

Brooklin Horticultural Society Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue 2 May/Jun/Jul 2019

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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.

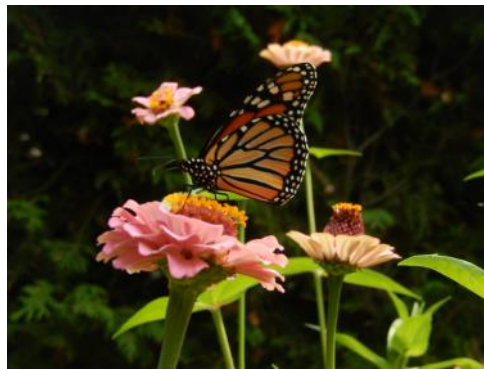
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Keeping Ontario Beautiful

"Drama In The Butterfly Garden"

Wednesday May 22, 2019 - 7:30 PM



On May 22, BHS in conjunction with Whitby In Bloom, will host guest speaker and butterfly expert Carol Pasternak. Carol will be presenting "The Butterfly Effect", a presentation inspired by her 40 plus years of raising monarch butterflies with her family. As an author, teacher and photographer, Carol will share her wealth of knowledge about the secret lives of butterflies in the garden and natural areas. Copies of her book, *How to Raise Monarch Butterflies: A Step-by-Step Guide for Kids*, will be

available for purchase (\$10) after the presentation.

As this is our last Whitby In Bloom sponsored presentation, please remember to bring some non-perishable food items for the local food bank.

BHS Plant Sale - Saturday May 25, 9am Grass Park, Brooklin

Saturday, May 25 will be our club's **Plant Sale at Grass Park**. Also, you can **pick up your Rain Barrels** the same day at the Church. I would like to ask ALL our members to **please** donate plants for our fundraiser. Please pot up your plants well in advance of the sale to ensure they look their best. You can bring the plants to the May meeting and we will make arrangements with the Church to use the side entrance lawn as a temporary holding area. As this is our major fund raiser we need your generous donations of large quality plants to succeed. Please remember to **label your plants with name, size, colour and growing conditions**.

Also, if you have any **gardening tools** you no longer wish to keep or don't have room for, please consider **donating them to our plant sale**.

Bring your friends and neighbours!

How to Order Your Rainbarrel

The Brooklin Horticultural Society has partnered with Rainbarrel.ca to host a rain barrel fundraiser. Each rain barrel includes a leaf and mosquito filter basket, an overflow adaptor, a spigot, and an overflow hose. Rain barrels are \$55 each and **must be pre-ordered online** at rainbarrel.ca/brooklin. Pre-ordered rain barrels will be available for pick up on the day of the plant sale on Sat May 25. For more information, contact **Jane Austin** at janeaustin000@msn.com, or 905-668-1054.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mother Nature is such a tease. We get a few days of sun and warmth, and then she reminds us that she is in charge and can change the temperature in a flash. Meanwhile, we sit and look longingly outside at the garden beds just waiting to be coaxed back into life. It is frustrating to see sun one minute, and then a blast of snow and rain, and back to sun. Such is the life of gardening in Canada. But really, where else would you prefer to garden. Each season is unique. Whether it's the stunning fall colours, the smell of earth in the spring, those hot sultry summer days and, yes, a beautiful winter's day. But, enough! Please! I want to get outside and play in the garden.

I am sure we will all have some plants that need to be split, moved, or no longer suit a particular area. PLEASE think about our upcoming plant sale. We are reliant on our members' generosity for plant donations to make the sale a success. And, don't forget to order your rain barrels. With the hotter, drier summers, a rain barrel is now a necessity (and certainly helps with the water bill!)

I would especially like to welcome all our new members to our garden club. It is always nice to see new faces and I hope you will find the year informative, entertaining and get to meet other gardeners. It is a place we can share not just plants and information, but friendships.

Happy gardening!

