



# Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 3 Aug/Sept/Oct 2010

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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: [brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com](mailto:brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com)

Visit us on the web at: [www.brooklin.org/hort](http://www.brooklin.org/hort)



## Speaker's Corner

Our final three speakers for 2010 may not quite fit this year's theme ... Grow Naturally', but are sure to continue to inspire, educate horticulturally and expand your gardening horizons.

On **August 25th** at our Annuals Show, **Gary Carlson** from Daylilies of The Field in Orillia will present "**Daylilies 101: Everything You Need To Know**". Gary was treasurer of The Ontario Daylily Society for many years and once hooked he went from 0 to 1000 daylily cultivars in no time with the express purpose of becoming an official American Hemerocallis Society display garden. And what a beautiful garden it is - stretching down to the shores of Lake Simcoe. In his talk, he will cover all the daylily how-tos including hybridizing, hardiness, gene pools, and will even wade into the tissue versus root culture controversy. Sound dull? Not even for a minute. I think Gary might have been a stand-up comic in another life and comes to the topic in a way sure to entertain and in addition, his slides are great!

Moving to September 22nd, our speaker for The Autumn Show is **Denis Flanagan**, now the Public Relations Director for Landscape Ontario. His topic "**Garden Trends: Past, Present and Future**" actually puts the whole go green and grow naturally movement in context where everything old is new again. Denis has taught landscape design, been a TV host and lecturer, and worked in landscape design for just over 30 years in both Canada and the United Kingdom. His talk will take a look at gardening trends over the last century, their influences, and how and why there is constant change. We are delighted to welcome Denis as an experienced and entertaining speaker.

Our final speaker for 2010, **Veronica Sliva**, National Director of the Garden Writers Association and local gardener, will take us traveling. Veronica is presenting "**The Gardens of Malaysia**" at The Pumpkins, Pies And Picture Show on October 27th. She is an avid proponent of green gardening ... native and drought-tolerant plants, less watering, pesticide-free and commercial fertilizer-free, but has been traveling in the off season and has some amazing slides to share. By the end of October, we'll all be ready to leave our own gardens and travel with her. Perhaps there will even be some amazing garden practice to adopt or adapt from overseas.

Looking forward to gardening year 2011 and our 90th year as a society, I need some input and inspiration for booking speakers and future themes. Any ideas? Let me know who worked, who didn't, and who you might like to hear. And if you would like one or two meetings that are more or completely hands on, I need to know.

Please contact Faye Collins, 905-655-9695 or [madgardener23@hotmail.com](mailto:madgardener23@hotmail.com)

*Although many gardeners berate Obedient Plant (*Physostegia*) for being invasive, it actually is quite well behaved in my garden, providing a compact, upright clump that only needs some cutting back in the spring. On the other hand, anemones - both the spring-flowering wood anemone and the fall-blooming Japanese windflower have been invasive in my garden. The wood anemone created a root mat that choked out other plants, while the windflower aggressively sends out deep runners in all directions that are difficult to dig out with a hand spade. Remnants of both are still in my garden years after I removed the main plants.*

Jone Webster

## Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

Wednesday 25 August **Annuals Show**  
 Guest Speaker: **Gary Carlson**, Daylilies of the Field, AHS Display Garden, Orillia  
 Topic: **Daylilies 101: Everything You Need To Know**

Sunday 29 August **BHS Garden Tour**  
 12:15 pm Meet at Rotary Centennial Park, Whitby  
 See more information in article on page 5....

Saturday 11 September **Brooklin Harvest Festival**  
**BHS Plant Sale Fundraiser**, Grass Park, Cassels Road East/Baldwin St.  
 10 am - 4 pm

Wednesday 22 September **Autumn Show**  
 Guest Speaker: **Denis Flanagan**  
 Topic: **Garden Trends: Past, Present and Future**

Wednesday 27 October **Pumpkins, Pies, and Picture Show**  
 Guest Speaker: **Veronica Sliva**  
 Topic: **The Gardens of Malaysia**



*Volunteers at Brooklin Horticultural Garden  
 L to R: Lina Tureski, Faye Collins and Eileen Humphries*

### It's Show Time!

Get out and take your show schedule for a walk through your garden to see what you can share with us at our next show in August - just a week away!

There is a class for everything that is growing in your garden; if you are not certain where to put it come early with a clear container and let the show committee assist you.

Under the designs, Monochromatic - means all one colour, why not try one?

REMEMBER the doors open at 6:30 p.m. and all entries must be placed by 7:15 pm.

For information or questions regarding the show, call Mary Ellen Simerson 905- 655- 4927

### 2010 SOCIETY PHOTOS

If you have taken or will take digital photos at any of our activities this year, we would like to include them in our "Year in Review" digital presentation at the November Annual General Meeting. We welcome photos of our civic beautification plantings, Butterfly Meadow, and Horticultural Park, as well as those of our members at these locations, and at the Plant Auction, Harvest Festival and Garden Tour. We need photos of our "Open Gardens". If you have offered your garden for visits by members or have visited one of these gardens, your photos would be appreciated. Please contact Jone Webster at 905-666-2489 or [brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com](mailto:brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com).

