BROOKLIN HORTICULTURAL



Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 22 Issue 1 Feb/Mar/Apr 2020

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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.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com Follow us on facebook: https://www.facebook.com/bhs1921/



"What's New for 2020" Wednesday February 26, 2020 - 7:30 PM

Are you scratching your head over new additions to your garden? Have you a gap that needs filling or do you have to have the newest and latest? Come join us on February 26, as BHS welcomes Sheridan Nurseries to present "What's New for 2020". Come early to renew your membership too - \$20 per member or \$30 per family of two (living at the same address). This membership fee entitles you to our yearbook, the quarterly newsletter, great speakers and topics at 10 meetings during the year, as well as eligibility to participate in our flower, vegetable, design and photo competitions. Another great benefit: membership en-



titles you to a 10% or better discount at many local nurseries, garden shops and other retailers.

So come on in from winter, bring a friend, catch up with old friends and make new ones too! Don't forget to 'lug-a-mug' for coffee or tea while you enjoy some treats too.



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 99_{th} year of the Brooklin Horticultural Society! It has started in a challenging way, but I'm certain that we will make this a great year. We are all saddened by the tragic loss of our Past President Leslie Tate. Leslie was an energetic and fun member of our Society, serving in many ways, particularly as President.

I am pleased to introduce two new Board Members for 2020, Rahe Richards and Bonny Langille, and to announce that Mary Thompson will be our new Secretary.

Last year, BHS took on two new activities, both successful. We will conduct them again this year. In addition to our annual Plant Sale, we will be the local source for Rain Barrels, ordered online but distributed by us during the Plant Sale. And, last year, we prepared and staffed a display booth at the fall Brooklin Harvest Festival. Thanks to the support of the Durham Master Gardeners, we worked towards enhancing our local visibility and were able to attract several new members. This is part of our long term plan to maintain a regular and viable presence in the cultural activities that Brooklin and the Town of Whitby offer, demonstrating our range of talents and skills to enhance the richness of our communities.

We have a terrific speaker season ahead of us. The enthusiastic support of Whitby in Bloom, allows us to invite high-profile well known individuals for our spring series. For other meetings this year we will provide a diverse collection of topics including capitalizing on the talent within our own Society to share their knowledge in one of our general meetings.

In April District 17 Annual General Meeting will be held in Blackstock, organized by the Pine Ridge Garden Club. All twelve horticultural organizations in Durham Region will come together and share their creative talents, the friendship of similar passions, and to elect a District 17 executive. As always, there will be special guest speakers, so take advantage of this great event. (Continued on page 2)

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L to R: OHA D17 Director Rick Causton, Kathy Allam, Treasurer Denise Carter, President Hans Paats, Margaret McGibney, Secretary Mary Thompson, Lisa Ruck, Paul Cloutier, Past-President Leslie Tate, Bonny Langille, Rahe Richards; Absent - Jane Austin

Congratulations!



The 2019 **President's Awards** were presented to Eric Tuinman and Lisa Ruck.



MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Bonny Langille - I've been living and gardening in Whitby for over 20 years. I've recently retired from working in the office at Brooklin United Church and now have as much time as I like to spend in the garden. My garden has been evolving from a clean slate new suburban yard to a well established garden. I love perennials and brought tons of "my babies" with me when I moved from Ottawa with my husband and 4 children (now grown and moved away). Over the years my full-sun garden, became a nearly full-shade garden, but now as we lose some older trees, it is moving back to more sun filled. I'm moving towards lower maintenance shrubs and bigger perennials, but I've always got room when someone says, "Would you like a piece of my?" or "Have you tried this great new plant?" I love nothing better than getting up early in the summer to enjoy coffee and a book on the back patio.... - no, wait! That's not how it goes - my coffee goes cold as I notice something that needs deadheading, or weeding, or trimming,....! I love being a part of BHS because there is always something new to learn, from both members and speakers and I'm looking forward to helping the organization keep 'growing' strong!!