Leslie Tate

Hospitality

Despite the poor weather we had a healthy turnout of members for our first meeting in 2019. Thank you BHS Board Members for supplying the refreshments for the evening. Also, thank you Leslie Tate for supplying eco-friendly wooden stir sticks to replace the plastic ones we have been using. We would like to replace our plastic cutlery as well so if you see reasonably priced products please let the hospitality team know.

Please review the **Refreshment Sign-up Sheet** and consider signing up to bring a food item for our general meetings. Both homemade and store bought items are welcome. You will be reminded by phone call or email message one week in advance. Tea/coffee/water is available for a small cash donation to help offset the cost of supplies. Please consider dropping a Loonie or Toonie into the donation box. Please be mindful that the church is a "**Peanut & Nut Free Area**" and remember to "**Lug a Mug**".

Audrey Atkinson & Anne Keefer
Hospitality Convenors

Pansy Potting at The Court at Brooklin

The pansy potting event was held on Wednesday, April 4 at the Court. Special thank you to Audrey Atkinson, Paul Cloutier, Eileen Humphries, Mary Thompson and Leslie Tate for arranging the event. Approximately 21 residents took part, and all had a great time.



NEED HELP - BHS Open Gardens

I am looking for someone to help me with the "**Open Garden Tours**". This event takes place over the summer months. We will showcase two or three of our members' gardens on a particular day each month. If you think you can give me a hand organizing the Tour, please send me a note. It is not an onerous task and what a great way to see gardens. Please contact Leslie Tate at Ltate@rogers.com.

Welcome New Members!

We are thrilled to introduce our new (and some returning) members to the Society. We hope you will enjoy our meetings and have a lot of fun!

Connie Escoffery	Adele Murray	Lise Laport
Leon Friedman	Marg O'Connell	Carole Lawrence
Victoria Gould	Kathleen Patterson	Jamie Letros
Sharon Hope	Liz Peebles	Pat Lindsay
Lorraine Joynt	Peter Robb	Lynn Martland
Istvan Juhasz	Chris Ruck	Kim Marven
Carla Keel	Trudy Stevens	Mieke Allan

If you have a neighbour, friend or relative interested in gardening, bring them to a meeting. For questions, comments or suggestions, contact Membership Convenor, Eric Tuinman at 905-431-0594.

Upcoming BHS Meetings & Events

Wednesday Mar 22	The Spring Show Guest Speaker: Carol Pasternak - “Drama in the Butterfly Garden” Speaker co-sponsored with Whitby in Bloom . Please donate a non-perishable food item.
Saturday May 25	BHS Plant and Rainbarrel Sale Location: Grass Park, Cassels Road East, Brooklin. Time: 9:00am
Wednesday June 12	The Iris and Peony Show Guest Speaker: Bill Grainger - “Geraniums”
Wednesday June 26	The Rose Show Guest Speaker: Cathie Hooper - “Edible Gardening”



Pansy Potting

L to R: Mary Thompson and Eileen Humphries with Residents of Court at Brooklin

Sat Apr 27 2019 - D17 AGM

The D17 AGM, hosted by Georgina-Brock, took place on Sat April 27 in Udora. All 12 clubs comprising the District were well represented. The speakers were Martin Gallagher *“Your Garden Wakes Up for Spring”* and Penelope Beaudrow and Lauri Hoeg on *“Sacred Plants – Spiritual and Medicinal Uses”*. Rick Causton was re-elected as District Director with Kathy Allam and Leslie Tate as Associate Directors.

I am pleased to announce our club took second place in the team challenge and Audrey Atkinson took first for her design. A special thank you to Barb Panowyk, Sherry Howard, Kathy Allam, Lynda Chapman, Audrey Atkinson, Eileen Humphries, Marion Thomas and Leslie Tate for working on the team challenge (see more info on page 4). It was a lot of fun!

Audrey Atkinson’s 1st prize winner in the Special Exhibits, “Step Into”.



Congratulations Esther!!

