



Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 2 May/June/July 2011

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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.



Saturday May 14 beginning at 10 AM BHS Plant Auction Bring your friends and neighbours!

Whether it's sunny or rainy, come out to Grass Park at Baldwin & Cassels Road for our annual plant auction with Auctioneer Ken Brown! This is your chance to bid on large-sized pots of new varieties and old favourites of perennials, and annuals, shrubs, houseplants and seedlings grown and donated by our members. Enjoy some light refreshments and the jovial atmosphere as bidders compete for prized plants.

We also need your plant donations. When dividing your favourite perennials this week, please pot up and label a couple of large divisions for the auction and deliver them to Grass Park before 10 AM. If you need assistance with dividing, potting or transporting plants, please contact **Brian Gower**, 905-666-4418 or bgower@durham.net.

2nd Annual Members' Garden Tour Sunday June 26

The Second Annual BHS Members' Garden Tour will take place on Sunday June 26th.

At 12:15 pm, we will meet at the parking lot on the west side of Rotary Centennial Park in Whitby (Byron St. South). The first stop will be Barb and Ron Borchuk's garden on Pitt Street. This small town property contains a rose, rock and vegetable gardens, pond with water falls, perennials and over 50 varieties of hostas. Other members' gardens on the tour will be announced at the May meeting.

Following our visit to Barb and Ron's garden, we will arrange a convoy of cars to other designated gardens. Maps of the gardens to be visited will be distributed. Car pooling is encouraged as it is an opportunity to chat with fellow members about their gardening experiences. We will end the tour with a brief social.

Contact **Cosimo Galluzzo** at 289-240-2982 or cosimogalluzzo@hotmail.com

or **Lorna Ravary** at 905-666-4443 or lornaravary@rogers.com.



Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

Saturday May 14 10 AM	Brooklin Horticultural Society Plant Auction Grass Park, Cassels Road East, Brooklin Auctioneer Extraordinaire: Ken Brown
Wednesday May 25	The Spring Show Guest Speaker: Paul Bolland , The Potting Shed, Dunnville Topic: Colour in the Garden ... A History
Wednesday June 8	Iris and Peony Show Guest Speaker: Elaine Davidson , Durham Master Gardeners Oshawa Topic: Hands on Herbs
Wednesday June 22	The Rose Show Guest Speaker: Frank Kershaw , Horticulturalist & Garden Designer Topic: Great Historic Gardens of Ontario
Sunday June 26	BHS Members' Garden Tour Meet at 12:15 PM at west parking lot at Rotary Centennial Park for car pooling and maps. Tour 5 members' gardens in Whitby, Brooklin and Port Perry and end with refreshments.



Where do you get your plants?

A recent trek to find a particular annual for one of our BHS gardens took us to Otter Greenhouses. The nursery is on the smaller side. To me, this is a good thing. The plant selection is incredible. The staff is friendly and most helpful. As the expression goes "its worth the drive to Epsom".

Kathy Allam, Secretary

Well, I go to several different sources but for my basic annuals I go to either Canadian Tire or Vos Independent depending on the variety available. For my special one of a kind, I go to John's Garden Centre in Uxbridge. I find he usually carries what's new in his stock. Just be prepared to drive up a long narrow driveway.

Julia Noakes, Hospitality Coordinator

My favourite local nursery is Mason House Gardens. Jeff Mason carries many plants unavailable elsewhere locally. Visit the greenhouse and feast on the latest introductions, including unusual annuals, vines, outstanding tropical plants, bulbs and grasses, out of the ordinary hanging baskets, a huge selection of named coleus, begonias, geraniums, heritage tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables, all at very reasonable prices.

Also specializes in unusual perennials, grasses, shrubs, water plants and a huge selection of clematis. While you're there, tour the garden and check out the tropical potscaping.

www.masonhousegardens.com

Sofie Bigham, Show Committee

Welcome, New Members!

Bonnie Berry
Libbie Burns
Janyce Clark
Gloria Green
Cynthia Harris
Mariane Hayward

Katherine Henderson
Andrea Miciali
Geraldine Mitchell
Michelle Nesbitt
Liz Peebles
Rosie Riviera-Lopez
Hazel Speed

We are having a Bulb Sale!

There are over 60 varieties of tulips, daffodils, allium, crocus and other spring bulbs to choose from. Place your order with BHS by the end of May for delivery of the bulbs in the fall. If you pay now, you'll receive a 5% discount on your order. These are specially-selected attractive plants offered to members at low mark-up prices. Pick up and complete an order form at the May 25th meeting.