Rahe Richards – I moved to Whitby in May 2017 after having lived and gardened in Richmond Hill for 30 years. I'm an avid gardener who collects unusual plants and was happy to buy a house that was a complete blank slate of lawn. I had brought some of my prize plants and fish so I started setting up the gardens right away. I created a mainly succulent/cacti garden at the front, added a rose bed, hosta gardens and assorted perennial beds and built a large pond/waterfall for the fish.

I love everything about gardening and have been on the board of directors of Richmond Hill Horticultural Society since 2012. I'm very happy to join the board of Brooklin Horticultural Society and look forward to participating in the various activities.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Cont'd from page I

As next year is our 100th anniversary, a committee has been established chaired by Paul Cloutier, to identify and organize a number of special activities. Of special early note is the competition for the photograph to be used for our 2021 Yearbook cover. Every picture submitted will be eligible, and the winning picture selected from all of the category winners, collected at the end of this year. What a great opportunity to be part of a historic event!

2020 will be a busy year, and once again, I continue to encourage your participation in any of the multitude of events or services needed to conduct a successful club. It doesn't take a huge amount. Just two examples that I always appreciate: the Hospitality table, organized by Anne Keefer and Valerie Skinner, and the Draw Prize table that I coordinate. Small contributions go a long way!

Let's make this a great year, in honor of all those who loved the Brooklin Horticultural Society it in the past, and those who love it now. *Hans Paats*



Lesine Susan Tate passed away on Monday Jan 27, 2020. Leslie had been an active member of the Brooklin Horticultural Society (BHS) since joining in 2006, after retiring from a 35 year career with the Royal Bank. Her joy of all things gardening was evident no matter what role she took on within BHS and more recently within the OHA D17 organization. Leslie was a friend to many of us. She was caring not only about the people around her but also about her impact on our earth. She was dependable, organized and got things done. She was funloving joining in with her friends and family with energy, enthusiasm and wearing that wonderful infectious smile. She will be greatly missed by all of us. Our deepest condolences to Leslie's family.

Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

Wednesday Mar 25	SEEDS, MAGAZINE, BOOKS, ETC., RECYCLE Guest Speaker: Martin Galloway Topic: "Springtime at Chalk Lake" Speaker co-sponsored with Whitby in Bloom. Please donate a non-perishable food item.
Saturday April 18	DISTRICT 17 AGM "Salute to Spring" Hosted by Pine Ridge Garden Club Location: Blackstock Recreation Centre, 3440 Church St., Blackstock, ON Speakers: Ben Cullen – "Green Gardening" and Deborah Pearson – "Polar Bears to Carrots, Gardening in a Changing Climate" Also includes flower & design show, silent auction, photo competition, luncheon, and vendors. Hospitality at 8:30am, meeting begins at 9:30am. Registration Fee \$30 in advance to BHS by March 27, or \$35 at the door. Show schedule and photo classes on Brooklin Horticultural Society website.
Wednesday April 22	THE NARCISSUS SHOW Guest Speaker: Conrad Richter, Richter's Herbs Topic: "Some Amazing Herbs You May Not Know But Should" Speaker co-sponsored with Whitby in Bloom. Please donate a non-perishable food item.
Saturday May 23	BHS Plant and Rainbarrel Sale Location: Grass Park, Cassels Road East, Brooklin. Time: 9:00am

Sat Apr 18 2020 - D17 AGM Photo Classes

Entries must be received no later than March 30, 2020. Deliver or mail entries to:

Norma Haney, 51 Suggitt Drive, Nestleton, ON LOB 1L0 Inquiries to: nhaney51@gmail.com; if delivering, call ahead – 905-986-0614 Rules and regulations of the competition are posted on the BHS Website: https://www.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com/2020-d17-agm.html

PH01	Salute to Spring	Sig
PH02	Behold Beauty	Clo
PH03	Summer Jewels	Μι
PH04	Focal Point	Ga
		arc
PH05	Visiting Pollinators	Sho
PH06	Fall's Palette	Fal
PH07	Day's End	Sur
PH08	Winter Wonderland	Lar

Signs of spring Close up of single bloom Multiple blooms (one cultivar) Garden scene including art/ architecture Shown on plants/flowers Fall Colours Sunset Landscape

Park of Reflection

When we return to the Park this spring we will find tremendous change. Not with the park itself, but the surrounding area. Work on the Nordic Spa is in full swing, as is the residential building to the west. The road & the parking lot are full of potholes.