Esther Clodd has been the BHS apple and pumpkin pie ‘baker extraordinaire’ of all time. It’s rare that she hasn’t been awarded Best In Show for her pies during the October “Pumpkins, Pies and Pictures” shows. In honour of her continuing support in the Culinary division of this show, a new award was created, “The Esther Clodd Culinary Award”. Each year this award will be presented to the member with the most combined points in the culinary division of the October show. The *icing on the cake* is that a new class, “dessert using seasonal fruit”, has been added to the 2019 show schedule to encourage all bakers and dessert makers. So, get baking!



L to R: Leslie Tate, Esther Clodd with award, Sherry Howard, Hans Paats

Upcoming Speakers



On **June 12**, BHS welcomes **William Grainger** as our guest speaker. William will be sharing his knowledge and expertise about **pelargoniums (geraniums)**, as he has been obsessively collecting and hybridizing them for over 10

years. He has hybridized dozens of new varieties, some of which can be found in many countries around the globe. William is a teacher, gardening radio show host and he also created his own TV show called ‘Growing with Grainger’. William, who prefers to be called Bill, lives with his wife and three daughters in Bowmanville, Ontario.

Our speaker for the **June 26** BHS meeting is **Cathie Hooper**. Cathie will be presenting **‘Edible Landscaping’** sharing her experiences of using edible plants to create form, colour and beauty in the garden. The presentation will introduce the topics of permaculture and bio intensive gardening, focusing mostly on perennial edibles but also highlighting annual edibles within the garden design. As a certified Organic Master Gardener and Permaculture Designer, Cathy loves teaching others to grow food so that we can all contribute to a sustainable food system. She is currently homesteading with her family on five acres in Warsaw, Ontario.

"Muddy Boots"

A wonderful group of creative and hard working members of BHS recently took on the challenge to create an entry for the District 17 AGM. The 'Team Challenge' is meant to be an "artistic endeavor", and this year the theme "Muddy Boots" is the inspiration! The group decided to create one design and a cute little teddy bear dressed in a mauve outfit was the start of a fun child-centered design. Essentially, a young girl is playing in a muddy puddle in the garden, making mud pies and cups of mud tea for her beloved bear. She has been called in for lunch leaving her Muddy boots near the puddle at the edge of a very pretty spring flowering garden.

The design has a variety of horticultural elements and the group is very proud of the finished product! The BHS team of Barb Panowyk, Sherry Howard, Kathy Allam, Lynda Chapman, Audrey Atkinson, Eileen Humphries, Marion Thomas and Leslie Tate had a great time brain storming ideas, exploring different creative ideas, fine tuning the design and of course shopping for plants!

Barb Panowyk



Congratulations! - the BHS 'Muddy Boots' design was awarded 2nd place amongst 5 entries.

FUN FACTS

Can you identify this gardening item?

Answer: Child's Bird Frightening Rattle



Other Events of Note

June 15 & 16
10 AM - 4 PM

The 15th Annual Peony Festival, Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens, 155 Arena Street Oshawa. Canada's largest free contemporary peony collection. Includes judged flower show, photo and art competitions, artisans, advice, demonstrations, entertainment and local cuisine. Free parking and admission to gardens. Come anytime in June to see early, middle and late blooms.

Visit <https://www.oshawa.ca/things-to-do/peony-festival.asp>.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Judi Denny @ 905 -263-4765

Saturday June 15
10 AM - 5 PM

Artists in the Garden Tour in support of **Hearth Place Cancer Support Centre**.

Local artists and musicians featured in beautiful gardens in Durham Region.

Tickets: \$25 (\$20 advance), Visit www.artistsinthegarden.com

Saturday June 22
10 AM - 5 PM

Gardens of Uxbridge, 23rd annual self-guided tour of seven private gardens. Local musicians and artists on site. Tickets: \$25

Visit <https://gardensofuxbridge.org/>

Saturday July 20
10 AM - 4 PM

Whitby in Bloom Garden Tour - Tour sites will be in Whitby and Brooklin with each garden being unique, varying in size, structure and plant material. In lieu of a fee, non perishable food items will be collected for local food banks at any one of the tour sites on July 20. Information regarding tour registration and the 2019 Garden Tour Brochure and Map coming soon. Check with the Town of Whitby website, <http://www.whitby.ca/en/residents/whitbyinbloom.asp#GardenTour>.

