



# Blooming News

Haldimand Horticultural Society

Celebrating 27 Years

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Check out our web site at [www.haldimandhorticulturalsociety.org](http://www.haldimandhorticulturalsociety.org)

**DECEMBER 2010/JANUARY 2011**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the year draws to a close, and we start into the New Year, it is time to reflect on the past year of gardening and to start to plan for the next. Most of us will have something we did this year that turned out pretty much the way we had hoped. And there will be those other experiments that still need working on! For my part, soil has always been the single most important consideration to deal with when gardening. And in Haldimand, where most of us have heavy clay, that means we spend a lot of time amending. Raising the bed can also be a good solution. A large pot filled with good soil and with the bottom removed works well when placed atop the clay.

Gardening is pretty much a trial and error undertaking. We all know of incidents where we have seen a plant flourish in a friend's garden but doesn't do well in ours. There are so many variables at play here. Soil of course is important, its texture and nutrient level, but equally important are drainage, level of light or shade, and the climate zone. In Haldimand most of us are in Zone 6 which allows us to grow a wide range of plants. In my garden, however, a wind tunnel effect means that much of my property is really Zone 5b. I can only achieve Zone 6 by creating a micro climate with some sort of shelter. That explains why the Japanese Fern, for example, grows well in Wendy Robert's town setting but does not winter over in my garden.

Gardening is something we do, not only to beautify the surroundings but to satisfy the soul. Each of us decide at what level we want to garden. Some of us are garden gorillas, devoting all of our time to the pursuit while others are content to do just enough to get a bit of exercise on the weekend and to keep a few flowers at the front door. Both are the right approach if they satisfy the soul, because that's what it's all about. Whichever approach is yours, I believe you get bonus points if you interest a child in gardening. Even a little bit of interaction can be effective. It may not seem much at the time, but years later this experience often is recalled and another gardener is born.

With permission, we are including in The Blooming News a poem written by 12 year old Zoe Whitman of Hagersville who has obviously been inspired by her grandfather's garden. This poem is a gem.

Trusting that your holidays were joyous!  
Sincerely,  
Dawn Suter, President

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**MY GRANDFATHER'S GARDEN**

By: Zoe Whitman

My proper name is Myosotis palustris or noli mei oblivisci.  
You can call me forget-me-not if it's easier.

I live in my Grandfather's garden with my sisters Rose and Daisy.  
The wind blows us to and fro; our spirits always uplifting. Rose red and Daisy white.  
Grandfather treats us all the same.  
He never forgets to water our roots to make us healthy again.  
Carefully, with tender patience.

"Flowers are the grandest thing," Grandfather says.

The bees buzz boldly around our petals bouncing, bothersome, and boisterous.  
Those bumbles are bossy!  
They take our pollen without even asking.  
I wish Grandfather would shoo them away.  
Why, oh why, does he let them stay?

"Flowers are the most precious thing," Grandfather says.

He always looks after us.  
Watering, weeding, and watching us grow.  
Always humming.  
Always Bach.  
I wish I could sing. To make that sound would be grand. I would hum and dance.  
Io canto.

"Flowers are the finest thing," Grandfather says.

As Grandfather opens his garden latch I'll catch his eye and show him I love him!

Love is all, in this little garden.  
Love is all.

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

Thank you Zoe for sharing your beautiful poem with us! Your Grandfather's garden sounds like a magical place.

This edition of The Blooming News is special because a number of your Executive members have shared some of their favourite holiday recipes. We hope that you can enjoy trying some (or maybe all??) over the blustery winter season!!

Susan Reeder, Editor

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**HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THIS MONTH'S HALDIMAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING on THURSDAY, JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Orkney Street in Caledonia . Our Guest Speaker - Paul Bolland - will be talking to us about Ponds and Water Gardens.**

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**THE SEED CATALOGUES ARE COMING!!!**

Picking up the mail each day is an extra special treat at this time of year, because along with Christmas cards and flyers with all those good sale deals – the Seed Catalogues are arriving. Don and I have been pouring over them and picking out all the unusual and new seed packages. Here’s a list of what we have received so far. I’ve included websites for you to request your Catalogue if you haven’t done so already:

Dominion Seed House, Georgetown, ON – [www.dominion-see-house.com](http://www.dominion-see-house.com)

Veseys Seeds, Charlottetown, PEI – [www.veseys.com](http://www.veseys.com)

