



# Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 1 Feb/Mar/April 2013

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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.

Email any board member at: [information@brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com](mailto:information@brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com). Visit us on the web at: [www.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com)

## BHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING Wednesday February 27, 2013 7:30 PM

What a winter we have been having! Forget about the snow, ice and/or rain for a little while by joining us for our first meeting of the new gardening year! Bring a friend and come early to renew your membership, as well as catch up with old friends, and make new ones! Don't forget to "lug-a-mug" for coffee or tea while you enjoy some treats provided by the board members.

How fitting that for our membership meeting, two of our own members are speaking about their wonderful country property! **Grace and Rodger Inglis** will be talking about **Four Winds ... A History of A Garden**. Grace and Rodger have been gardening at Four Winds, in the countryside between Uxbridge and Port Perry for over 50 years, first as weekenders and since 1999, as residents. Their site offers challenges - steep slopes, windy exposure and stony, alluvial soil. In creating the garden, they have terraced the hillside, built an alpine and a perennial garden, planted a large number of trees and shrubs, and created many paths through the woodland. Join us as we explore their interesting grounds!



The membership dues are \$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, access to great speakers and topics at 10 meetings during the year, as well as eligibility to participate in our flower, vegetable and design competitions. Last, but not least, membership also entitles you to a 10% or better discount at many local nurseries and garden shops.

A membership form is being mailed to you, or it can be downloaded from our website. Complete it and bring it with you to the February meeting. If you can't come to this meeting, you can mail your form with a cheque payable to Brooklin Horticultural Society to: Dena MacDonald, 9575 Baldwin Street North, Myrtle Station, ON L0B 1A0.

**Welcome to our returning and new members and guests!**

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



So far, so good. To date, I want you to know that I am enjoying serving as your President. I am most fortunate to have Fred Haggerty as Past President and to be teamed with a most dynamic Board of Directors. Finally, we extend a warm welcome to our new director, Don Wicks.

Once again, this year, we are favoured with Whitby in Bloom sponsoring the speakers of our spring meetings, beginning with Frankie Ferragine AKA Frankie Flowers in March. Faye has lined up

*(Continued on page 3)*



## Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

- Wednesday Mar 27 SEED SWAP AND GET GROWING EVENING**  
**Guest Speaker: Frank Ferragine AKA “Frankie Flowers”**, Citytv’s Weatherman and Gardening Expert, Columnist and Author of *Get Growing* and *Pot it Up*.  
 Part of the **“Authors in the Garden”** seminar series co-sponsored with **Whitby in Bloom**.
- Saturday April 20 DISTRICT 17 AGM AND FLOWER SHOW -**  
**“Reflections of the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens”**  
 Hosted by the Oshawa Garden Club at LVIV Hall, 38 Lviv Blvd., Oshawa. Registration Fee: Advance payment to BHS before April 1 is \$30, or \$35 at the door - includes hospitality, luncheon, show entry, workshop, door prizes, auction and guest speaker **Paul Zammit**, Director of Horticultural at Toronto Botanical Garden, speaking on **‘Elements of Great Gardens’**. For more details and show schedules, visit [www.oshawagardenclub.ca](http://www.oshawagardenclub.ca).
- Tuesday April 23 5th ANNUAL PRUNING DEMONSTRATION**  
 Durham Master Gardeners, BHS Garden, 113 Carnwith Dr. West, 6:30 PM  
 Bring your secateurs or garden clippers and garden gloves. Rain date: April 30
- Wednesday April 24 THE NARCISSUS SHOW**  
**Guest Speaker: Sonia Day**, Painter, Speaker, Gardening Columnist for The Toronto Star and Author of seven books including *The Untamed Garden* and *Incredible Edibles*.  
 Part of the **“Authors in the Garden”** seminar series co-sponsored with **Whitby in Bloom**. Refreshments provided by AMICA at WHITBY for this meeting. [www.amica.ca/whitby](http://www.amica.ca/whitby)
- Saturday May 11 BHS PLANT SALE & GARDENERS’ YARD SALE**  
 Grass Park, Cassels Road East, Brooklin, starting at 10 AM
- Sunday June 23 BHS MEMBERS’ GARDEN TOUR**  
 Interested members will tour several local gardens, ending the excursion with refreshments and a brief social. If you know of an interesting garden to tour, contact Lorna at 905-666-4443 or [lornaravary@rogers.com](mailto:lornaravary@rogers.com), or Cosimo at 289-240-2982 or [cosimogalluzzo@hotmail.com](mailto:cosimogalluzzo@hotmail.com).