Pruning Tips and Techniques for Gardeners

Gardeners are often confused about how to prune shrubs and trees in their gardens. Many are afraid that they will do something wrong and damage their trees or shrubs or they simply don't know where to start. Here are a few basic guidelines to help you be successful in your pruning. Regular pruning is important to maintain the appearance and health of woody plants in the landscape. Sometimes removing limbs and branches from trees or large shrubs is also required for safety reasons to prevent injury or property damage. Pruning branches or removal of portions of large trees should be left to the professionals but pruning shrubs and smaller trees can easily be done by the home gardener with the right tools.

So, let's talk pruning tools. The most important tool for pruning is a good pair of secateurs or hand pruners. Bypass hand pruners (see Fig 1) are best for trimming small branches up to 2cm in diameter and will leave a good clean cut which will heal over. This is my go-to tool of choice so it is worthwhile to invest in a good pair of hand pruners. Anvil hand pruners are great for pruning dead branches and I find them especially useful for cutting back dead rose canes. For larger branches – up to 4 cm - lopping shears are a good investment. Loppers have long handles which give you more leverage when cutting the larger branches and some even have extension handles which can help you reach higher branches. A pruning saw can help you cut branches you cannot cut with hand pruners or lopping shears. They come in many sizes, with straight or curved blades, and fine or coarsely toothed blades. A good coarsely-toothed saw will allow you to cut heavier and thicker branches. Make sure your tools are kept clean and sharp and you will always be ready to tackle any pruning job in the garden.



Early spring is the best time to prune most shrubs, except those that are early spring bloomers, such as Forsythia, Lilac, Mock Orange, Deutzia and Serviceberry. These shrubs should be pruned after flowering. Always start with the 3Ds – dead, diseased or damaged branches and these should be removed from all shrubs regardless of when they bloom. Then remove any crossing branches or thin weak branches, branches growing downward or at odd angles from the other branches. With older shrubs, you can cut the oldest stems right back to the ground to help thin the shrub out and allow more airflow through the centre of the plants and stimulate new growth. Try to limit pruning to no more than 1/3 of the overall shrub in a season to maintain plant health. However, for some shrubs like Red Osier Dogwood or Pussy Willow you can cut the entire shrub right back to the ground every 3-5 years or so to encourage new growth. This practice is called coppicing.

It is important when pruning Hydrangeas to know which species of Hydrangea you have in your garden. The Bigleaf Hydrangea (*H. macrophylla*) varieties such as the Endless Summer® series and Oakleaf Hydrangeas (*H. quercifolia*) bloom on old wood, which means branches that were formed in the previous growing season. These are often damaged during severe cold-spells in winter but they should not be pruned until the new growth starts. Panicle Hydrangeas (*H. paniculata*) such as Little Lime®, Bobo®, Quick Fire® or Vanilla Strawberry™ and the Annabelle hydrangeas (*H. arborescens*) can be pruned in early spring as they bloom on new wood.

Fig 1 - top to bottom, bypass and anvil hand pruners, lopping shears, pruning saw

A correct pruning cut is made at a 45° angle about 1 cm above an outward facing bud with the highest point of the cut opposite the bud (see Fig 2 below). For tree branches it is important to cut outside the branch collar; this is trunk tissue that forms around the base of the branch (see Fig 3 below). If you perform maintenance pruning on your trees and shrubs they will remain healthy and provide wonderful elements of interest in your garden for years to come.

