

Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 16, Issue 2 May/June/July 2014

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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.

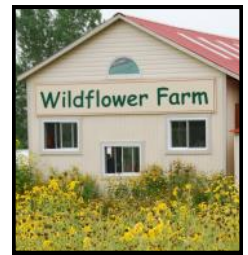
Email any board member at: information@brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com

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



“Taming Wildflowers - From Seed to Vase!”

Wed May 28 at 7:30PM



Long before ‘green’ or ‘sustainable’ became powerful buzzwords, **Miriam Goldberger** fell madly in love with the beauty and practicality that native plants bring to our lives.

A wildflower farmer since 1986, Miriam has seeded, planted, nurtured, harvested and created floral designs with thousands upon thousands of wildflowers.

Miriam will teach us to grow native wildflowers from seeds, design wildflower bouquets, and inspire us to grow flowers for our pollinator population. Her presentation will feature lush photos from her 100 acre

flower farm.

Miriam is a natural presenter who offers a unique body of knowledge to anyone interested in growing and enjoying wildflowers.

She is the founder and co-owner of Wildflower Farm, a wildflower seed production company. The farm produces wildflower and native grass seeds for gardens and meadows throughout North America.

She has culminated her 25 year love affair with wildflowers with her recently published book ‘*Taming Wildflowers*’. She will be available after the meeting to sign copies of her book which will be on sale.

<http://www.wildflowerfarm.com>.

Saturday May 31 - 9am to 1pm BHS Plant & Gardeners' Yard Sale Bring your friends and neighbours!

On Saturday, May 31, our major fundraising event of the year, our Plant & Gardeners' Yard Sale will take place. As always, it will be in the gazebo in Grass Park at Baldwin Street and Cassels Road East.

There is always plenty of plant material to be found at our sale. Who knows what you may find this year! Plus, we really do have the best prices around! As an added bonus, our volunteers are more than willing to share their planting tips with you.

The Gardeners' Yard Sale gets more popular each year. It just gets bigger & bigger. You never know what you might find in your search of our many items. So do come by and check it out.

Our success depends on your donations.

Please bring labeled plants and yard sale items in good condition to Grass Park between 8am and 9am on the day of the sale.

If you can help at the sale, or need assistance in getting items to Grass Park, please contact **Kathy Allam** at 905-430-7213.



Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

- The Spring Show**
 Wednesday May 28 Guest Speaker: **Miriam Goldberger**, Wildflower Farm, Coldwater
 Topic: **Taming Wildflowers - From Seed to Vase**
- Brooklin Horticultural Society's **Plant Sale & Gardener's Yard Sale**
 Saturday May 31
 9 AM - 1 PM
 Grass Park, Baldwin at Cassels Road East, Brooklin
Perennials, Seedlings, Dahlias, Hostas, Daylilies, Gardening Tools, Pots & Books
- The Iris and Peony Show**
 Wednesday June 11 **Design Workshop**
Learn how to create four types of designs
- BHS Members' Garden Tour**
 Sunday June 22 Spend an enjoyable afternoon visiting the gardens of Judy Lambert, Helen & Deryk, Cosimo Galluzzo, and Denise Carter; ending with refreshments and a brief social. Free admission to BHS members. Contact **Lorna Ravary** at 905-666-4443 or lornaravary@rogers.com or **Cosimo Galluzzo** at 289-240-2982.
- The Rose Show**
 Wednesday June 25 Panelists: **The Mad Gardener (Faye Collins) & More**
 Q & A Session: **Picks & Tips - A Panel to Answer All Your Gardening Questions**



June 11 Meeting The Design Workshop

You're in for a treat as the show committee is hosting a design workshop at the Iris and Peony show on June 11. We're going to explain and demonstrate the essential elements behind four types of designs: foliage/mass design, line design, design incorporating water, and modern design. These designs are included in the yearbook each year so you'll have many opportunities to try them and of course to show them off at subsequent shows. Don't forget that there is always a 'design of choice' at each show. We look forward to having you join us for a fun evening.

For more information, contact **Sherry Howard** at 905-668-7640, or **Judi Denny** at 905-263-4765.

June 25 Meeting A Panel with Picks & Tips

The Mad Gardener (**Faye Collins**) and friends **Roger Inglis, Judi Denny, and Gini Sage** will answer all your gardening questions with tips and ideas covering the whole gardening spectrum from annuals to vegetables with of course design, native plants, perennials, ornamental grasses, shrubs, trees and all things horticultural in between. It's a great opportunity to gain from the wealth of gardening expertise in our own club.