Once you get past all of the above & reach the park all is well. I visited the park today just to see how it has fared so far this winter. All looks good. Nature has been kind.

Any one interested in doing late winter/early spring pruning? Let me know. Those "red stick" (aka dogwood) shrubs need some TLC.

Cheers,

Kathy Alllam



Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Debi Foster** on winning the "2019 Yearbook Cover and Bookmark" class. The photos were collected at the October 2019 show and judged by the BHS Board. Debi has definitely got an eye for capturing the perfect picture. This photo had also won Best In Show at the Oct 2019 show and on top of that, Debi took home the Jone Photography Award at the November 2019 AGM for highest accumulated photography points.

100th Anniversary Yearbook Cover and Bookmark Contest

As 2021 is the 100th anniversary of the Brooklin Horticultural Society, all 1st place photos throughout 2020 will be candidates for the 100th anniversary Yearbook cover and Bookmark. These photos will be collected and judged by the board. Photos will be returned to exhibitors.

Other Events of Note

Sat Feb 29 9:30 am – 2:30 pm	SEEDY SATURDAY Organized by Georgina-Brock Garden Club. Co-hosted by Beaverton, Cannington& Georgina-
Sunday Afternoons Mar I - Apr 19 2 - 3 pm	RICHTERS SEMINARS - Free Admission to various topics relating to herbs, health and gardening. Richters Herbs, 357 Durham Regional Hwy 47, Goodwood ON For the list of seminars, please check out their website at <u>http://www.richters.com</u> . Also check
March 13 - 22 10 am - 8/9 pm Sun Mar 15 10 - 6 Sun Mar 22 10 - 5	CANADA BLOOMS "Birds of a Feather" allows garden designers to use bird imagery, feathers and bird baths, at the Enercare Centre Exhibition Place. Canada's largest flower and garden festival co-located with National Home Show. See 25+ feature gardens, free seminars, workshops and presentations, speakers including Mark Cullen, Ben Cullen, Kate Seaver, Tara Nolan, and more. Toronto Garden Club's floral competition, and Garden Marketplace. Admission to both shows: \$20 (Seniors \$17 & Students \$16)- save \$3 online prior to March 12. Register online for tours and specialty workshops. <u>https://canadablooms.com/</u>
Fri April 24 5pm-9 pm Sat April 25 10 am-5 pm Sun April 26 10 am-4 pm	PETERBOROUGH GARDEN SHOW, "For the Love of Gardening"our 20th show Location: Fleming Trades and Technology Centre, 599 Brealey Drive, Peterborough Nearly 100 VENDORS and exhibitors who are landscapers, gardeners, growers, teachers and designers along with many not-for-profit organizations; garden displays, workshops, demonstrations and SPEAKERS; an ambitious interactive CHILDREN'S GARDEN; the latest in garden tools, and so much more. Tickets \$10 – available online or at the door. For more info visit <u>https://peterboroughgardenshow.com/</u> .

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Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden

Start Thinking.....garden season 2020 marks our 14th since the Town of Whitby ceded the BHS Garden to us. There have been triumphs, challenges, changes and outright disasters. But through it all our garden has evolved into a truly unique park that reflects the diverse interests of our membership as well as a much loved gathering place for the surrounding community....and their dogs! After some spring weather challenges the BHS garden was at its best in 2019 thanks to a dedicated crew of volunteers and their strong sense of camaraderie, ownership and pride.

We need to keep that momentum going in 2020. Our goal is a true showpiece for 2021, the 100th anniversary of BHS and the BHS Gardens' 15th. Simply put there's much to be done. We need you, your ideas and garden savvy.

Again this year our regular meeting time will be Thurs evenings from 6 pm until dark, starting Thurs Apr 23 and ending Thurs Sept 24th. Also to accommodate planting and autumn clean-up, two Saturdays 10am-1pm in May, June and October (TBA). We also can arrange other times to suit you if preferred. So include us in your gardening plans - regularly or when you can. No experience necessary and on job training - hah. The BHS Garden - our park - needs you!

