

June 2013

Where Gardeners come to flourish



Newsletter



(L-R)
Veronica Heiderich,
Valerie Westwood, Celia
Roberts, Marie Decker &
Florenda Tingle before the
May Meeting

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, June 10, 2013, 7:30 p.m.
doors open at 6:30

Location: Knox Presbyterian,
MacMillan Hall
89 Dunn Street

Speaker: Vicki Taylor Scott
Topic: Victoria's Secret

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President's Message

A busy time of year with lots going on: The Plant Sale is behind us and the Garden Tour is fast approaching. The welcome heat of summer is just a day or two away (hopefully) and our gardens are entering their glory. This newsletter is filled with all the goings on. As a result, I will have to keep things brief.

Again, I say congratulations to our Society for the hard work that went into making our Plant Sale the success it was. It was a tough, cold spring but we managed to provide a good number of wonderful plants for the sale. And thanks to the enthusiasm of our members, almost all the plants were sold.

Next up is the Garden Tour. I have had the pleasure of seeing a few of the gardens as they progress through this spring and from what I have seen, it will be a wonderful tour, something not to be missed. There are many ways for us to make this a special day: You can volunteer to spend time in a garden, helping to guide the visitors about or you can go out into your community and tell your friends and neighbours about the tour. It is not just about seeing beautiful gardens; it is also a great classroom. You get to see how others have tackled soils like yours, how they have created the beds, picked the plants and then the way they are arranged. Every garden will have some detail that will be just perfect to try in your garden, maybe even convincing you to show your garden on the tour.

And then we break for summer. While sitting in your garden, maybe consider becoming more involved with the operation of our Society. There are many committees that meet through the year that organize the events of our Society—you might even consider a position on our executive board. All are welcome to come forward and lend a hand. Come and talk to me at the June meeting about how you can get involved in our Society.

Enjoy the gardens. If you have any suggestions/comments send me an email at ohs.president@oakvillehort.org.

Stuart Gough

Events & Notices

RBG Celebrate Lilacs!

25 May - June 19th at the Arboretum

Oakville Horticultural Society Garden Tour

June 9th 10-4:00 p.m.

www.oakvillehort.org

TBG Garden Tour

June 8 & 9th - Gardens of Forest Hill

www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca

Oshawa Peony Festival

June 8 & 9th - Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens

www.oshawa.ca



The Lilac Dell at the Royal Botanical Gardens May 26th

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The Oakville Horticultural Society Newsletter is published 10 times a year from September to June. All photographs and articles are produced by the Editor unless otherwise noted. Articles and photographs should be sent to the Editor Barbara Phillips-Conroy at ohs.editor@oakvillehort.org. Deadline for submission is the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Volunteer Opportunities & Tickets for Sale at our Garden Tour June 9, 2013

Our garden tour is fast approaching. On Sunday, June 9th, from 10:00 to 4:00 p.m., I hope you and your friends will join us. Tickets are available either on-line or at various outlets around town. For just \$15 you'll have the opportunity of seeing seven diverse Oakville gardens - some large, others small and intimate - all will provide inspiration and ideas.

The garden tour is one of our biggest fundraisers and provides our guests with an opportunity to see gardens that are rarely open to the public. As is our tradition, we will have Master Gardeners available to answer gardening questions at one of the gardens and will have design and plant information available at each tour location.

I'm still looking for volunteers who might help us out at the gardens for either a morning and afternoon. Please call me at 905-338-5148 if you are able to help. Fingers crossed for a nice sunny day and lots of ticket sales.

Christine Lee

Here's a little teaser of some of the gardens you'll see:



Photo Frank Snyder

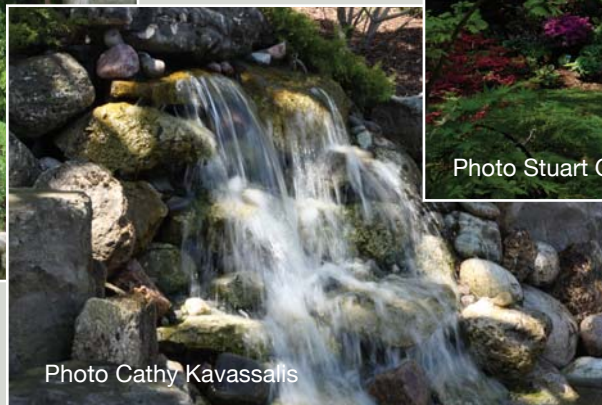


Photo Cathy Kavassalis



Photo Stuart Gough



THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE

THE GARDEN TOUR SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2013

**TICKETS
\$15**

Bulow Garden Centre
370 South Service Rd. West, Oakville
905.845.7121

Bulow Garden Centre
2667 Lakeshore Road West, Mississauga
905.855.8572

Cudmore's Garden Centre
3171 Lakeshore Road West, Bronte
905.827.1872

L'Atelier Grigorian
210 Lakeshore Rd. East (Towne Square)
Oakville 905.338.2360

The Flower Place
1011 Upper Middle Rd. Upper Oakville
Shopping Centre
905 849 6166

For further information
email: ohs.gardentour@oakvillehort.org
www.oakvillehort.org



OAKVILLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Where Gardeners come to flourish

The Junior Gardener Program Begins



April 28th was the official start to the Junior Gardener program. Parents and the 20 children who are enrolled in the program, along with other volunteers from the OHS prepared the beds at the municipal greenhouses with a perfect mixture of well rotted manure and compost generously donated by Petries. www.petrie.ca

The children will meet once a week over the summer to grow vegetables and flowers in their own little plots. Aside from gardening, they learn about natural science and discover the beauty and wonder of the world of plants and the creatures that support plant growth. And, if we're lucky, they may even learn to enjoy eating their vegetables.