Pansy Potting Party

On May 6, BHS hosted a Pansy Potting Party for residents of The Court at Brooklin. About a dozen ladies participated in this event. A good time was had by all, including **Don Wick, Sofie Bigham** and **Kathy Allam** who came out to help. All participants left with a colourful display of pansies and a smile.



'Here We Grow'

BHS teamed up with Brooklin Optimists in May for this youth planting event. It was attended by about 75 Sparks and Beavers, with a few Moms and Dads and siblings in tow. Tomato plants and bean seeds were planted, and a good time was had by all.



Other Gardening Events

Saturday May 24
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, and CLOCA has a display on invasive plants. South Oshawa Community Centre, 1455 Cedar St. www.oshawagardenclub.ca

June 14 & 15
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, artisans, advice, demonstrations, entertainment and local cuisine. Free admission and parking. Come anytime in June to see early, middle and late peony blooms. Visit www.oshawa.ca/peony.

Saturday June 21
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 Whitby and Oshawa. Tickets: \$20 (\$15 advance) www.artistsinthegarden.com/artists-in-the-garden/

Saturday July 5
11 AM - 3:30 PM

Ontario Delphinium Club's Field Day at Gmitrowicz's property in Brooklin featuring plant sales, BBQ, and **Paul Zammit** speaking on "Companion Plantings for Delphiniums" after lunch. Non-members: \$5. Register at 905-986-0310. www.ondelphiniums.com

Saturday July 12
9 AM - 4 PM

Summer Glory Garden Tour, Bowmanville Horticultural Society. Gardens to inspire, charm and delight the senses. Tickets: \$10 Call 905-987-3123 or 905-786-2575 for tickets or information.

Saturday July 12
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. Info: 905-852-7445 www.ccdgardensofuxbridge.org

Saturday July 19
10 AM - 4 PM

Beyond the Garden Gate, third annual garden tour by **Whitby in Bloom**, showcasing some of Whitby's most unique and colourful properties including residential, business and Town sites. 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 May 3, 12 BHS delegates and those from eleven other clubs attended an informative and enjoyable District AGM in Newcastle. Speakers included the entertaining **Vicki Taylor Scott**, and **James Graham**, the OHA President who offered many suggestions for increasing membership and volunteers. Outgoing District Director **Sandy Rakestrow** was presented with a framed painting. Our new Director is **Elaine Davidson**; Assistant Director is **Rick Causton** of Uxbridge; Secretary is **Eileen Parry** of Newcastle; and Treasurer is our **Don Wick**.



Recent Speakers

On February 26, our speaker was **Louis Jordaan** of Minwater Eco Adventures, of southwestern South Africa. He delighted us with a photographic journey through this area. The region is home to an amazing array of plant and wildlife, and boasts a diverse landscape (called Biomes) comprising lush green forests, grassland, desert, savanna, and subtropical thickets.

In March, **Carson Arthur**, well-known landscaper and TV personality spoke on 'Show Me The Money: Helping us Maximize Outdoor Space'. He guided us through ways to increase the value of our property by investing in outdoor spaces such as stone patios, decks, walkways, landscaping and enhancing curb appeal. Great Q&A session with the large crowd.

In April, **Marjorie Mason** spoke on 'Front Yard WOW'. Among her many tips were: 'growing gardens is a personal thing' and 'think of the front garden as being for your enjoyment, more so than for the neighbours'. A well attended and enjoyed presentation.

It's Show Time

As I write this, I remind myself that Mother Nature never fails us and that indeed we will have lots to show in a few weeks. We hope this is the year that you are going to join those already bitten, by entering specimens from your garden. Our next shows include the following:

- ◆ Spring Show on May 28
- ◆ Iris and Peony Show on June 11
- ◆ Rose Show on June 25

SHOW TIPS:

1. Narcissus are shown **without** foliage.
 2. Tulips are shown with only 2 leaves.
 3. When displaying fruits and vegetables, address uniformity in size and shape.
 4. Groom, groom, groom.
- It's painless, fun and educational. If you have any questions about what to show or how to show, please feel free to contact someone from the show committee (Yearbook page 18). Additionally, if you would like to see the 'behind the scenes' during the judging of a show, sign up to assist.

