



# Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Vol 18 Issue 4

## Inside this issue:

AGM & Social	1
President's Message	2
Life Membership	2
Jenny-Lynn Gasparek	2
In Memoriam	3
95th Anniversary	3
Partners' Events	3
2017 First Meeting	3
2016 Show Results	4

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](mailto:information@brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com).

Visit us on the web at: [www.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.brooklinhorticulturalsociety.com).



## Annual General Meeting & Social Nov 23 - 6:30PM - St Thomas Anglican Church

November 23rd will be the Annual General Meeting for the Brooklin Horticultural Society for 2016. At our AGM, we will have an opportunity to summarize the 2016 season, review the financial status of the club, and elect a new Board, including a new President. It is important that all members of our Society participate and confirm the direction for 2017. Membership registration for next year will be available, and we will have an entertaining presentation provided by Century Home and Garden Greenhouses. The Board is looking for additional members. If you're interested in the future of the Society, or have some ideas about the next few years, come and join us. It's only a few hours once a month! Send me, **Hans Paats**, an email at [thehague5@yahoo.com](mailto:thehague5@yahoo.com) or call 905-655-3846.

**DESSERT SOCIAL:** This is our annual dessert pot-luck social; something we all look forward to. You are invited to bring a dessert or other snacks, such as cheeses, vegetable or fruit tray, for the buffet table. If you don't have the time to prepare something for the buffet, not to worry, join us anyways. It's a time to enjoy the company of your many society friends. Please arrive by 6:30 in order to have time to enjoy the buffet before the meeting starts. Help yourselves to the treats once you arrive.



**AWARDS:** Our Show Committee will be presenting numerous Show Awards for those with highest points or best submission in certain categories. Everyone who submitted at least one entry to our shows will receive a cash prize based on their total awards and entries.



**ELECTION:** The Director of OHA District 17 will conduct the election and installation of our officers and directors for 2017. For information about joining the board, please contact **Hans Paats** at [thehague5@yahoo.com](mailto:thehague5@yahoo.com) or 905-655-3846 before November 23rd.

**LUCKY DRAWS:** Each person will receive a free draw ticket for a chance to win one of many prizes, including seasonal plants. Donations of additional prizes are always welcome.

Join us for the closing social event of the 2016 gardening year at **St Thomas Anglican Church** on **Wednesday, November 23rd** at **6:30 PM!** Please note the location and time.

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP

I'm happy to announce that we took the opportunity of the 95th Anniversary to recognize the exemplary contribution of two long serving members: **Jan Vallance** and **Judi Denny**.

**Jan** has been with the society since 1998, served as President for 2003-2004, and received the President's Award in 2011. She was and is an active participant in our Plant Sale, Civic Beautification and with the BHS Brooklin Spring Fair float. Her feisty spirit and her scrub brush awards are well known, and she continues to entertain us each year!



**Judi** joined BHS in 1997, served as President in 2001-2002, and joined the Show Committee at that time. Judi was the recipient of the President's Award in 1999 and 2009. She has been our Archivist since 2002. She is the resident authority for exhibit quality and rule application. Her generosity of time and spirit are always admired and envied.

Both members have made a significant contribution to our society over the years of their participation. I am pleased to be able to recognize them both with Life Membership in the Brooklin Horticultural Society!

*Hans Paats*

## JENNY-LYNN GASPAREK

At the 95th Anniversary Celebration, I was pleased to be able to present Jenny-Lynn with a Special Recognition of Service Award for her many years in the BHS. Jenny joined in 2002 and served as President in 2005-2006, after receiving the President's Award in 2004. Jenny's contributions have been many, from the execution of our General Meetings, Show Competitions, BHS Civic Beautification, and our Annual Plant Sale. This year the plant sale was the benefactor of over 60 daylily plants from her garden. Her plant identification expertise was key in identifying many of the unnamed contributions provided by our members. Jenny is leaving the Brooklin area, but I'm sure her heart will always be with her many friends and acquaintances at the Brooklin Horticultural Society.



*Hans Paats*

## The President's Message

It's halfway through fall already, and I've still got hanging baskets at the house and marigolds in the vegetable garden. The fall colours are spectacular and have much promise for the next few weeks. The maple leaves collecting on the lawns remind me that this is the time for our October photograph show, but we've been very successful adding photo categories to more of our monthly Show competitions.