## WHAT’S NEW with SOFIE BIGHAM

**Seeds:** If you are into seeds, check this California website [www.swallowtailgardenseeds.com](http://www.swallowtailgardenseeds.com) for a huge selection of seeds for perennials, annuals, vegetables, vines and herbs. Many new varieties, inexpensive + low shipping costs and no tax to pay!! Recommend: an incredibly sweet white or bicolor corn called mirai, lime & rose petunia sophistica “lime bicolor”, zinnia super cactus “lilac emperor”.

**Clematis:** The 2013 list from [www.masonhousegardens.com](http://www.masonhousegardens.com) includes an incredible 86 varieties. On my wish list this year “911” and “Speckles”. I will have an extensive list of favourites available on the BHS website later. Also from [www.gardenimport.com](http://www.gardenimport.com), Princess Kate, Mrs. Harvey, Mandshurica, Betty Corning, Durandii.

**Roses:** This is the perfect time to order online (for delivery or pick-up in Port Hope) bare-root roses from [www.pickeringnurseries.com](http://www.pickeringnurseries.com). A great alternative to David Austin roses is the Fairytale series, included in the exciting collections being offered this spring – 5 for the price of 4 (\$62.00). Rarely available at local nurseries, don’t miss your chance to order these other special roses - Westerland, Ballerina, Father Hugonis, Distant Drums, Roseaie de l’Hay, Wingthorn (translucent red thorns), mini climber Work of Art.

**Vegetables:** A whopping 36 vegetable varieties this year at [www.masonhousegardens.com](http://www.masonhousegardens.com), including tomatoes (113 varieties), peppers (34), lettuce (37). Try the new mighty mato grafted tomatoes & peppers. Offered for the first time this year the famous cherry tomato “sungold”, highly productive & tasty cherry tomato “Ilde”, dinosaur kale, male asparagus “Jersy Giant” (will reach a ferny 5-7 ft.), and wasabi arugula.

**A Note about Pickering Nurseries:** This specialty rose nursery (once located in Pickering but since 2004 in Port Hope) ships bare root roses all over North America. Their website announces to their US customers “due to a desire by agriculture departments to “re-interpret” existing rules we are unable to ship roses to the United States this season.... Please be aware that whatever hardship and annoyance you’re feeling about not being able to receive an order, this business (its employees and owner) will suffer worse.” Show your support for this Canadian business by checking out their website and catalog. Hopefully, you will buy a rose bush or two. [www.pickeringnurseries.com](http://www.pickeringnurseries.com) or 905-753-2155.

Visit Sofie’s 10 acre property with a huge display of perennials, trees, shrubs and more during 3 - 4 free open dates yearly. Contact Sofie at 905-655-5929 or [bigham@sympatico.ca](mailto:bigham@sympatico.ca).

## Other Events of Note

Feb 21 - 24  
10 am - 8 pm  
(Sun: 10 am - 6 pm)

### SUCCESSFUL GARDENING SHOW, OHA's Floral Design & Plant Competition

A celebration of vibrant colours and imagination with hundreds of floral stylings, exotic plants, displays, garden creations, 'Hello Sun!' Landscape Competition, and shopping at the Dream Gardeners Marketplace. **Frank Ferragine** speaking on "The Time-Strapped Gardener". Adults: \$15, Youth & Seniors: \$12 (\$9 online). Free Parking. International Centre, Airport Road, Mississauga. [www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org). [internationalhomeandgardenshow.ca](http://internationalhomeandgardenshow.ca)

Feb 23  
10 am - 4 pm

### GET THE JUMP ON SPRING, Toronto Botanical Garden

Annual horticultural open house, presented in part by OHA. Floral design competition, marketplace, gardening advise, presentations and demonstrations, winter garden tour (weather permitting), book sale and café. Toronto Botanic Garden, 777 Lawrence Ave East, Toronto. Free admission, free parking. <http://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/special-events/>