Sherry Howard

Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour - July 19



Again this year, WIB's directive is to provide the opportunity for all gardeners to explore their community and visit some of the wonderful gardens. Please mark your calendars for July 19, for our third annual garden tour from 10AM to 4PM. The WIB Garden Tour is free. Instead, we are asking for donations to the food bank as you visit the gardens. Register online at: www.whitby.ca/whitbyinbloom. Phone: 905-430-4310 or parks.rec@whitby.ca. More details on the Town website.

Community in Bloom Judges' Tour

The Community in Bloom judges are coming to Whitby and Brooklin on July 21-24 to evaluate our community's participation at the national level. Two of the stops will be the BHS Butterfly Meadow and the BHS Garden Park. BHS members will be on hand to answer any questions and promote the Society's ongoing contributions to the community.

Jane Austin

Members' Garden Tour



Sunday June 22

You won't want to miss this delightful day of visiting gardens, sharing tips and stories, and of course, making new gardening friends at our social hour at the end of the day.

Judy Lambert's garden is described as 'several small gardens surrounded by a mature cedar hedge'. A walk along the garden path will show you a variety of garden themes.

Helen and Deryk's is a tiny urban sanctuary! This grass-free oasis features gravel pathways amid roses, phlox, hostas, herbs and more than 20 clematis. Quirky containers and mirrors abound, and the garden is presided over by 'Syd the Garden Guy', a six-foot rusted art piece.

Recently developed, **Cosimo Galluzzo's** small garden is planted with perennials, vegetables, clematis, shrubs, and daylilies. Hanging baskets provide front yard colour.

The **BHS Garden Park** is maintained by our members with assistance from the Town of Whitby. Each year sees the addition of perennials, trees, shrubs, and now a floral sundial. It truly is a beautiful passive park.

A garden in transition is how **Denise Carter** describes her property. When she moved to this home, she brought product with her. Since then, patios and walkways were installed and a variety of 'perennials on wheels'.

For more information, contact the coordinators:

Cosimo Galluzzo at 289-240-2982, or **Lorna Ravary** at 905-666-4443 or lornaravary@rogers.com.

Welcome, New Members!

*Jo-Anne Batho
Delores Berendt
Mabel Davis
Sherry Dodson
Barbara Green
Kathene Henry
Rheanna Henry*

*Ingrid Janssen
Janie Letros
Grace Mayers
Eric Quane
Karin Quane
Christine Quinn
Christine Walsh*

We hope that you are enjoying our speakers, shows and special events. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact President Kathy at 905-430-7213 or kathyalam@hotmail.ca



BHS Spring Draw

We are once again having a draw for the popular **Home Hardware Wheelbarrow-Handtruck**. Tickets are \$5 and available for sale at our May and June meetings, and at our Plant Sale. The draw will be held at the June 25 meeting.

Donations support BHS.

Good Luck!

President's Message

Is it really May? No sure about you, but the times I've spent out in our gardens have been few and far between. At best, I have been strolling around the yard searching for plants that are sprouting. The tiniest hint of a hosta coming up is reason enough to make me happy.

Our March and April meetings were once again a huge success. We had a significant turn-out at both meetings. Without question, our guest speakers at these meetings, **Carson Arthur** and **Marjorie Mason** were a major factor contributing to our high attendance. We would like to thank **Whitby in Bloom** for their sponsorship of these outstanding speakers. As well, thanks to our members for their support of the Food Drive.

As happens with every spring, we are entering our busiest time of the year. There is just so much going

on. A repeat of last year's potting workshop for the residents of The Court at Brooklin, our participation together with the Brooklin Optimists at "Here We Grow" (a vegetable planting event for young children), and our Plant and Gardeners' Yard Sale on May 31.

Faye's Pruning Demo at the BHS Garden Park finally happened on the third scheduled date. There's going to be much more going on at the Gardens this year. Not only our usual planting and maintenance of the grounds, but also activities that our Commemorative Committee have undertaken.

Please do find some time to come out and participate in one or more of our various events. Sharing this time with your fellow Society members in itself makes it time well spent. Contact me at 905-430-7213, kathyallam@hotmail.ca or any member of the board for further details.

Here's to spring!
Kathy Allam

Michael and Judi Denny Peony Garden



On June 10, one of our long time members is going to be recognized at a special event. On that day, the City of Oshawa will be holding a ceremony at which the **Oshawa Peony Gardens** will be renamed the **Michael and Judi Denny Peony Gardens**. Michael and Judi made these gardens happen.