Our 95th Anniversary Celebration was a tremendous success. **Mayor Don Mitchell** presented the BHS with a congratulatory certificate on behalf of the Town of Whitby, recognizing our efforts and objectives in improving the gardens and greenspaces of the community. The unique entertainment and guest speaker provided a reward to all of our members for their efforts and contributions not only this year, but over the many years since the inception of the Society. My thanks to **Mary Ellen and John Simerson, Faye Collins** and all of the volunteers who worked so hard to make it such an enjoyable evening!

We have one more important meeting to conduct before we put our year to rest until next spring. November 23rd will be our Annual General Meeting - a chance to recognize our accomplishments, review our financial performance, award our Show Competition winners, and acknowledge some exceptional member contributions. This is also a formal meeting that elects next year's executive, but we also plan to have a unique and stimulating presentation by **Century Home and Garden Greenhouses**. The election requires a quorum, so I request that all of you consider participating with us that evening. The evening begins with refreshments at 6:30. Early membership registration for 2017 is also available with the same fees as last year. Join with us in the evening's activities!

Finally, my thanks to all who were so generous with their time and patience as they allowed me to serve the Brooklin Horticultural Society for two years as your President. I can't believe it's over already. However, I will continue on the Board as Past President and do my best to make sure our next President has as much success as I was allowed to have.

*Hans Paats*

## Welcome, New Members!

**Corinne Boissonneault**  
**Renee Cotton**  
**Sharon Robinson**  
**Carol Swain**  
**Barb Way**  
**Julie Worrall**

## In Memoriam

**VICKI TAYLOR SCOTT** passed away suddenly at her home on Sep 12 at the age of 63. Vicki was known to BHS as an inspiring and imaginative speaker on gardening topics. She most recently spoke at our May meeting on container planting. She was also a former member and Past President of the Uxbridge Hort. Society. Her enthusiasm and love of gardening was infectious and she generously shared her ideas and instructions. She will be sadly missed in the Ontario gardening community.

## 95th Anniversary

A wonderful fun-filled evening of fun, food, awards and entertainment was enjoyed by all. Attendance of 106 which included 7 Past Presidents, past board members, 2 new members, and 26 guests. Congratulations from the Town of Whitby and OHA District 17 highlighted the success of Brooklin Horticultural Society and thanked us for the many years of service within Brooklin and Whitby. We were recognised as the second oldest Society in Durham Region.



**Jan Vallance** and **Judi Denny** each received their 'Life Membership' for over 20 years of service to the Society. **Jenny Lynn Gasperek** was awarded a 'Special Recognition of Service' Award for her over 15 years of service as she moves away from the area. Thanks Jenny Lynn, you will be greatly missed. Highlights of our gardening success over the years were remarked on by our Archivist **Judi Denny**. From the standing ovation for our musical trio to our keynote speaker **Neil Crone**, it was a night to remember in our 95th year!

Anniversary Committee: **Faye Collins, John Simerson, and Mary Ellen Simerson**. Thanks to all who helped set up and decorate – **Ken Brown, Judi Denny, Sofie Bigham, Jan Illing, Audrey Atkinson, Lynda Chapman, and Leslie Tate**. Special thanks to **Joyce Marsh** and **Kim Pileggi** for introducing and thanking our musical entertainment.

## Corporate Members' Events

### **Century Home and Garden** - 905-985-2672

Beginning Nov 15, Century will be open for the Christmas season, all decked out with seasonal supplies. Hours will be 9AM - 5PM. Check their website for specials and hours.

### **Kingsway Greenhouse** - 905-434-3851

An on site floral shop is now available, along with a wonderful selection of poinsettias and cyclamen. Door décor, urns and fresh cut greenery will be available in Nov.

### **Lotus Home Interiors** - 905-425-4440

The Durham Area Women's Network (DAWN) is having a 'cookies and champagne' evening and Christmas market on Dec 2 from 7-9PM at Lotus. RSVP requested.

[info@lotushomeinteriors.ca](mailto:info@lotushomeinteriors.ca)

### **Rekker's Garden Centre** - 905-623-2300

Poinsettias Annual Open House is on Nov 19. Tour the greenhouses at 11AM or 2PM to see over 150,000 plants. Hours are 9AM - 5PM.

### **Sheridan Nurseries** - 905-668-3396

Christmas Open House is on Nov 19 & 20 from 9AM - 5PM. There will be music, refreshments and decorating seminars for the whole family.