Faye Collins - BHS Garden Coordinator



Gardening Fun Fact

Can you identify these gardening items?

Answer: Scythe Handles

BROOKLIN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 100th ANNIVERSARY

2021 will be a big year for our Society. It's our 100th birthday!! Just think of the changes in the world since 1921. The great depression, World War II, men (and women) in space, the internet and the list goes on and on. However, the Brooklin Horticultural Society has been around and thriving throughout all the changes of the 20th century and 1/5th of the way through the 21st century. Quite an accomplishment. 2021 will be a perfect time to reflect on the BHS journey and our many successes. But it's also the perfect time to look to our future with exciting plans that take us into our second 100 years.

I have the pleasure of chairing the committee that will plan events to celebrate our 100th anniversary. There have been some preliminary discussions regarding quite a few ideas. Realistically we can't do all of them but be assured that we will celebrate our past and launch our second hundred years in fine fashion. Our community will be presented with ongoing reminders of our presence in Brooklin and Whitby and we hope to be able partner with the Town of Whitby in several ways that help us to celebrate and to raise our profile in our community.

Each of the newsletters in 2020 will have some information about what to expect in 2021. I look forward to sharing information and plans with you in future newsletters this year. We need your support and help to make 2021 a memorable year for the Brooklin Horticultural Society. Please join us on the journey.

Paul Cloutier

Whitby In Bloom Speakers

Once again this year, BHS is proud to partner with the Whitby in Bloom programme to bring some excellent speakers to our upcoming Spring meetings. All members and guests are encouraged to bring some non-perishable food items to donate to our local food bank. Thank you for your generosity!



On March 25 our guest speaker is **Martin Galloway** who will be presenting "Springtime at Chalk Lake". Martin holds a BSc Biology, a MSc Zoology, and a B. Ed. He has taught a wide variety courses at the college and University level including Human Pathophysiology, Genetics

Revolution, Diversity of Life and Philosophy of Biology. He owns and operates Chalk Lake Greenhouses in Uxbridge- a primarily wholesale perennial nursery growing a wide range of ornamentals and native plants. Martin is a wildlife photographer who loves to travel. He is excited to share his experiences with his gardens in the midst of nature in the Oak Ridges Moraine.



Our guest speaker on April 22 is **Conrad Richter**, president of Richters Herbs in Goodwood, Ontario. He has been involved with Richters since it's inception in 1967 when he was a child helping out in the greenhouses and fields after school and on weekends. His interest in herbs took flight when he helped his father

prepare the first Richters Herb Catalogue in 1970, working on every catalogue since. Through his efforts many herbs new to gardens in North America have been introduced for the first time. Conrad is responsible for the introduction of famous Richters varieties such as Orange Spice TM Thyme and Profusion TM Chives. Conrad has a Masters of Science degree in botany from U of T.

Getting Your Tools Ready for the Gardening Season

With the latest snowfall on the ground, it is natural for gardeners to start dreaming of spring. Now is the time to start preparing for the new growing season. One of the important tasks to complete before spring arrives is to get your tools ready for the season.

The first thing to do is to pull out all your gardening hand tools and clean them with a damp cloth. If you put one away especially dirty, scrape the dried dirt off, wash it in a bucket of soapy water to remove the residual soil, rinse in clear water and let it dry. Inspect your tools for any loose handles, bent or broken parts and repair, replace the part or discard the tool. Working with damaged tools may not get the job done, and you may injure yourself in the process.

Inspect any wooden handled tools for rough surfaces or splinters, and sand lightly to smooth. Apply a light coat of boiled linseed oil with a soft rag to the handle and allow it to dry for a couple of days. Rub with a clean soft cloth to remove excess oil. The metal portion of the tool should be inspected for rust, and lightly sanded with scouring cloth or fine grit sandpaper. Sharpen the cutting edge of your shovel with a coarse file. Following the existing bevel, or at a 45 degree angle, bevel the top side only of your shovel. Lightly remove any burrs from the back side of the shovel, but do not sharpen. To sharpen hoes, bevel the inside, or the side facing you when you are using the tool. The importance of sharpening the correct side of your tool is illustrated below. Wipe or spray any metal surfaces of your tools with light machine oil to protect the metal.