President Fred presented Don Barker and Freda Ryder with certificates of appreciation for taking donations and issuing tickets for our fundraising draws for several years.

Other Plant Sales (if you haven't got enough yet)

Saturday May 21
8:30 – 11:00 AM

Uxbridge Horticultural Society Plant Sale

At the Parkette beside Mac's in Uxbridge
Contact Rose at 905-985-6516 or uxbridgehorticulturalsociety@gmail.com.

May 21, 22 & 23
8 AM - 4 PM

Sue Turner's Hosta Sale

57 Garden Street, north of Burns in Whitby
Contact Sue at 905-430-6638 or tigertails@rogers.com.

Saturday May 28
9 AM

Pine Ridge Garden Club Plant, Bake & Yard Sale

Nestleton Hall, Hwy 7A in Nestleton
Contact Marilyn Trunks at 905-986-5046 or marilyntrunks@gmail.com.

Sunday May 29
2 PM

Durham Region Orchid Society Plant Auction

Orchids, houseplants, and perennials
Fernhill Community Centre in Oshawa (northeast of Stevenson & Bond)
Contact Anne Antanaitis at 905-728-5336 or anneantanaitis@hotmail.com.

February Membership Meeting

Our first meeting of the year on February 23 was also our annual Membership kick-off. We were very pleased with the turn-out that included many new and returning members.

At the meeting, Kathy introduced our 90th Anniversary slogan "90 Years & Still Growing". She also announced the Anniversary Celebration event to take place on Sept. 28th at Brooklin United Church. Judi then shared the news of a 90th Anniversary Show that will take place on Sept. 9th, an event that will be open to all members of District 17 Societies.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Kim Pileggi for her production of our Newsletter for the past few years, and to Don Barker and Freda Ryder for taking donations and issuing tickets for our draws.

Our guest speaker was Alex Henderson, curator of the collections at the RBG in Burlington. His topic was "Through the Decades at the Royal Botanical Gardens". Alex spoke to us about its developments over the years and shared many photos that depicted these changes. Further, he told us of the adaptations RBG has made to an evolving environment and its ongoing efforts to keep up with ever changing garden trends and practices

Submitted by Kathy Allam



OHA CONVENTION

This portion of a fence picket (on left) was painted with our anniversary logo and slogan for submission to the OHA convention in Sudbury on July 15–17. A fence of all society pickets will be placed in a special garden. Thanks to Lisa Lynch for her artwork!

For more information about the convention, go to www.agrowingexperience.ca.

Seed Swap & Get Growing Forum

Our March meeting was our yearly Seed Swap and Get Growing Show. Well attended and enjoyed. Faye introduced our Anniversary Heritage Garden Challenge.

Mary Brittain of the Cottage Garden Seedhouse was our Guest Speaker. Mary spoke to us on gardening trends of the 1920s-1940s. Her emphasis was on what you would find in gardens of this era.

We had many exhibitors who participate in our Get Growing event. These included: Whitby-Ajax Garden Project, Durham Master Gardeners, Sofie Bigham's "Getting a Headstart", Kingsway Nursery, Ontario Daylily Society and our very own Show Committee.

Submitted by Kathy Allam

BROOKLIN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY GARDEN VISITS 2011

The following members of BHS are sharing their gardening experiences and inviting other members to visit their gardens. You are welcome to call and arrange a visit at any time during the growing season. Better yet, get together with some gardening friends and create your own garden tour. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to see what some of our member gardeners have accomplished – a great chance to view different forms of garden designs and see display gardens of specialty perennials. Bring your camera and take away new ideas!