In 2000, when the long established Wally Gilbert peony collection was being dismantled, Michael and Judi offered to take in the plants (planting hundreds of them on their property) and to ultimately find them a permanent home.

This collection became the basis of the present day

Oshawa Peony Gardens. In 2001, together with volunteers from various other groups, the Denny's moved one hundred peonies to their new home at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens.

Further donations of peonies from breeders and suppliers from across North America led to the gardens flourishing into the largest contemporary collection on the continent. In addition, the Denny's donated from their own impressive collection. Today, there are more than 300 varieties in cultivation.

In 2005, Michael and Judi started the Oshawa Peony Show, an event dear to Judi's heart.

In summary, the Peony Gardens and Festival would not be what they are today without the dedicated efforts of Michael and Judi. It is only fitting that the Gardens are being renamed in their honour. Please do think about attending the ceremony for our valued member and friend on Tuesday June 10 from 1:00-1:30 PM at OVBG at 155 Arena Street, Oshawa. RSVP by May 30 to Kelly Oxford at 905-436-3311 Ext 2317 or koxford@oshawa.ca.

Kathy Allam, President

Corporate & Discount Members

Don Wick, Jane Austin and **Margaret McGibney** pounded the pavement this fall to sell advertising for the yearbook. As you can see by the addition of business cards, it was well received and very successful. Eleven product discounters are with us again this year. Their discounts are much appreciated. Our corporate members total 50 this year. We thank them as well for their support. (See yearbook pages 45 & 46.)

Commemorative Project

What a beautiful night it was to learn about pruning and admire the new trees planted in the BHS Garden Park! It was a pleasure to see that the trees emerged unscathed from the harsh winter. Although it was May 6, the leaf buds were just plumping up while the Heptacodium (Seven Sons) was further along showing tiny emerging leaves. The London Plane Tree drew the most interest with the pruning students as **Faye Collins** showed off the beautiful camouflage-like pattern that occurs when the outer bark exfoliates to expose the creamy-coloured inner bark.

This year, the Commemorative Project team will continue to work on the following initiatives at the BHS Garden Park:

- ◆ Plant 2 or 3 more deciduous trees and 3 evergreens,
- ◆ Explore signage and additional benches with the Town of Whitby,
- ◆ Add plantings to attract butterflies and pollinators, and
- ◆ Inquire at local high schools about linking the volunteer needs of the students with the needs of the garden.

We invite you, along with your family and friends, to come check out our progress. The trees alone have much to offer as many have amazing blooms, some have exfoliating bark, while others have great fall colour. We look forward to seeing you there.

Faye Collins, Jone Webster, Jane Austin, Sherry Howard, Commemorative Project Team



All Volunteers Welcome!

Join the garden party at the BHS Garden Park every Tuesday evening from 6PM to dark (or until you drop), May through to the end of September. You will find us at the corner of Carnwith and Montgomery. Help make our garden shine and enjoy an evening hanging out with fellow gardeners who share your passion. No experience necessary. Just bring your favourite gardening tools, gloves and enthusiasm.

For schedule changes, information and details (Butterfly Meadow, too) or just to let me know you are coming, call me at 905-655-9695 or email to madgardener23@hotmail.com.

Faye Collins, Coordinator



Chris, Mary, Gini, & Pauline at the Pruning Demo.

Annual Pruning Demonstration

They say the third time is a charm and that certainly was the case for our third and last rain date for the Pruning Demonstration on May 6 in the BHS Garden Park. The weather goddesses smiled on us, Durham Master Gardeners **Kim Pileggi, Pam Love, Gini Sage** and **Karen Scuik** provided the expertise, and the turnout was great considering the many cancellations. Not only did the folks attending learn the right way to prune, it was hands on, or I should say, all hands on deck as we tackled the considerable pruning and brush clearing needed to get ready for another gardening season in our park. For many, it was their first visit and a sense of camaraderie quickly developed. I'm certain everyone left with a sense of accomplishment that they had not only acquired the skill to prune in their own backyard but had played a major part in sprucing up the garden. All are welcome back any or every Tuesday from now through September.

Thanks to Gini, Kim, Pam and Karen for continuing this tradition, and sharing your time and skill. The opportunity for our members was invaluable.

Faye Collins, Coordinator

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.