### **Vandermeer Nursery** - 905-427-2525

There is something special every weekend: refreshments, children's crafts, fresh cut greens, door décor and discounts on poinsettias and cyclamen. Check the website for more info: [vandermeernursery.com](http://vandermeernursery.com).



## Next Meeting - Feb 22, 2017

Our next general meeting after the November AGM will be on **Wednesday, February 22, 2017**. Our speaker for the evening will be **Gini Sage**, Master Gardener and BHS member. In early February, current members will receive our next newsletter along with the 2017 membership form.

**Have a safe and enjoyable winter and a memorable holiday season!**

**About the BHS Newsletter:** This newsletter is published 4 times yearly - February, May, August and November. 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).

## 2016 Show Results

### April Narcissus Show

Best Narcissus	-	Jone Webster
Best Specimen (Other)	-	Barb Borchuk
Best Branch	-	Barb Borchuk
Best Container Plant	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Design	-	Sherry Howard
Best Special Exhibit	-	Lynda Chapman
Best Photo	-	Jone Webster

### May Spring Show

Best Tulip	-	Ken Brown
Best Specimen (Other)	-	Barb Borchuk
Best Branch	-	Sherry Howard
Best Container Plant	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Vegetable	-	Ken Brown
Best Design	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Special Exhibit	-	Barb Borchuk
Best Photo	-	Audrey Atkinson

### June Iris & Peony Show

Best Iris	-	Pat Evans
Best Peony	-	Vivian Willerton
Best Design	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Special Exhibit	-	Lorna Ravary
Best Photo	-	Audrey Atkinson

### June Rose Show

Best Rose	-	Joyce Marsh
Best Specimen (Other)	-	Jone Webster
Best Branch	-	Ken Brown
Best Fruit/Vegetable	-	Marion Newans
Best Design	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Special Exhibit	-	Marion Newans

### August Annuals Show

Best Specimen	-	Don Wick
Best Branch	-	Pat Evans
Best Fruit/Vegetable	-	Marion Newans
Best Collection	-	Sherry Howard
Best Design	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Special Exhibit	-	Joyce Marsh

### Editor Wanted!

If you enjoy writing and working with publishing software, we need you! Here is a wonderful opportunity to be creative. Contact the President or Jone at 905-666-2489.

## October PP&P Show

Best Apple Pie	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Pumpkin Pie	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Preserve	-	Ester Clodd
Best Dec. Pumpkin	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Specimen	-	Marion Newans
Dest Design	-	Audrey Atkinson
Best Special Exhibit	-	Marion Newans
Best Photo	-	Jone Webster

### Farewell, Simersons

Mary Ellen and John Simerson have left Brooklin for life by Lake Simcoe. Mary Ellen joined BHS in 2002, becoming a board member from 2003 to 2010. She received the President's Award in 2003 and 2010. She volunteered on many committees and received many show awards. Although John only joined BHS in 2015 and the board in 2016, he was an active non-member for many years; helping with the plant auctions and BHS floats for the Brooklin Spring Fair. We thank them for their considerable donation of time and effort, and wish them happiness in their new home.

### Bill McNamara, Plant Hunter

In September, BHS was privileged to host Bill McNamara, Executive Director of Quarryhill Botanical Gardens, a private research garden in California. Bill's talk was "Plant Hunting in China", a topic that he made fascinating for all. A knowledgeable botanist, Bill touched upon many aspects of the past, present and future of botany. He shared the experiences he has had during his extensive expeditions over the past 27 years to countries such as China, Japan, India & Nepal. On these treks, Bill has collected seeds and endangered plants for study and conservation, sharing them with botanical gardens around the world. A most enlightening speaker!

### Flowers for 'The Court'



Each flower show has some spectacular flowers from our gardens. After each show, **Don Wick** gathers whatever flowers people care to donate and takes them to The Court in Brooklin the next morning. The residents always look forward to this event and are there waiting to arrange them before taking them to their rooms. Thanks to all the exhibitors who donate at each show. The flowers are really appreciated by everyone.

In August, BHS had agreed to get someone to demonstrate arranging with the flowers from that meeting; however, no one was available for that day. Rather than disappoint them, **Aldine Wick** asked **Gordon Wick** if he could help. He kindly accommodated at the last hour, when asked. He was very well received and an enthusiastic group attended his demonstration. Thanks to Gordon for filling in.