Selected  
Sunday Afternoons  
Feb 24 - May 5

### RICHTERS SEMINARS - Various speakers on topics relating to herbs and gardening.

Feb 24 - Travis Philp on **Permaculture & Forest Gardening**, 1-3pm.  
Mar 24 - Marlene Wynnyk on **Sea Buckthorn - Ontario's Local Citrus**, 2-3 pm.  
Apr 21 - Steven Biggs on **Figs A Plenty - Growing Your Own**, 2-3 pm.  
Richters Herbs, Goodwood. Admission Free. [www.richters.com](http://www.richters.com)

March 15 - 24

### CANADA BLOOMS - 2013 theme: "The Magic of Spring"

Canada's largest flower and garden festival is co-locating with the National Home Show. See acres of stunning creative gardens; learn from free seminars and demonstrations; experience Canada's largest floral competition; and shop for your gardening needs at Blooms Marketplace. Direct Energy Centre, Exhibition Place. Admission to both shows: \$20 (Seniors & Students \$17). Save \$3 by ordering online in advance, or buy your ticket at Sheridan Nurseries in Whitby. [www.canadablooms.com](http://www.canadablooms.com)

Fri April 12: 5-9 pm  
Sat April 13: 10 am-6 pm  
Sun April 14: 10 am-4 pm

### PETERBOROUGH GARDEN SHOW

Garden-related vendors and exhibitors, speakers, demonstrations, garden displays, garden advise clinic, floral competition, Little Green Thumbs Children's Garden. Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Road. Admission \$6. [www.peterboroughgardens.ca/showhome.html](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca/showhome.html)



Vida Ycas-Abell demonstrated how to create various floral arrangements at our November AGM & Social.

## OHA Convention

July 19 - 21, 2013

Valhalla Inn, Thunder Bay

"Up North and Down to Earth"

For more info, see [www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org)

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *Cont'd from page 1)*

many informative speakers for the remainder of the year.

This year, BHS has plans to involve and educate the youth in our community in horticulture. As a start, Pathfinders will be working with us in our Civic Beautification efforts. As well, we have established a bursary at Durham College for a student registered in their Horticultural Technician program.

Another new initiative, partially resurrected from the past, is a number of activities and outings planned for residents at The Court in Brooklin; a trip to the Oshawa Peony Gardens, a visit to Sofie's garden plus a few other events. These let us and the residents share in the experience of therapeutic horticulture.

One significant change for us this year - instead of our annual Plant Auction, we will be having a Plant Sale, together with a Gardeners' Yard Sale. Same day, same time and same place. More info to come.

And do take a close look at your 2013 Yearbook. Your comments on the changes would be appreciated.

Kathy Allam

## BHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2013

### OFFICERS

President - Kathy Allam, Past President - Fred Haggerty,  
First Vice President - Dena Macdonald,  
Treasurer - Aldine Wick, Secretary - Hans Paats.

### NEW BOARD MEMBER

Welcome back to **Don Wick** who has rejoined the board. With 40 years of membership, Don was previously on the board from 2002 to 2007, when he was also chair of our Civic Beautification committee. He has continued to volunteer for CB to the present. For several years, he successfully recruited corporate members for BHS. He has also been a member of the Whitby in Bloom steering committee since its inception.



Front Row (L to R): Aldine Wick, Sherry Howard, Margaret McGibney, Jone Webster, Dena MacDonald, Kathy Allam  
Back Row: Eileen Humphries, Hans Paats, Fred Haggerty  
Missing: Jane Austin, Don Wick

## LET'S SHOW IN 2013

We look forward to seeing your labours of love in our shows this year. The BHS show schedule is very extensive and as a result caters to every gardener regardless of whether you have a large or small garden and regardless of whether you grow everything under the sun or maybe you just specialize in hostas. If you're not sure what the specimen is or which class it belongs to, bring it to the show and someone will help you. There is always that catchall 'Any Other Perennial' or 'Any Other Annual'. Bottom line is that whatever you have will fit into one of the many classes.

