayed but not forgotten 100th Anniversary Celebration, and the Annual General Meeting in November. Along with those are 3 more BWGC General Meetings, with Show Competitions, and our monthly Board Meetings. As well, the Show Committee is working on arranging more Members' Gardens Tours. The Court At Brooklin retirement home has asked us to do a "cut flowers" workshop, which we will provide the day after our September General Meeting. The cut flowers will be those entered into the Autumn Show competition and donated by our members for use in that workshop.

The Board was disappointed that Jan Herrington had to withdraw not just from the Board, but from the great work she was doing as Membership Coordinator. These things happen, but I do look forward to catching up with Jan at each of our regular General Meetings each month. Thanks for your time and contribution, Jan! It leaves us with an opening, and an opportunity, on an important committee. Jan and her predecessors kept the committee and the data well organized, and secure. If you might be interested in filling this role, enjoy people, certainly get to know almost everyone in the club, and can work with simple spreadsheet lists, please let me know.

As we enjoy summer's migration into fall, there are lots of other opportunities to do a little something for the club. There are plenty of activities, flexible time arrangements, indoor or outdoor, and lots of fun. Talk to anyone on the Board, or the Show Committee, to see what's needed and how you can participate.

This is your club. Come out and enjoy it with us as we show Brooklin and Whitby what we have to offer!

Hans Paats

Celebrating BWGC 100 Years



Last year a **Red Oak** was planted in the north west corner of Rotary Centennial Park to mark the **100th anniversary of the Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club**. Earlier this year the Town installed a marker at the base of the tree noting its significance. When you are in the area drop by the park and have a look at the tree. It is doing very well.

Year of the Garden 2022 Garden Hero

The Canadian Garden Council proclaimed 2022, the Year of the Garden. To celebrate dedicated individuals who nurtured and inspired their gardening community, garden organizations can nominate a Garden Hero.

Don and Aldine Wick have been lifelong gardeners and members of the Brooklin Horticultural Society (BHS) and Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club. They have actively supported gardening programs for youth and seniors, Whitby in Bloom, Brooklin Harvest Festival and Whitby Heritage Days, among others. Don was a driving force in Civic Beautification around the streets of Brooklin and Whitby, and at several of the community buildings and Grass Park. They attended the Ontario Horticultural Association Annual General Meeting and Convention each year, and Aldine served as Treasurer for BHS for many years.

Always generous with their time and resources, their plants and planting, and the people they could influence, Don and Aldine have been an asset to the community and the people of Brooklin and Whitby, and we feel very fortunate to have had them as members of BHS and Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club for over 60 years.

It is with great pleasure that we recognize Don and Aldine as Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club Garden Heroes of 2022, in celebration of the OHA's Year of the Garden.



Aldine and Don Wick

Brooklin Horticultural Society Park



We continue to suffer the whims of Mother Nature who has decreed that Brooklin shall not receive rain, even when all around are doing so. The heat and windy conditions certainly have given us a challenge to get our annuals going and bring on all the other plantings.

Then, to add to the challenge, the Town Contractor held us back while he undertook the sandblasting and painting of the entrance. It looks terrific now it is done, but we were unable to plant until the end of July. Finally, August 4 was the big evening to plant newly acquired annuals and perennials. Wow, it is looking goooooood, even if I do say so myself.

On the upside, the Town Operations Crew put in an additional water source for us, up close to the center garden. We have been able to use it for a couple of weeks now, and the change in the Garden is monumental. Good things are happening now we can get water to all parts of the Garden.

Our crew has grown in number recently. We had another member come out (**Monique**) and a month ago, two young ladies from the local Community asked if they could help us - **welcome Fatimah and Daniela. WE COULD STILL USE A COUPLE MORE VOLUNTEERS**, so don't be shy, come out and join the fun.

We are still hoping to split up some of the Garden perennials and either relocate them in the Garden, or maybe even pot

some up and make them available for sale to our neighbours in the area (and of course our members). More info will become available as the plans evolve.

Sadly, some of the new trees in the Park, planted by our friends at Town of Whitby are not doing well at all. Now we have improved access to water, we will be giving a greater amount of attention to the nurturing of the new and existing trees. Maybe with a lot of our TLC, we can get them all to thrive and enhance the area as planned. **FINGERS CROSSED!!!**

We have had tremendous feedback and encouragement from the local Community. They really appreciate what we have achieved and will continue to achieve. Along with the compliments, we get some gardening questions. Fortunately, we have decades of experience and knowledge from our crew of mighty gardeners.