### BOARD MEMBERS WANTED!

We need four members to join the BHS Board for 2010, because of retirement/resignation by some current members. If you can attend board meetings on ten Wednesday evenings throughout the year (first Wednesday of the month), and are comfortable using email, please consider becoming a Director. Board members discuss and decide on Society programs, events, and issues. This is your chance to participate in the leadership of our Society, while getting to know some great people! Please contact Jone Webster, President at 905-666-2489 or [brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com](mailto:brooklinhortsoc@rogers.com) to find out more.

## Other Events of Note

Thursday 26 August  
10:00 am

**Panoramic View** with **Linda Paulocik**, Parkwood Estate, Oshawa

Experience the breathtaking view of Parkwood's Formal Gardens designed by John Lyle, with its stunning fountains and landscape. Learn how the gardens were created and tour the various planting areas from the interior formal designs to the perennial beds. Linda Paulocik helps to involve the public in Parkwood's heritage garden programs in order to enjoy one of Parkwood's outstanding features.

Seminar fees: \$10.00+HST, or \$9.00+HST Parkwood Subscribers, or \$5.00+HST active members of Garden Clubs/Horticultural Societies.

Each seminar, includes lemonade refreshments.

Register in advance by calling Parkwood at (905) 433-4311. Sorry, no refunds.

## Whitby In Bloom - We Have Our Winners!

Congratulations to the following BHS members who have had their gardens judged and awarded **5 Blooms** in the 2010 Whitby In Bloom Front Garden Program:

Barb Borchuk	204 Pitt Street,
Marie Huxter	800 Athol Street
Karen Chabot	4 Cambridge Court
Lorna Ravary	39 Longfellow Court
Tracey McCannell	8 Dehart Drive
Patricia Evans	166 Watford
Mary Ellen Simerson	6800 Country Lane

I encourage all of our members to view these 7 front gardens and see how they **WOW**ed the judges with their own unique styles.

*Submitted by Mary Ellen Simerson*

*Two garden lessons learned ... 1. Always start with good soil, and 2. pruning a plant is just like having a haircut: it usually looks better, and if not, it will always grow back!*

*Kim Pileggi*

## Brooklin Harvest Festival/BHS Plant Sale

Mark it on your calendar - Saturday September 11th, 2010 is another big day in the Brooklin Horticultural Society Fundraising Program. Brooklin Harvest Festival and BHS will be holding a bonanza of a plant sale. This is our second big fundraiser of the year - so come out and support your Society.

We are appealing for plant contributions from you, our members - nice big plants in minimum 1 gallon sized pots. Equally vital, we need YOU and your friends to come out and buy these plants. There are always some great bargains and a few rare finds.

Whaddya mean you don't have room for any more plants in your garden? Come on, dig some up, put them in the sale, then you WILL have room for the ones that you buy. Or you always have the real gardener's alternative ..... there is still lawn that can be made into garden!!!

And of course, we need volunteers to help deal with this throng of contributors and buyers - so make sure that you sign up on the clipboard at the next meeting. New member volunteers are especially welcome. Try your hand at participating in this great Society!!!

It will be a fun day - contribute some plants, buy some plants, volunteer to help, and support your Brooklin Horticultural Society. BHS succeeds when you all participate in the events.

*Submitted by Brian Gower*

## The President's Message

It's now late August and our growing season is advancing into the fall phase. This seems like a good time to check on the progress of my gardening resolutions, printed in the spring issue of our newsletter.

1. **Visit other gardens and gardeners.** While I have not visited other gardeners, two groups have come to my garden. It was a double learning experience from checking plant names before their arrival, and from getting helpful comments from the visitors.

2. **Attend some different garden shows.** I received invaluable information from a seminar at Parkwood Estate in Oshawa, which offers wonderful speakers and great topics on a regular basis.

3. **Visit some specialty nurseries.** By the time this is printed, I'll have toured some nurseries in the Barrie area while attending the OHA convention.



Wildflower Farm, Barrie

cultivars of clematis.

7. **Take time to smell the flowers in my own garden.** I'm doing this almost daily.

While my resolutions are unfinished, I'm having fun pursuing them. I trust that you are achieving your gardening goals. Hopefully, you have attended some seminars or shows, visited other gardens and nurseries, entered show competitions, and/or volunteered on a BHS committee. Most importantly, do make time to enjoy the results of your gardening work.

4. **Volunteer at the BHS Garden.** My first Tuesday evening at the BHS garden was a rewarding experience. There are interesting plants to see, great people to meet, and lots of weeding to accomplish. I'll be going back when I can.

5. **Submit a floral design to a show.** My first submission to "pick and plunk" earned a third place, and my next one earned a FIRST! Still working on a floral design...

6. **Buy a really special plant for my garden.** I am excited about several new plants including tricyrtis (toad lily), Lucifer crocosmia, colocasia (elephant ears) and 6 different



Colocasia or Elephant's Ears

Submitted by Jone Webster



Thank you and farewell to Werner Valentin, a great volunteer and board member who has moved out of our area.



Connie McEllistrum and Jan Vallance groom hanging baskets in the Greenhouse in early May.