Ingrid Janssen

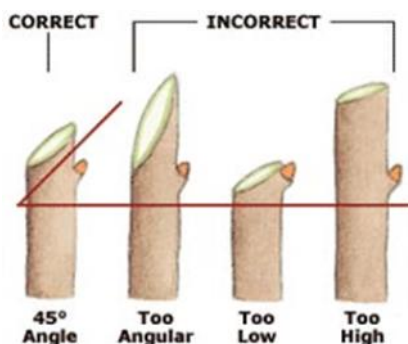


Fig 2 - Correct pruning cut

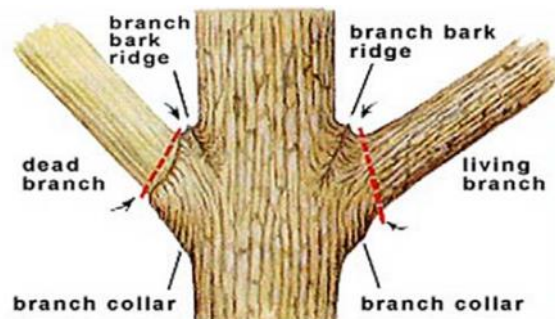


Fig 3 - Pruning outside branch collar

Ten Edible Flowers To Grow And Eat

1. Eat flowers only when you are positive that they are edible. Some flowers look very similar. Be sure to have a positive ID first.
2. Many plants you purchase from retailers have been sprayed with pesticides.
3. Thoroughly wash all flowers before you consume them.
4. For most flowers, only consume the petals.
5. If in doubt that the flower is edible, skip it.

Nasturtiums

All parts of a nasturtium are edible: petals, leaves, and seeds. They have a peppery, spicy flavour; a cross between watercress and a radish.

Roses

The intensity of flavour will depend on type, color, and soil conditions. The darker the petals, the more pronounced the flavour. All roses are edible, but before consuming, remove the bitter white portion of the petals.

Calendula

Also known as “poor man’s saffron,” calendula flavour ranges from spicy to bitter and tangy to peppery. Calendula’s color can vary greatly in a diverse range of yellows and oranges and the petals add a yellow tint to food and a saffron-like flavour, hence its nickname.

Daylily

They have a mild vegetable flavour similar to asparagus. Remove the bitter white base of the bloom before you eat them. Also please be sure that you are tasting a daylily (*hemerocallis*), as other lilies can be toxic and can make you quite sick.

Lavender

Like all herb flowers, lavender blooms are edible. They have a distinctive floral taste with a hint of rosemary/mint combo. Use sparingly in sweet dishes; a little goes a long way.

Chive

All allium (onion family) blossoms are edible. Their flavour is typically milder than the foliage. Chive blooms have a delicious onion essence and pretty little purple petals. Harvest the blooms along with the foliage and add to salads and vinaigrettes.

Echinacea

Commonly known as coneflower, Echinacea is a well-known medicinal herb. Although most of its power is in the roots and seed head, the petals are edible and will add a colourful splash to your dishes with the added benefit of its healing properties.

Squash Blossoms

The blooms of all types of squash are edible, but the most popular ones come from the male flower of the zucchini and crookneck squash. The blooms have a mild squash taste and can be eaten raw in a salad or stuffed with ricotta and batter fried.

Dandelion

The bane of perfect, green lawns is the humble dandelion. Nonetheless, the tenacious weed is entirely edible. The blooms taste the sweetest when picked young; they offer a honey-like flavour. Avoid mature blooms, as they tend to be bitter.

Viola (Pansy & Violets) These cool-weather favorites add brightness to planters, lollipops, ice cubes and cupcakes! They have a sweet, grassy/green flavour. Violas come in a plethora of colour ranges, which makes them a fun flower to use to decorate cakes and as garnishes.



Nasturtium



Calendula



Lavender



Squash Blossoms



Pansies

SOFIE'S CHOICES

Are you wondering what to buy this year? Once again **Sofie Bigham** has made it easy for us. Here are her choices for 2019:

Annual Artemesia makana silver Incredible cloud like mounds of soft, feathery, silver foliage.

Annual Crocosmia Prince of Orange This new variety with sizzling orange blooms will bring the hummingbirds. Highly attractive seed pods. I overwinter crocosmia in a pot in my garage, but may also overwinter outdoors.