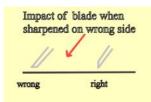


Photo: Garden Tool Maintenance

Photo: Sharpening Supplies

This is also a good time to sharpen your secateurs and loppers. Clean the tools with a damp cloth, and sharpen the cutting blade of your tool. On secateurs, sharpen the outside of the cutting blade which is the surface that does not touch the flat blade, and only remove burrs on the inside of the blade where it does touch the flat blade. On anvil type pruners, where the blade cuts against the bottom flat edge, sharpen both sides of the blade. Lightly oil any metal parts after sharpening.



Top blade Sharpen both eldes Ut down on center of bottom fiel edge Bottom blade Fiel on top

Photo: BBC Gardeners World

Photo: Garden Tool Maintenance

The last tool to get ready is you! Start an exercise program, stretch those gardening muscles and get yourself in shape and ready for the season. *Gini Sage – Durham Master Gardeners*

BHS Members And Their Favourite "Go To" Garden Tool

In just a few short months (hopefully!) we will all be throwing the doors open to our garden sheds or garages to get started on the 2020 gardening season. This is when we take inventory of our tools and gardening supplies and "add on" if necessary. We thought it would be fun to survey some BHS members to find out what their favourite "go to" tools are....just in case you need some inspiration or ideas for your 'start up' shopping list!! Here are 10 excellent responses:

- **Eric Tuinman's** favourite tool is the large garden fork which he uses a lot for weeding and cultivating. It helps to dig up dandelions in lawns, tap root and all, and great for digging up and splitting perennials.
- **Sherry Howard** can't live without her short, light-weight D handle round point shovel for digging, chopping, prying, weeding and splitting. She has broken and replaced the wooden handles at least 4 times over the last 25 plus years.
- Debi Foster's favourite tool is the Yankee weeder from Lee Valley, great for digging out tough roots.
- Mieke Allan's "go to tool" is a hoe to get rid of the weeds and to loosen the dirt.
- **Darlene Jenkin** uses a Dutch Hoe for veggie gardening and removing weeds from gravel as well as a hoe with sharp points her mother designed.

BHS Members And Their Favourite "Go To" Garden Tool - cont'd

- If **Marion Thomas** was to have one tool, it would be a garden fork. However she loves working with her Garden Bandit, a super sharp, scraping tool great for clearing large weedy areas.
- **Rahe Richard's** favourite garden tool is her fingers reinforced garden gloves. It helps to keep her fingers and hands clean and in better shape.
- Lynda Chapman's go to tool is the needle nose type pruner, great for getting into a shrub or perennial to remove the precise stem/leaf/bud. They are also able to cut stems of a sizeable diameter. Her favourite ones are ARS fruit pruners, 190mm or the Bahco Harvesting Snips.
- **Paul Cloutier's** favourite tool is his pruning shears, a versatile tool that can be used on all trees, shrubs and plants. Paul reminds us to clean and sharpen our pruners frequently for best results.
- Anne Keefer suggests our brain is the number one tool to....."develop a comprehensive plan before buying and digging. Why? You need to know what you've got to work with, e.g., space, type of soil, arrangement, types of plants to use and what they need in terms of watering, sunlight vs. shade, placement, trees or shrubs needed, accents such as benches, ornaments, fish pond, etc." Anne says you would of course do your research beforehand and "the best place to get this info is to be a BHS member and learn from others who have already done the groundwork".

Camino Pilgrimage

Last October I had the pleasure of exploring a different part of the world as my wife and I travelled to Spain to hike the historic Camino de Santiago. This is a pilgrimage route that begins at various locations throughout Europe and ends at the cathedral in the city of Santiago de Compostela. The cathedral is where the bones of the apostle St James are stored and pilgrims have been walking to this site for over a thousand years.

The route that we walked is called the "French Way" and starts in St Jean Pied de Port in France. The total length is around 800 KMs but due to time constraints our hike started in Ponferrada and covered only 210 KMs which we walked over 11 days.