## Members' Garden Tour

Make a note of Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. Why? Because four members of our club have graciously allowed us to visit their gardens and you have been invited.

At **12:15 p.m.** please meet at the parking lot on the **west** side of Rotary Centennial Park, Whitby. (The park is a large passive park located across from the Whitby Seniors Activity Centre, 801 Brock Street South.) At that location you will be given maps of the gardens to be visited. We will then follow each other to the designated gardens. Car pooling is an opportunity to chat with fellow gardeners.

Beginning at 12:30 p.m. we tour **Marie Huxter's** award winning garden where a variety of perennials are showcased on a smaller property.

We then travel to **Ken Brown's** garden – this front and back garden is packed with a variety of flowers, a water garden and of particular interest is Ken's vertical vegetable garden – a must see.

**Sophie Bigham's** garden is an amazing 10 acre property featuring dry walls, a colour wheel perennial garden, rose garden and pond. It's a "wow"!

Our past president **Faye Collins'** garden is our final visit – Faye has an wonderful display of day lilies, perennials, grasses and a butterfly garden. Refreshments will be served in this woodland setting

New gardeners, in particular, will be given an opportunity to see how a designed mix of flowers, vegetables and other accessories can create a peaceful environment for your family to enjoy.

Any questions call Cosimo at 905-668-0002 (during the day) or Lorna at 905-666-4443.



Marie Huxter's Front Yard Garden

## OHA CONVENTION August 2010

Six delegates from BHS attended the two-day OHA Convention in Barrie in mid-August. The well-run business meeting included an election and the passing of 12 resolutions. The new President is Vickie Wiemer, First Vice President is Carol Dunk, and John Sellors is Second Vice President. Carol Dunk spoke about the first OHA-sponsored "Pollinator Patch" created at the roadside in Barrie with native plants. The "Roadsides" guide and photos are available at <http://conservation.gardenontario.org>.

There were three key-note speakers and numerous break-out sessions and tours. Paul Zammit thrilled everyone as usual with his high energy and great information on the topic of "Soul of the Garden". Shannon Wood, a biologist provided interesting facts about garden insects, plants and garden produce. Did you know that butterflies are red-blind? The dinner speaker Diana Beresford-Kroeger, a self-defined "renegade scientist" and author spoke about the positive medicinal benefits of many plants and trees, and asked us all to be advocates in saving them.

Next year's convention in Sudbury on July 15- 17, 2011 promises to be an interesting one on the theme of "A Growing Experience - From the Ground Up". Why not plan a short vacation around going to the convention!

*I have learned to be patient with plants, shrubs and/or trees when they have been behaving poorly or look like they have died. Trim back, water, and wait and you will be rewarded more often than not with a beautiful rejuvenated healthy specimen.*

Mary Ellen Simerson

## Ontario Service Award Recipients in April



Standing L to R: Lucille Huron, Ken Brown, Judi Denny  
Seated L to R: Audrey Young, Aldine Wick

## District 17 Annual General Meeting Saturday 30 April 2011 Orono

The Orono Horticultural Society extends an early invitation to attend the 2011 OHA District 17 Annual General Meeting on Saturday, April 30, 2011. The meeting will be held at the Orono United Church located at 111 Church Street, Orono. As Orono Horticultural Society celebrates 90 years as a Society in 2011, the theme is *"Treasuring the Past – Savouring the Future"*. The guest speaker is Henry Lorrain of 'We're in the Hayfield Now', a renowned daylily breeder. Below are details for the photographic competition. Full meeting details will be forthcoming.

### Photographic Competition

#### Rules:

1. This competition is open to all paid up members of OHA District 17, Durham.
2. Exhibitors may enter one print per class.
3. The exhibitor must take all entries.
4. Prints must be digital or film in origin. Photographs to include natural and horticultural subjects.
5. Prints to be taken during the last 24 months (from date of entry deadline).
6. Coloured prints not to be larger than 4"x6" with white matting to a size of 5"x7".
7. Names of exhibitors and winners will be posted with the AGM Photographic Competition display.

### Submission Requirements:

1. Entries must be received no later than April 1, 2011.
2. Identify each photo with a self-adhesive label stating: Class #, Title, Name of Exhibitor, name of Club/Society. Affix this label to the back top right corner of the white matting. No traditional entry tags are required.
3. Mail entries to: Lorna Atkins, PO Box 101, Orono, ON L0B 1M0
4. When mailing, please back entries with rigid material to prevent bending of photos.

### Categories:

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Ph 1. "After the Rain"             | Ph 2. "Joy of Spring"  |
| Ph 3. "Work in Progress"           | Ph 4. "Eye Catching"   |
| Ph 5. "Gardener's Delight"         | Ph 6. "On the Climb"   |
| Ph 7. "Where the Wild Things Grow" | Ph 8. "Awesome Autumn" |
| Ph 9. "Winter Celebration"         | Ph 10. "Anything Goes" |

### Prize:

Award Rosette for Best of Show – Photography, selected from 1st Prize winners in Ph 1 to Ph 10

### Judging Scale:

Horticultural Value 40%  
Photographic Value 40%  
Appearance & Impact 20%