Annual Datisca cannibina Cannabis?? Actually it is a distant cousin of squash with marijuana like leaves!! Rising to 8' tall, the clumps are 2' wide at the base and become 6' wide at the top producing long, contorted, pendulous spikes of tiny yellow flowers. I have tried this from seed, always unsuccessful, but now I can buy the plant!! Very cool!! (at Mason House)

Annual Impatiens repens New for me, unbelievable red stems, tiny round leaves, large, yellow flowers, cascades 4' grown in a pot. Rainforest plant, protect from afternoon sun.

Annual Jasminum "Fiona Sunrise" This jasmine has brilliant lime green leaves!

Annual Salvia elegans "Golden Delicious" (Pineapple Sage). Brilliant lime/gold, pineapple scented foliage. If you are lucky, spikes of deep red flowers in the fall.

Annual Salvia discolour Not new but cool! The stems, calyces & undersides of the green leaves are intense silver, contrasting with almost black flowers! Great in pots or hanging baskets.

Annual Grass Pennisetum noble Big, bold, tall, dark & handsome!! Last year, I grew "First Knight". It was the blackest, most gorgeous grass paired with orange or gold or rose. Full sun brings out the dark in the leaves.

Herb Basil "Toscano": An heirloom from Tuscany with gorgeous, crinkled, bubbly, wavy leaves, up to 5"! Pesto!!

Hosta "Island Breeze" First came "Fire Island", then "Paradise Island" and now "Island Breeze". All three have brilliant gold leaves, red petioles, with some red seeping into the base of each leaf.

Hosta "Aquamarine" Thick blue leaves, deeply veined with dark petioles, are *tinged with purple* in the spring.

Hosta "First Blush" We now have hostas with red petioles (stems), but this is a major breakthrough for red leaf hybridizers. Starts off with green leaves with a fine red edge. Then it begins to blush red from the leaf tip down!!

Hosta "Wiggles and Squiggles" Gorgeous low growing, bright lime/yellow leaves with extreme ruffling.

Shrub Callicarpa bodinieri "Snow Queen" has clusters of snow white, pearl like fruits that won't turn brown!

Shrub Cephalanthus occidentalis "Moonlight" is a compact buttonbush for smaller gardens, for normal to wet conditions. A magnet for pollinators, white sputnik-like flowers. "Sugar Shack" has red seed pods in late summer.

Shrub Hydrangea arborescens "Hans Halo" stands tall and never flops, even with its massive (up to 14") white lace-cap blooms. Bees go crazy for it!! Very drought tolerant. Blooms on new wood.

Shrub Physocarpus opulifolius "Sweet Cherry Tea" is the first re-blooming ninebark! In spring reddish orange leaves age to purple. Pink flowers, long lasting reddish fruit, then repeat mid-summer bloom on new growth.

Shrub Sambucus "Golden Tower" First there was the columnar "Black Tower", now "Golden Tower" for an amazing contrast of black and gold!! "Golden" has lacey, pinnate gold leaves like a Japanese maple. White flowers.

Shrub Spirea thunbergii "Ogon" has beautiful white flowers before leaves emerge in early spring. It's better known for its arching, unique twiggy branches, narrow, wispy, willow like leaves, first lemon/yellow, then green & finally brilliant orange for an extended period in the fall.

Perennial Anemone "Ruffled Swan" is the tallest of the Swan series (80 cm), blooming from June through October. Nodding icy white flowers/violet blue undersides. For shady woodlands, part shade. Clump forming. Note zone 6.

Perennial Dianthus American Pie trio – Perfumed, repeat bloomers. My favourite is "Key Lime Pie", white with a lime green eye. "Georgia Peach" is pale pink/coral eye, "Bumbleberry" rose-pink, crimson eye/pink throat.

Perennial Grass Andropogon gerardii 'Blackhawks' from the native Andropogon gerardii, this exciting new 4' tall narrow big bluestem turns dark black-purple mid-summer, has miscanthus like flowers.

Perennial Phlox paniculata Younique – compact series, up to 16", mildew resistant, comes in 9 gorgeous colours. I was able to find Younique Old Blue, Y. Old Pink, Y. Mauve, Y. Bicolour, & Y. Orange.