Here's a couple of tips to get you started:

1. **"Classes are OPEN"**: What does it mean?  
This means that you can enter two items, however, they must be two different cultivars, eg., two different 'breeds'. For example, if the class is 'Rose, Hybrid Tea, pink or red', you may enter a 'Mr Lincoln' and an 'Alec's Red', but not two 'Mr Lincolns' or two 'Alec's Red'.
2. **N.I.P. - Name if possible.**  
Where possible, provide the name of your cultivar. If two

specimens are showing equally, the judge will give preference to the one with the name on the entry tag. Remember that the shows provide educational value, too.

### 3. Foliage - to show or not to show.

Foliage is always shown **except for**: narcissus, hyacinth and daylily classes. When showing foliage, you must use the foliage from the same plant. The foliage does not have to be attached to the stem as some specimens may not have foliage attached on the stem from where the bloom arises, eg., a dahlia bloom. The foliage should be cleaned, trimmed of damage and washed as needed, but not oiled or polished.

### 4. Groom, Groom, Groom!

Grooming is a must. Remove evidence of insects, disease, dust, stains, pollen and any other foreign material from the blooms and foliage.

### 5. Above all, HAVE FUN!

Sherry Howard, Show Committee  
905-668-7640 or [howard21@rogers.com](mailto:howard21@rogers.com)



Enjoying the desserts at the November AGM & Social



Pat, Brian & Ken at the November AGM & Social

## SPEAKER'S CORNER

We are delighted to announce that the Town of Whitby's Whitby in Bloom Committee is partnering again with us to present three outstanding gardening speakers! This year's theme is '**Authors in the Garden**'. Books published in 2011 and 2012 by each of the three gardening authors speaking at our meetings from March to May will be available at the meetings.

### FRANK FERRAGINE - March 27

Frank also known as Frankie Flowers is one of Canada's most popular weathermen and gardening experts. He is seen daily on Citytv's *Breakfast Television* and appears often on *Cityline*. He has won Landscape Ontario's Garden Communicator of the Year award twice, and is known for his practical advice and passion for plants and gardening, often presented with a dose of humour. In 2010, his Disney-inspired Tinker Bell's Garden won 3 awards at *Canada Blooms*. Frank is still active in his family's greenhouse/garden centre operation. He is a regular contributor to *Canadian Living* and *Canadian Gardening* magazines. He is the author of two best selling books: *Get Growing, An Everyday Guide to High-impact, Low-fuss Gardens* (2011) and *Pot it Up, 150 Fresh Ideas for Beautiful Easy-to-grow Containers* (2012). [www.frankieflowers.com](http://www.frankieflowers.com).

### SONIA DAY - April 24

Sonia is a well-known writer, painter and plant buff. Her large acrylic paintings are in the City of Toronto's permanent art collection. Her small watercolours have been prized by private collectors and corporations. Sonia's books and weekly newspaper column have gained her a wide audience

of fans. Her column, *The Real Dirt* appears in the Life section of the *Saturday Toronto Star*. She is a well-known speaker at major gardening events including *Canada Blooms*. As an author of seven books, Sonia has won several awards. Her latest book, *The Untamed Garden* won gold in 2012 for Best Book of the Year from the Garden Writer's Association. *Incredible Edibles* won silver at the Canadian Cookbook Awards in 2011. Sonia maintains a large garden on 48 acres in rural Ontario, where she grows garlic and fat globe artichokes with great pride. [www.soniaday.com](http://www.soniaday.com) (AMICA at Whitby has generously offered to provide refreshments for this meeting.)

### MARJORIE HARRIS May 22

Marjorie Harris has two passions: to write and to garden. She has been the gardening columnist for *The Globe and Mail* since 1990; the same year that she published her first book, *The Canadian Gardener*. Her most recent book is *Thrifty Gardening From the Ground Up*. (More about Marjorie in the next issue of the BHS Newsletter.)

Our sincere thanks to the Town of Whitby's Whitby in Bloom committee for co-sponsoring these fantastic speakers.

We are happy to report that Kathy Allam will be working with Faye Collins to arrange our future speakers. If you have any comments or recommendations on speakers or topics, contact Kathy, 905-430-7213, [kathyallam@hotmail.ca](mailto:kathyallam@hotmail.ca) or Faye at 905-655-9695, [madgardener23@hotmail.com](mailto:madgardener23@hotmail.com).