AGAIN, MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR. We want you to come out and volunteer at the Garden. You don't have to commit to every week, but we sure would like a bit of your time. We can adapt the tasks to suit your abilities. **Many hands make light work!!!**

BENEFITS? Fresh air, exercise, get to know interesting people, exchange gardening tips and knowledge, help the environment, and bask in the glow of appreciation from the community. **What's not to like?????**

Gardening sessions - Thursdays, 6pm - 8:00pm till Fall, then back to Saturdays.

ALL ARE WELCOME!! Come and reap the BENEFITS noted above.

email bgower@durham.net to get on the volunteer list

Brian Gower

Rain Barrel Fundraiser

This year's rain barrel sale was again a great success. Through our partnership with the rainbarrel.ca organization we raised \$324.50 for our club, with online sales of 29 rain barrels and accessories. This year we handed out flyers at the World Water Day event at the Whitby Public Library. We anticipate hosting this sale annually, so if you or someone you know is in the market for a rain barrel, our sale is a great way to purchase one. The barrels are ordered and paid for online, and then are delivered to your door for no extra charge! Deliveries occur in the third or fourth week of May, just in time for the planting season. Prices are much better than in the hardware stores, and there are several styles to choose from. The rainbarrel.ca website has several instructional videos as well as accessories to adapt to your particular needs.

Thank you to all who supported our sale. If you would like to help our club by being the point person for rainbarrel.ca next year, please email Mary Thompson, secretarybwgc@gmail.com.

Mary Thompson

Wounded Warriors Park of Reflection



We are having a great time working at the Park of Reflection (Cullen Park). The red roses we planted are doing great even though we had to replace two that were stolen. They complement the white roses and the creamy white day lilies.

We meet on Wednesdays now and we are very well coordinated as everyone knows what to do when we get there. Our team has now been joined by new member, Emmie Beer.

When the freak storm hit in May, the sign with information for the park was blown down and now it is in the process of being replaced by the Wounded Warriors team. We requested



and received permission to make two signs that will be permanently attached to the fence of the park. It states that Brooklin-Whitby Garden Club maintains the garden.

We were informed the week before the Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour that Park of Reflection would be part of the tour. We made sure it was in pristine condition, by sprucing up the gardens on the Friday before.

We will appreciate **information on why white echinacea plants wilt and how to prevent this**. Please send me the information at: rahe.richards@yahoo.com.

Rahe Richards

Upcoming BWGC Speakers

At our **August 24** meeting we welcome **Jim Lounsbury** who will be talking about "Pruning". Jim is a certified arborist and founder of a family owned landscaping and nursery business called Vineland Nurseries in Beamsville ON. Jim specializes in dwarf and unusual conifers, Japanese Maples and Rhododendrons.

Sean James will be our speaker for the **September 28** meeting and he will be sharing photos and stories in a presentation titled "Nova Scotia Epic Tour". Sean is a Master Gardener and landscape designer who specializes in Eco-friendly gardening.

Wolfgang Bonham is our guest speaker for the **October 26** meeting. Wolfgang is the owner of Peace, Love, and Landscaping and he will be sharing his presentation called "Garden Tour Kyoto (Japan)". Wolfgang studied Japanese Garden Design in Japan and he is a certified Feng Shui Consultant.

WIB Garden Tour 2022: How it all Happens

There was much happiness when Whitby in Bloom was given the go ahead this spring for the resumption of the Garden Tour.

When the tour was cancelled in the spring of 2020 due to covid I remained in touch with the home owners through 2020-2022. Remarkably all stayed on the list until this year, with the exception of three who moved from our area. Karen Lyons resourced other homes to fill out the program. Gardeners love to share and I have not met a more enthusiastic group.

Patti Mavins and Sue Green visited all the home owners, viewed the gardens, gathered photos for the brochure and scripted the write ups. Their choice of words brought the gardens alive before being immersed in the actual experience.

Michelle Baronian is a special events coordinator with the Town of Whitby. She arranged all the moving parts: insurance, home owner information, garden write up and photo submissions for the brochure, signage, donated food pickup and delivery, etc.