Perennial Echinacea "Playful Mama" - raspberry pink flowers, each curled petal tip dipped in white! Stunning!

Perennial Sempervivum "Gold Nugget": Common name Hens & Chicks. This chick really stands out with its unusual colours!! It begins golden/yellow with red picotee edge, then lime/green over summer and back to gold/red in the fall. Stunning rosettes up to 5" in diameter. Chick Charms series

Perennial Thalictrum "Splendide" is a giant, willowy meadow rue with delicate, fern like foliage. The top 3' is like a cloud of pink baby's breath on steroids. Sterile, blooms all summer. Grows 6-9', will need support.

Join Us In the Gardens

Brooklin Horticultural Society

Garden - First, and most important, the evenings for working on this garden have changed to Thursdays. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday Evenings....6-8:30 PM, or til dark

April...18 &25
 May....2,9, 16, 23 ,30
 June...6,13,20,27
 July....4,11,18,25
 August...1,8,15,22,29
 September...5,12,19,26



Saturday and Sunday Daytime Sessions

Saturday, May 11....10:30 AM - 1 PM
 Sunday, May 19...1 -3:30 PM
 Saturday, June 8...10:30 AM-1 PM
 Sunday, June 23...1-3:30 PM
 Saturday, September 14...10:30 AM- 1 PM
 Sunday, September 29...1-3:30 PM
 Saturday, October 5...10:30 AM-1 PM
 Sunday, October 20...1-3:30 PM

The Brooklin Horticultural Society Garden is located at the south west corner of Carnwith and Montgomery in Brooklin. Bring your own small gardening tools, gloves, knee pads etc. Flexible hours can be arranged to suit your schedule. We will always be on site at the above times weather permitting.

Questions or Concerns....Contact Faye Collins Garden Coordinator Call or text...647-216-2736 or landline...905-655-9695, E-mail madgardener23@hotmail.com



Wounded Warriors Park of Reflection - "Easter Monday

was our first day to gather at the Park of Reflection for this season. Speaking for all seven of us there, it felt good to be back at the Park. Our time was spent just doing a spring clean-up of the beds & taking stock on how the gardens fared over the winter months. This year we shall be spreading out a bit more, taking care of a few more beds. So, if you are inclined, consider joining us. We always meet on Monday morning. For now, our start time is 9am. Feel free to come & join us at one of the most peaceful, naturally scenic gardens in all of Durham. Any questions, please contact Kathy Allam at 905-430-7213, kathyallam@hotmail.ca.

LET'S SHOW!

Over the next couple of months we will be having 3 shows, the May Spring show, the June Iris and Peony Show, and the June Rose show. Here are a few tips to help you prepare your entries.

- 1) **All entries must be in place by 7:15pm.**
- 2) Conditioning Lilacs:
 - Pick stems with blooms about half open, early AM for evening use or late afternoon/evening for next morning
 - If large stem, hit bottom of stem hard with hammer on hard surface OR remove bark with sharp knife about 2-3 inches from bottom and split bark up center
 - Plunge stem into container of HOT water up to its neck under water - caution, hot water will brown petals
 - Leave in a cool dark place until ready to use
 - Re-cut stem on a sharp diagonal to approx. size and groom before using
- 3) When Size Counts - when size is specified for a specimen or a design, measure from the bottom of your container in all directions (eg., diagonally and vertically) upwards as well as horizontally across the widest part of your specimen/design. Remember that as the plant material takes up water it will 'grow/stretch' so don't cut to the maximum size - cut everything shorter.
- 4) Groom, groom, groom.
- 5) HAVE FUN!!



Show committee provided show tips and techniques at Feb and Mar meetings

About the BHS Newsletter

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: Leslie Tate** at 905-665-0486, ltate@rogers.com, **Barb Panowyk** at 905-430-2939, bpanowyk@rogers.com, **Sherry Howard** at 905-668-7640, howard21@rogers.com, **Audrey Atkinson** at 905-666-2178, audreyatkinson487@gmail.com, **Mary Kadey** at 416-388-0065, memkadey@gmail.com