Sofie Bigham	905 655-5929	Brooklin	10 acres, dry stone walls, colour wheel perennial garden, roses, pond.
Barb Borchuk	905 668-8364	Whitby	Perennial border, pond, rock and veggie gardens
Ken Brown	905 665-9411	Whitby	Bulbs, iris, vertical vegetables, water garden, front yard gardening
Libbie Burns	905 655-8823	Columbus	Hostas, perennials, ornamental grasses and assorted others
Faye Collins	905 655-9695	Whitby	Mixed, integrated borders – 800+ daylilies, perennials, grasses, native and woodland plants, butterfly gardening
George Cowan	905 655-7991	Brooklin	Small town garden, shrubs, bulbs, rockeries, clematis, peonies, water fountain
Judi Denny	905 263-4765	Enniskillen	Mixed borders – peonies, daylilies and other perennials
Eugene Gmitrowicz	905 655-3939	Brooklin	3 acres, ponds, 1000 hostas
Grace & Roger Inglis	905 852-6422	Port Perry	Large country garden in hilly setting, lilacs, dwarf evergreens, rock and perennial gardens, alpine plants
Marian Johnson	905 666-1141	Brooklin	Whitby-Ajax Garden Project (food raised for food banks), water-wise program, native plants & shrubs, 35 dahlia varieties. Open Saturdays 9AM-2PM. Lakeridge Rd, S of Hwy 7 on east side.
Eleanor MacAlpine	905 655-4104	Brooklin	Perennials, daylilies, roses on large town property
Joyce Marsh	905 655-3854	Brooklin	English country garden in a woodland setting before June 15 or after July 30
Lorna Ravary	905 666-4443	Whitby	Variety in a small town garden, pond, variety of clematis
Mary Ellen Simerson	905 655-4927	Brooklin	Country setting, May-June Peonies, scree, perennial, vegetable garden & a large selection of trees & shrubs
Dianne Stackhouse & Brian McLatchie	905 985-7823	Port Perry	Large country garden in a variety of settings
Jone Webster	905 666-2489	Whitby	Mixed borders of perennials, annuals, roses, grasses, containers, pond and waterfall. Dahlias in the fall.
Aldine & Don Wick	905 655-4065	Brooklin	Mixed perennials and annuals with a water feature

Visit the **Peony Display Garden** at the **Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens**, 155 Arena St. Oshawa anytime in June to see early, middle and late blooms. Festival held on June 11 & 12, 10AM-4PM includes peony show and café. For information, contact Judi at 905.263-4765 or mjdenny@sympatico.ca. Visit www.ovbgoshawa.ca or www.peony.ca.

President's Message

One of the aims of the Ontario Horticultural Society is for local societies to become involved in their community, more so with the youth of the community. Recently, your society struck up a partnership with St Leo's Catholic School in Brooklin to work with the school staff and students to maintain and design the gardens at their school. Lisa Lynch has been working with the school and the students for a number of years on this project. Now the society will become more involved as part of the school's Ontario Eco School Program.

On Tuesday, April 19th, I attended the Ontario 2011 Volunteer Service Awards. Our recipients of this award were Cheryl Penner, Nancy Skelding, Betty van Buuren, Jan Vallance and Donald Wick. Congratulations to all.

Fred Haggerty
President



President Fred presented Betty van Buuren with her Ontario Volunteer Service Award for over 30 years of service to the Brooklin Horticultural Society.

Speakers' Corner

Hard to believe we are already three meetings into gardening season 2011 and there's still not much showing in our gardens—truly a spring deferred as it seems likely at this point we're likely to catapult right into summer. As part of our ongoing celebration of the Brooklin Horticultural Society in its 90th year, our featured speakers this year have all been asked to take on some aspect of late 19th and early 20th century gardening and connect it to present day practices and trends. Hope you've enjoyed the first three as much as I have and now on to who and what to expect in May and June.

Paul Bolland continues the historical theme from yet another perspective with "**Colour in the Garden...A History**" on May 25th. Paul has worked as a designer for 25 years, is a well-known visual artist and also co-owner with partner Jack Kent of The Potting Shed - a not-to-be-missed gardening destination in Dunnville Ontario. He will bring his expertise in the use of colour from both a designer and artist's viewpoint to colour in the garden—a garden trend Paul says started in the Victorian era. He will show you how colour has been used to set mood, theme, pattern and take it right up to 2011 and its application in your own personal patch of colour. It will be a visual treat but practical as well—a not-to-be-missed presentation.

On June 8th at **The Iris & Peony Show**, Durham Master Gardener and OHA District 17 Assistant Director **Elaine Davidson** will present "**Hands on Herbs**". Elaine has gardened for over 60 years and has grown herbs for 45.

Elaine will take a look at herb usage—both medicinal and culinary, over the centuries and recommend her favourites and "can't do withouts" for growing integrated in your perennial borders and/or in your kitchen garden and in pots above ground. You'll get cooking tips, cultivar information and a hands on demonstration—a herb garden in a pot that you could create to sit near the door for easy snipping when you prepare dinner or a wonderful aroma as you come and go. And remember there are two meeting in June, so mark your calendars now so you don't miss this one.