Volunteers...where would we be without them? Each garden was staffed with four volunteers split between open and close. They greeted visitors and thanked everyone for their generous food/monetary donations all in service of the Salvation Army food bank.

The Garden Tour was blessed with fantastic weather, clear skies and very hot temperatures. We saw familiar faces from previous tours as well as many new arrivals to our community over the past two years.

Total visitor count was 3024. Money donated was \$156.60 along with 500 plus pounds of food bank donations.

A great time was had by all!!

Jane Austin

BWGC Members' Gardens Tours

It is always an inspiring and educational experience taking in the labours of love from our fellow gardeners. Who doesn't go home with new ideas and of course another reason for a drive to the garden centres. Thank you to the members who have offered to share their gardens with the membership to date. We have had two tours so far on June 26 and July 24 with two more to go on Aug 28 and Sept 18 . A great big thank you to Judi Denny, Debi Foster, Istvan Juhasz, Deb and Herb Tink, Roger and Grace Inglis and Brian McLatchie!!



A New Collaboration With Whitby's Station Gallery



This spring, the garden club was approached by a local non-profit organization, Whitby's Station Gallery, for help in creating a more natural feel on their large deck. Station Gallery hosts community events with live entertainment on the deck every other Thursday night, and wanted some plantings to make the deck more welcoming and to bring more nature into their gathering area. Mary Thompson met with the executive director of the gallery, Natasha Downes, and a plan was hatched. Mary set about searching for ten wide "trough" style containers to spread along the 80 foot long sunny deck railing, and five taller, narrow planters for strategic shady points along the gallery building. Three alternative styles

were presented to Natasha, who selected a style to perfectly harmonize with the black Adirondack chairs on the deck. Once the annual stock was appearing in the garden centres, plants were selected with an eye to sun exposure, drought tolerance, and some taller annuals to obscure the railing. Sun and shade plants were of course different but the colour theme of hot pink, purple and white was consistent in all planters.

The final arrangements consisted of white cosmos, purple fountain grass, fuchsia pelargoniums, snapdragons, and lysmachia/creeping Jenny in the sun containers. Not to be outdone, the shady planters included hot pink and scarlet New Guinea impatiens, lysmachia and a stunning dracaena that is variegated yellow and green, named "Kiwi".

On planting day, several BWGC garden club members heeded the call and were generous with their time: Lidia Abbott, Helen Ecker, Carla Keel, Emmie Beer, and Marion Thomas. A big thank you to all of you! Ten long planters were filled with soil and planted that day, with the shade planters being done later that week.

The Station Gallery staff were thrilled to see the beautiful planters adorning the deck area, and the local residents attending the Thursday Night Live events are very appreciative. Mary is keeping an eye on the plants with weekly visits. We hope to make this planting project an annual event, perhaps with an artistic theme to the plantings. We are open to ideas, so if you have any thoughts, or would like to participate in next year's planting day, please contact me at marythompson1@live.ca



From left to right: Marion, Mary, Carla, Lidia, Emmie and Helen



In the meantime, don't miss out on the [Thursday Night Live](#) events at the gallery where you can sway to the music, have a drink from the bar, appreciate the art and admire the flowers!

Mary Thompson

The Parkwood Tennis Court Garden Rejuvenation Project

If you have visited the beautiful grounds at the Parkwood Estate in Oshawa recently, you may have noticed the ongoing work on the borders that surround the old sunken tennis court just to the west of the house. The Parkwood Tennis Court Garden Rejuvenation project is a five-year partnership program between the Oshawa Garden Club (OGC), The Durham Master Gardeners (DMG) and the Parkwood Foundation. Since 2019 a dedicated group of volunteers from the Oshawa Garden Club and the Durham Master Gardeners have been working alongside the Parkwood grounds staff to rejuvenate the borders to a semblance of what they might have looked like when they were first designed and planted back in the late 1920s or early 1930s by the landscape architect team of Howard and Lorrie Dunington-Grubb, who also founded Sheridan Nurseries. There are no drawings or photographs of the original perennial borders at Parkwood so in the early stages of the project, members of the team travelled to the Sheridan Nurseries headquarters in Georgetown to meet with the Sheridan archivist and to review the Sheridan Nurseries catalogues from the late 1920s and early 1930s. This helped us to understand the types of plant material the Dunington-Grubbs would have had available to them. We were also able to find photographs and artistic renderings of other borders they had designed in Hamilton and Toronto which helped us understand their design style. Our research informed us that Lorrie Dunington-Grubb especially, was greatly influenced by the work of the legendary British designer Gertrude Jekyll and it is likely that the garden design for Parkwood reflected this influence.