One of the most enjoyable parts of the experience for me was walking through small historic villages and towns and observing the crops and plants grown. We walked past many small farms where villagers grew simple crops such as tomatoes, cabbage, peppers, kale and corn. Many homes were decorated with beautiful plants and shrubs - passion flowers and hydrangeas were particularly abundant. The classic combination of trailing geraniums in terracotta containers never goes out of style. Other parts of the route took us through forested areas where nut trees were very common - oak, chestnut and walnut. The smell of eucalyptus trees still radiates in my brain. As expected we also walked through many vineyards and past many olive trees. Walking by grazing sheep and cows just added to the experience.

Mountainous parts of the trail were particularly lush - lots of moss, ivy and wild mushrooms. At times I had to remind myself that I wasn't hiking in Ireland.

It's hard to describe the experience to those who have never hiked this pilgrim route. But suffice to say it was a very challenging yet rewarding experience - both spiritually and non-spiritually. It was very emotional to arrive at the cathedral and celebrate in the fellowship of our fellow pilgrims.

At the end of our pilgrimage walk we were awarded with an official Compostela Pilgrim Certificate. But for me the real award was the wonderful memories of walking through the enchanting countryside of Northern Spain. It was certainly a "Bien Camino"!

Eric Tuinman



Photos courtesy of Eric Tuinman



2019 SHOW AWARD WINNERS

BHS Award for Highest # of Points	Ken Brown
Marg Davis Award, 2nd Highest Points	Marion Thomas
Mary Housego Award, 3rd Highest Points	Sherry Howard
Windermere Award, Highest Points in Design	Sherry Howard
Fred Daw Award, Highest Points in Vegetables	Marion Thomas
Rose Bowl Award, New Exhibitor With Highest Points	Mary Thompson
Iris Trophy, Best Iris at the Iris Show	Ken Brown
Denny Peony Award, Highest Total Points in Peony Classes	Ingrid Janssen
Marg Beath Rose Award Highest Total Points in Rose Classes	Sherry Howard
Best Decorative in Annuals Show	Debi Foster
Photography Prize, Highest Total Points in Photography	Debi Foster

Clockwise from top right:, Judi presenting to Audrey; Debi and Judi presenting to Esther Clodd, Debi and Judi presenting to Ingrid Janssen, Debi and Judi presenting to Mary Thompson, Judi presenting to Debi, Barb and Judi presenting to Marion

LET'S SHOW!

About the BHS Newsletter - Meet the Editors

Tips to prepare for our first show, the Narcissus Show, on Apr 22:

- I. Do not show foliage with narcissus.
- 2. Cut specimens may be supported in their container so long as it is discreetly done.
- 3. The classes are OPEN, so you can enter two different cultivars in a class.
- 4. Check before bringing in your entries, that the specimen is LESS than the maximize size specified - when the show

schedule says UNDER 30" we mean it! Your entry will not be judged if it doesn't meet the requirement.

- 5. Pot/container sizes are the diameter dimensions measured from the inside of the top of the container.
- 6. Groom, Groom, Groom!

ABOVE ALL, HAVE FUN!

Your entries must be on the tables no later than 7:15pm.



Mary Kadey - "In 2017 my sister, Barb (Panowyk), invited me to be her guest at a BHS spring meeting and I was hooked! Member since 2018! My love of gardening stems from watching my own Mom derive such pleasure from her Scarborough gardens as I was growing up. Her roses and peonies were the show pieces of her garden". Having recently retired from teaching

high school English, Mary's energies and enthusiasm are boundless as she pursues her many hobbies which include travelling, attending gardens in check I have a practice of something in, something out, to theatre, reading, cottage gardening and golfing.

Audrey Atkinson is someone many of us know well, especially as she has organized the treats and refreshments for the BHS meetings in her hospitality role. Many of us also know her to be an imaginative and creative floral designer. Audrey's first BHS meeting was in 2012 when she also won a yearly membership as a door prize. "In 2019 Zinnia's and Dahlias were my new favourite plants, but Peonies are my all-time favourites. In order to keep my

.....

control that 'Wow I Need to Have That New Plant' syndrome."

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: Audrey Atkinson at 905-666-2178, 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