Winter at the BHS Garden at 113 Carnwith Dr. West



Winter at the BHS Garden at 113 Carnwith Dr. West

## SEED SWAP - MARCH 27

Don't forget to bring your extra seeds, summer bulbs, tubers, rhizomes and cuttings to the seed swap at the March meeting. You'll help out other gardeners and maybe take home some goodies yourself! Remember to label your donations.

## BLOOMING IN BROOKLIN by Ken Brown

Read Ken's monthly column in the Brooklin Town Crier for gardening news and views. Can't wait for the newspaper or don't get it? Check Ken's website where he shares his extensive knowledge at [www.gardeningenjoyed.com](http://www.gardeningenjoyed.com). There, you can sign up for his newsletter 'Dallying in the Dirt', for "tips and smiles from Ken's gardening life".

## CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

This year, the CB committee is no longer preparing hanging baskets for downtown Whitby and Brooklin. Therefore, the committee has combined with the BHS Garden and Butterfly Meadow committee to create a new and improved Civic Beautification Committee. We are already enthusiastically working on plans for the coming year for the flower beds, the Garden and Meadow. Faye Collins will still oversee the comings and goings in the Garden and Meadow, and Eileen Humphries and I will oversee the rest.

If you would like to join the committee, please contact Eileen ([nanah@sympatico.ca](mailto:nanah@sympatico.ca) or 905-430-0416) or me. However, you don't need to take part in the planning process, or join the committee to volunteer later in the year at one of our

planting locations. I invite everyone to come out and join your fellow members in the garden. It's a fantastic social experience to share and learn.

This year, we are offering a rewards program for any volunteer. More about that from our President Kathy Allam at the next meeting.

Jenny-Lynn Gasparek, [daylilycrazy@gmail.com](mailto:daylilycrazy@gmail.com)

### MARJORIE MASON'S "Let's get Growing"

CKDO Radio, 107.7 FM, 1580 AM

Speaker, author, garden tour host, and provider of new and unusual plants to Mason House Gardens in Uxbridge, Marjorie hosts an hour of gardening news and answers listeners' questions every Saturday morning at 9 am, re-starting on March 30.

## 2012 BHS AWARD WINNERS

### LIFE MEMBER AWARD - NANCY SKELDING

Nancy joined BHS in 1992 and has been helping with every show since 1999. With this recognition of her long standing service to BHS, Nancy receives a special lapel pin and free membership in BHS for life.

### PRESIDENT'S AWARD - JONE WEBSTER



Jone has been recognized for her contributions since 2005 in various positions on the board and her work as editor of the newsletter. She also took on the Treasurer's role during Aldine's recent surgery, and has coordinated our budgeting process for the last few years.

### PRESIDENT'S AWARD - EILEEN HUMPHRIES

Eileen is recognized for her many hours of volunteering in the gardens, as well as handling the bookkeeping for Civic Beautification. She also stepped in to head Hospitality this year.



Ken Brown received the BHS Award for highest number of points from Sherry Howard of the Show Committee.

## 2012 SHOW AWARD WINNERS

<u>BHS Award for Highest Number of Points</u>	-	Ken Brown
<u>Margaret Davis Award, 2nd Highest Points</u>	-	Mary Ellen Simerson
<u>Mary Housego Award, 3rd Highest Points</u>	-	Jone Webster
<u>Windermere Award, Highest Points in Design</u>	-	Connie McEllistrum
<u>Fred Daw Award, Highest Points in Vegetables</u>	-	Ken Brown
<u>Rose Bowl Award, New Exhibitor with highest points</u>	-	Gini Sage
<u>Iris Trophy, Best Iris at the Iris Show</u>	-	Judi Denny
<u>Denny Peony Award, highest total points in Peony classes</u>	-	Mary Ellen Simerson
<u>Marg Beath Rose Award, highest total points in Rose classes</u>	-	Judi Denny
<u>Best Decorative in Annuals Show (August)</u>	-	Connie McEllistrum
<u>Photography Prize, highest total points in photography</u>	-	Jone Webster

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