In order to participate in the program, families must become members of the Oakville Horticultural Society. Please join me in welcoming our new member families:

Bliss
Busby
Hamboyan
McLelland
McVicar
Wilson



Some of last year's Junior Gardeners with their excellent harvest



Thank You McKenzie Seeds

Our young Junior Gardeners and their families, along with FoodShare in Oakville, would like to thank McKenzie Seeds for providing several varieties and packages of their very best seeds. We have enjoyed all kinds of beans, lettuce, zucchini, carrots, onions, radishes, spinach and even melon. We contact the **Plant A Row, Grow A Row Program** every year, who have the amazing support of McKenzie Seeds. This year, our gardens will be planted with McKenzie radishes, lettuce, melon, zucchini and onion.

Pizza Gardening at Whole Foods

We will be partnering again with Whole Foods - our third year. There is a small elevated bed, near their outdoor garden centre, which they generously offer to us to plant vegetables. In the fall we pick the vegetables and make vegetarian pizza in the Whole Foods kitchen (they supply the pizza dough, cheese and tomato sauce, along with drinks and cookies). This event has become our end of the season celebration. Many thanks to France Fournier and her staff who participate with the children to make this a memorable event

Photos (this page) and text Linda Tock



Plant Sale Wrap-Up

Our May 11th Plant Sale was a great success raising \$3,535. We had a great crew of people who arrived by 6:00 a.m. to set up tables and arrange the plants for sale. We even had time to fortify ourselves with coffee and delicious sweets provided by Kathie Dick's refreshment committee before the onslaught of customers with their empty boxes and wagons. We have a reputation for our hostas, and this year we sold every last one. While we had fewer plants this year, the quality was excellent.

I would like to thank everyone who helped make this day a success. I am new at this, it's only been my 2nd year in heading up the Plant Sale but I am surrounded by so many good people who have made every step so much easier with their vast experience, knowledge and eagerness to make it happen. Thank you to you all!

As a reminder, it's never too early to start to pot up plants for next year. We have pots available to help you out. Next year's Plant Sale will be Saturday May 17, 2014. I look forward to working with you again.

Sonja Tessari

Increase to Membership Rates

As you may be aware, the cost of running our society exceeds the amount of money we collect through memberships. To lessen that gap, we are asking for your support to increase the general membership fees to the Oakville Horticultural Society. At our Executive Meeting on April 15th the following motion was made:

"To increase the general membership fees to \$20 per individual membership and \$30 per family membership to become effective Nov 1 2013 for the 2014 membership year, by Veronica Heiderich and seconded by Margaret Jeffrey and carried."

This will not become final until a vote is put to the general membership via ballot which can be either emailed to ohs.membership@oakvillehort.org (Elizabeth Thompson) or mailed to the OHS mailbox

Oakville Horticultural Society
P.O. Box 69605
109 Thomas Street
Oakville, ON L6J 7R4

by June 1st for counting before the June 10th general membership meeting.

Membership Ballot for Mailing to OHS by June 1, 2013

Name (Please Print) : _____

Do/Do Not (circle one)

support the increase in general membership fees to \$20 per individual membership and \$30 per family membership to become effective Nov 1 2013 for the 2014 membership year.

Design & Horticulture



It was great to see so many entries at the May show - proof positive that spring has arrived and our gardens are filling with blossoms.



Jean Latham won the Judge's Choice Horticulture for her *Bergenia* 'Bressingham White'. I was curious to know how she got the blooms to face upward - I've got a head-down pouter in my garden. She said, "Absolutely nothing at all. No conditioning. All the blossoms look like that." A great plant to look for in the garden centre if you want an evergreen perennial that thrives in the shade.



Now that's a tulip. This is Linda Tock's winner. Apparently, it came with the house and is now in its eighth year - remarkable when you consider how many tulips often get smaller year after year.

Marie Decker's winning Bouquet of Spring Flowers.

The design and horticultural schedule for the June show can be found at:
http://www.oakvillehort.org/sMSB_OHS_2013.pdf

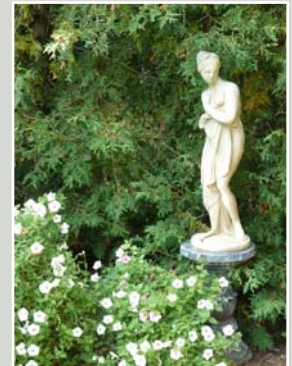


Survey Says: Who Grows Plants in Pots?

- 76% of our members grow plants in pots.
- 96% are redoing at least one of their pots every year.
- 33% have pots filled with either tropicals, woody plant material, or perennials that they can enjoy year after year without replanting.

Don Dusha is the Container King

Over the years, Don has planted up 200 containers of annuals in his shaded yard - 188 more than our average of 12. Last September I had the pleasure of visiting his beautiful garden. Here's what I saw:



Don has a great work area for planting up his pots (first photo on the left) - decorated with yet more pots. And, with so many to take care of, watering is key. I was pleased to see his extensive water collection system. All these beautiful annuals live on throughout the Town of Oakville as Don donates them to the municipal greenhouses to be saved and used the following year. Don has inspired me to pull out a few of my old pots and fill them with annuals this summer - after all, his garden is proof that you can never have too many beautiful containers in your garden.

NEW MEMBERS	LIBRARY	CLERKING	SET-UP 9:00AM	REFRESHMENTS
Please welcome new members: Paula & Charles Clayton	Veronica Heiderich	Lillie de Silva Jean Latham Linda Tock	Don Dusha Celia Roberts Helen Stephenson	Muriel Lee John Raynor