On June 22nd, at **The Rose Show** and our final meeting before the summer break an old friend and one of Canada's foremost garden speakers **Frank Kershaw** returns with an old-fashioned slide show (yes, Frank has not gone digital) "**Great Gardens of Ontario**". Frank is a horticulturalist, a garden designer and landscaper, a lecturer and simply put, a passionate gardener. He will take us back to a time — late 19th, early 20th century — of great garden building in the areas bordering Lake Ontario and our big cities. We'll learn about the garden designers of that period, the gardens they created and their influence and inspiration on gardens today. What better way to head into summer and our own gardens. I know no matter how many times I hear Frank speak, no matter the topic I always come away with fresh eyes and useful information.

As always, your feedback and suggestions for future speakers are appreciated. Contact **Faye Collins** at 905-655-9695 or madgardener23@hotmail.com.

About the BHS Newsletter This newsletter is published three times yearly—February, May and August.

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 or newsletter@brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com.

Plant And Groom Sessions at our Gardens

The Brooklin Horticultural Society gardens are flourishing but will only continue to do so with your help and involvement. The Butterfly Meadow located off Winchester southwest of The Luther Vipond Arena is a naturalized area, well-established and not requiring as much attention. The Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden at Carnwith and Montgomery, west of Baldwin is coming along beautifully as we continue to add to the collections planted there and work on the new heritage garden we hope will get done this summer. But more constant attention is needed to maintain the larger more formal space. It is an ideal teaching space—a place to hone your own gardening skills and a community magnet as well. For both gardens bring your favourite gardening tools, buckets, etc. and come for an evening of horticultural camaraderie.

Butterfly Meadow—Thursdays semi-monthly from 6:30 PM to dusk: May 5 & 19, June 2, 16 & 30, July 14 & 28, August 11 & 25. If the gate is not open, park behind the arena.

Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden—Every Tuesday from 6:30 PM to dusk from May 3 to September 27. There will be a bulb planting and mulch spreading session in October—TBA.

Questions, information and schedule changes, contact **Faye Collins**, 905-655-9695 (cell 647-216-2736) or madgardener23@hotmail.com. BHS Garden only, contact **Bill Hooegeven**, 905-620-0521 or bill.hooegeven@rogers.com. Butterfly Meadow only, contact **Connie McEllistrum**, 905-655-4110 or conmce@hotmail.com.

Show Committee News

We are looking forward to entries in our “Heritage Varieties” sections this year—celebrating our 90th Anniversary. We asked that the entries be named or to provide a history if no name is known. What we are actually looking for is YOUR history with the plant—where you found it or who gave it to you and why you think it might be a Heritage plant.

If you did not get a copy of our list of Historical Perennials, Annuals and Vegetables to Grow & Show, please pick one up at the Show Table. You’ll be surprised to find just how many Heritage plants you are already growing and can show!

We are still looking for show clerks to assist the committee and the judges. Sign up at the set-up table or see any member of the Show Committee.

Questions???.....Ask any member of the committee (blue aprons) or give **Judi Denny** a call at 905.263.4765 or email to mjdenney@sympatico.ca.



Anniversary Update!

Don't miss out! Invitations to our Celebration Event on September 28th will be available to our members at our upcoming meetings in May and June.

The Committee has been working hard on the plans that will no doubt make this a most memorable evening.

We will soon be working on our new Heritage Garden at the BHS Garden.

Join us on the scheduled Tuesday evenings at the park and experience being part of this special initiative.

And don't forget to purchase one of our Anniversary Mugs!

Looking for Creative Help!

This year, BHS is once again participating in the Brooklin Spring Fair Parade with a float. The Fair is celebrating its centennial year, and BHS is proud to be celebrating its own 90th anniversary.

To that end, we're looking for creative input. We should try to combine our BHS Garden Park and the Butterfly Meadow with the Civic Beautification displays for Brooklin and downtown Whitby, and the two anniversaries, as mentioned above. The design could be simple, or reasonably elaborate, artistic or pragmatic, colourful and visually attractive.

If you have a design idea that could be constructed into a standard-sized float, or if you have plants, historical machinery, costumes or even the float trailer and towing vehicle itself to offer, or if you can help in the assembly, and subsequent dis-assembly of the float, please let us know. Contact **Hans Paats** at 905-655-3846 or thehague5@yahoo.com, or **Julia Noakes** at noakesj@hotmail.com.