The team hard at work in July 2019 on the first section of the north border.

The two borders are approximately 45 metres long and 3.5 to 4.5 metres wide and the plan was to tackle half of each border in each of the first four years and evaluate the overall planting, filling in any gaps in year 5. We also planned an annual plant sale of the plants used in the borders with all monies raised going back into the project. In June of 2019 the team of volunteers from the OGC and the DMG began digging and removing all of the plants, especially the invasive plants such as goutweed and lily of the valley. We also started preparing for the first Parkwood perennial plant sale in September of that year, identifying, digging and potting up perennial plants which had been growing in the Parkwood gardens for many years. By August the team had completely cleared 25 metres of the north border, amended the soil with 6 yards of compost to prepare the area for planting. In October of 2019 the team planted over 250 perennials while Durham College students planted over 900 bulbs to complete the first phase. Since then we have completed the replanting of the north border and completed half of the west border planting with over

700 perennials and 3600 bulbs so far. The spring bloom this year was truly spectacular and will only get better with each year's planting. Despite the global pandemic, we have been able to keep up the September Parkwood plant sale for the past two years and are already planning for this year's sale on Saturday September 17th. What has made this project so successful:

- At the outset of the project we established a leadership team with representation from the Durham Master Gardeners, the Oshawa Garden Club and Parkwood who manage all key aspects of the project. This is truly a unique partnership.
- We have a great team of dedicated volunteers who come out every week throughout the season, rain, sun or heat wave to spend a few hours working in the gardens. They say that many hands make light work and this is so true in this project
- Public support of the project through compliments and positive comments during visits to the gardens and by purchasing plants at our annual plant sale. We have had tour groups, individual visitors and even the hospital staff comment and thank us for the work we are doing on the gardens which gives us all a great sense of satisfaction.

If you do get an opportunity to stop by the beautiful grounds at Parkwood this summer on a Wednesday morning, drop by to say hello to the team of volunteers who will be working in the tennis court gardens. We would be happy to show off our work.

Ingrid Janssen

The first section of the north border ready for planting in 2019 (left) and in spring 2022 (right).



10 Toxic Plants To Be Cautious Around



Fragrant Brugmansia bloom

Having a garden full of a variety of interesting and beautiful plants is a goal that many of us have but we also need to learn about the potential problems for people and/or pets if they happen to have a 'run in' with a toxic or poisonous plant. The list of poisonous or toxic plants is very long and a quick google search results in numerous authoritative articles on this topic but for the purpose of this article, only 10 common plants that you may have growing in your gardens or in your homes will be highlighted.

Some plant names make it obvious that you need to be careful if you are working anywhere near these and many of these plants tend to grow in more naturalized areas as opposed to our garden beds. If you live near a naturalized green space you may accidentally come into contact with poison ivy, poison sumac or stinging nettle. Learning how to identify these plants is an important step towards protecting you and family from rashes and skin problems associated with them.

In our own gardens, it is equally important to know the potential risks associated with any plants that we choose to grow. Some plants are more 'dangerous' than others and knowing the toxicity of these plants arms you with ability to warn people (especially curious children) about the potential hazards. Some plants are also very poisonous for cats and dogs and knowing these details will help you keep your pets safe. So here is a short list of some potentially hazardous plants that you may be growing and I encourage you to continue to research other plants that you may suspect to be toxic or poisonous.

1. Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*): contains extremely toxic cardiac glycosides in all parts of the plant. If consumed, it may cause blurry vision, headaches, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, rashes and irregular heartbeat.
2. Daffodil (*Narcissus*): the bulbs are the most poisonous part of this plant so beware if you have a dog that likes to dig in the garden. Ingesting too much of this early spring beauty can cause vomiting, diarrhea, tremors and cardiac arrhythmia.
3. Rhododendron and Azalea: the entire plant is highly toxic, especially for dogs. Ingesting any part of these popular garden plants can lead to abdominal pain, breathing difficulties, paralysis or coma.
4. Lantana (*Lantana camara*): a beautiful plant within the verbena family, all parts of this plant are poisonous for humans and pets, but it is the green unripe 'fruit' that is the most toxic if ingested. Removing spent flowers is the best practice to help keep everyone safe.
5. Hydrangea: all parts of this garden favourite contain small amounts of cyanide. If pets or young children accidentally consume a large portion of it, vomiting, heavy breathing, lethargy and stomach aches may occur.
6. Foxglove (*Digitalis*): *Digitalis* is widely used in medicine as a cardiac drug which when used correctly can be a life-saver. If children or pets accidentally consume the trumpet-like blossoms they could experience an increased heart rate, nausea, vomiting and seizures.
7. Elephant Ears (*Caladium*): these plants contain calcium oxalate crystals which are poisonous if chewed or swallowed. Symptoms may include vomiting, excessive drooling, swelling of the lips, tongue and throat and difficulty breathing.
8. Larkspur (*Delphinium*): these plants and seeds are very poisonous to both people and pets if consumed. It can lead to neuromuscular paralysis and respiratory failure. Just touching this popular plant (especially the young leaves) can cause skin irritation so be sure to wear garden gloves when handling them.
9. Monkshood (*Aconitum*): All parts of monkshood are poisonous for humans and pets, especially the roots and seeds, and the flowers if they are consumed. The alkaloids found in monkshood are similar to those found in *Delphinium* species. Handle this plant with care!
10. Angel and Devil Trumpets (*Brugmansia* and *Datura*) (*Solanaceae*): This entire plant is poisonous to animals and humans, with the roots, leaves and seeds containing the most poison. Exposure to the toxins can lead to hallucinations, muscle weakness, convulsions, paralysis and memory loss. Another plant to handle with caution.



Above, Lantana, Below, Monkshood



If you are curious about these and any other plants that you are growing in your gardens or homes, detailed information from reliable plant websites and 'poison control' websites can be found on the internet....be informed ...stay safe!

Barb Panowyk

100th ANNIVERSARY DINNER - Designing a Table Segment

The Show Committee would like to celebrate BWGC's 100th Anniversary and ongoing success with a dinner celebration and wishes to invite each one of you to partake with us in a Covid friendly manner. We challenge you to show us what your 100th Anniversary dinner table might look like through a Table Segment.

What is a Table Segment you ask? By definition it is "an excellent way to have a table design when space is at a premium (we are allowing an 18" x 45cm x 18" x 45cm space).

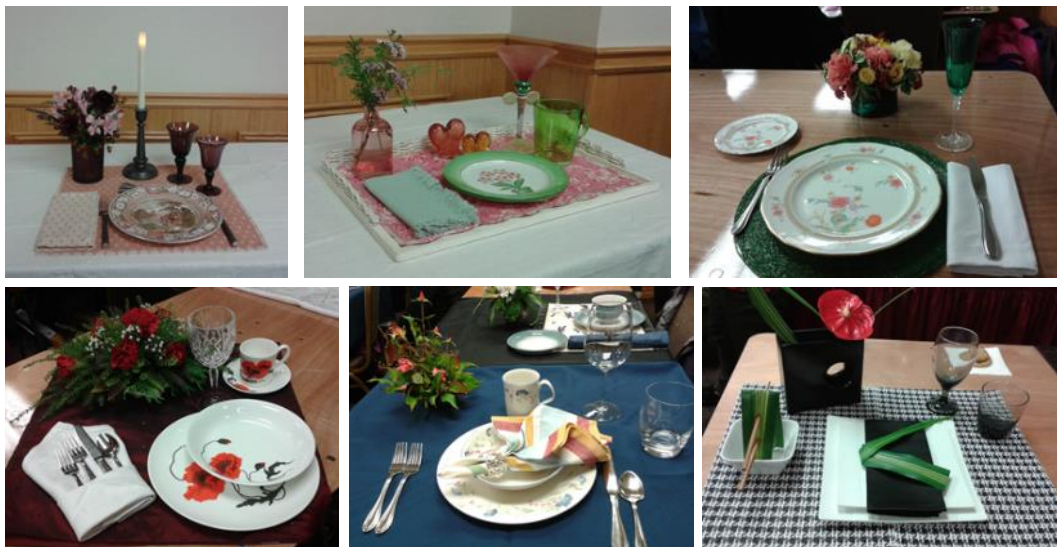
It is a functional table and must include one (1) place setting, suitable linens and a decorative unit." I like to think of it as a teaser for the entire table.

In a functional table design, you want the items used to be arranged in a practical, well-designed way as if food was to be served and it is judged as if one was seated. The setting should reflect the theme and spirit of the meal through the choice and placement of china, flatware, glassware, table covering, napkin, decorative unit (floral design) and its container.

When choosing and designing your decorative unit(s) it is important to remember if it was a full table, your guests should be able to converse across it without visual obstruction. Think about scale and proportion, balance, rhythm, contrast and dominance and how all the pieces contribute to the settings' appeal. The condition of the linens, accessories and plant material are also important considerations; clean, crisp, fresh pristine are words that come to mind. Taste and imagination play a more significant part than formality and expensive appointments.

We know you will have fun with this design so **enter our 2nd 100th anniversary design challenge at the Autumn show on Sept 28** by showing us how you might host this celebration. We offer pictures of a few different segments to give you some ideas. (Apologies for the photos, most were taken for personal use, not for display :-))

Debi Foster



Tip on Garden Tags

Remember those little plastic tags you dutifully place in the garden with the vegetable seedlings you bought? The kind that seem to disappear in a heavy rain, or show up from last year, but only half of it. Here's a method I've put into my garden for this year that has been to my liking.

I've taken paint store stir sticks, painted them in any fashion that struck my fancy at the time, and labeled them, sometimes in a shorthand, sometime in full, and placed them in my garden and containers. I probably could have colour coded them, or made them a single colour, but I wanted them to stand out, be easy to pick up and move if needed, but to always remind me what I've got where.

Here's a couple of pictures of them. I used folk art paint, and Sharpie ink pens. I sealed some with an acrylic clear coat before I wrote on them, but the ink does fade over time. I also sealed them after I wrote on the stick, but be careful so that the ink does not run. Spray on the sealant lightly. That works well. I expect they'll be in use for a number of years going forward, and those store tags are safely in the garden shed.

Hans Paats



100th Anniversary Design Challenges



Congratulations Mary Thompson, Lidia Abbott, Sherry Howard.

They are winners of our first design challenge held at the Rose show on June 22. Entrants could form a small group of up to 3 BWGC members to create a **Pot-et-Fleur** titled "**Celebration**". Their design included: in soil, yellow blooming *Corydalis lutea* and *Hosta 'Stiletto'*; cut flowers from coreopsis, gaillardia (blanketflower), *Centaurea cyanus* (cornflower or bachelor's button), and greenery from astilbe, Lady's mantle and iris.



Enter our **2nd 100th anniversary design challenge at the Autumn show on Sept 28**. Show us your creative table setting skills. Check out Debi Foster's article in this newsletter on how to design a Table Segment.

Year of the Garden 2022 'Grow Red'



All Canadians have been encouraged to 'Grow Red' as part of the Year of the Garden 2022. We heard about your favourite reds to grow back in the Feb newsletter so show us what you planted. We would like to include some of your photos in the Nov newsletter. Email the newsletter team (emails at the bottom of this page) your pictures.

It's Show Time

We have two of our biggest shows of the season coming up, the Annuals Show on Aug 24 and the Autumn Show on Sept 28 and therefore lots of opportunities to show off. Here are some tips that you may consider for preparing your upcoming entries:

1. In showing **daylilies**, you do not need to include foliage.
2. In showing **dahlia** blooms don't forget to include foliage. The foliage does not have to be attached to the bloom stem.
3. Where only 1 bloom is required, consider removal of additional side buds, (eg., as in roses, dahlias) as any bud that shows colour is considered to be a bloom.
4. **Condition dahlias, roses and rudbeckia** by placing the stem ends in 5 cm of boiling water for a minute or two before placing in cold water.
5. **To float a bloom** choose a container that is larger than the bloom and fill it with enough water so it floats - bloom should not be sitting on the bottom of the container and it should not touch the sides of the container.
6. Groom, Groom, Groom!

Above all, **Have FUN!!**



About the BHS Newsletter

This newsletter is published quarterly - February, May, August and October. **All photos courtesy of BHS members.** You are invited to submit articles, questions and comments about the newsletter to the Editors: **Sherry Howard** at 905-668-7640, howard21@rogers.com, **Mary Kadey** at 416-388-0065, memkadey@gmail.com, **Barb Panowyk** at 905-430-2939, bpanowyk@rogers.com.