William Dam Seeds, Dundas, ON – [www.damseeds.com](http://www.damseeds.com)

McFayden, Brandon, MB – [www.mcfayden.com](http://www.mcfayden.com)

Halifax Seed, Halifax, NS and Saint John, NB – [www.halifaxseed.com](http://www.halifaxseed.com)

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**BE SURE TO MARK YOUR 2011 CALENDARS WITH THESE GENERAL MEETING DATES FOR 2011**  
 7:30 pm  
 St. Paul’s Anglican Church on Orkney Street in Caledonia  
 Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – BUS TRIP  
 Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011  
 Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @6:00 pm – Annual Dinner & Awards Night  
 Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday and Annual Meeting and Installation of New Executive  
**No meeting in December**

Rice Road Greenhouse and Garden Center,  
 1361 Rice Road, RR2, Welland, ON, L3B 5N5  
[www.millionplants.com](http://www.millionplants.com)  
 is holding their 2011 Horticultural Day on  
**Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
 Just present your Horticultural Society Membership card and you will receive 25% off all plant material at the Garden Centre.

**UPCOMING MONTHLY COMPETITION CATEGORIES**

**January 2011**  
**Design Section**  
 (a) Too Much Partying! – Design of choice using a Wine glass!  
 (b) Winter wonderland – Mass design of choice  
**Specimen Section** (must be grown by exhibitor for a minimum 3 months)  
 (a) Poinsettia  
 (b) Forced bulb of choice  
 (c) Potted plant of choice  
 (d) Cactus Garden – 4 variety minimum  
**Photo Section** – one entry per exhibitor  
 (a) Wow what a year – Collection of photos showing progression of garden growth or plant growth. Displayed on bristle board, labeled.

**February 2011**  
**Design Section**  
 (a) Love is In the air – Line design  
 (b) Small dreams – Miniature design – Refer to OJES, PG 101 for requirements.  
**Specimen Section** (must be grown by exhibitor for minimum 3 months)  
 (a) Forced branch – not to exceed 24” in length, showing developed leaf and or flower buds  
 (b) Antherium – 1 pot any colour  
 (c) Succulent – 1 variety, potted  
 (d) Cactus – 1 variety potted  
**Craft Section** – item must be made by exhibitor  
 (a) Fruit – canned 1 jar any size – will not be opened  
 (b) Jam or Jelly – canned, 1 jar any size – will be opened

For those who are interested in putting an Arrangement/Design in the Monthly Competition and are not sure of the “rules”, we do have copies of the “OHA Ontario Judging and Exhibition Standards”, Publication #34 available. The cost is between \$6.00 and \$8.00 and is well worth the purchase. See Catherine McGill. For a full 2010 listing of Monthly Competition Categories see Catherine McGill N

## SEEDY SATURDAY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2011

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Ball's Falls Conservation Area

There will be speakers (tba), seed exchange, heirloom seed sales and displays. Free coffee, tea and treats and lunch available for purchase.

Contact: Linda Crago – 905-386-7388 or [treeandtwig@sympatico.ca](mailto:treeandtwig@sympatico.ca) for details.

### **COME AND SEE OUR SOCIETY PICTURE ALBUM!!**

Karen Foster continues her good work of taking pictures of Horticultural Society activities and posts them in our Picture Album.

Please take some time to select pictures of your garden that you would like to share and have them included in our album. Karen will put the album out at each meeting so that we can all enjoy the gardens and pictures of our activities.

Check it out – you might just be in some of the pictures!!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS TO MARK IN YOUR CALENDAR!!**

#### **March 3-6, 2011**

Stratford Garden Festival – for more details [www.stratfordgardenfestival.com](http://www.stratfordgardenfestival.com)

#### **March 15-20, 2011**

15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "Canada Blooms".

#### **March 31-April 3, 2011**

Successful Gardening Show (OHA Flower Show) – details to follow

#### **April 8,9,10, 2011**

Peterborough Garden Show at the Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Road, Peterborough – sponsored by the Peterborough Horticultural Society and the Master Gardeners – Admission \$6. per day – for more details – [www.peterboroughgardens.ca](http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca)

#### **April 16, 2011**

District 6 AGM hosted by Bronte at Colborne Seniors Centre, Oakville – details coming

#### **July 22-24, 2011**

The Ontario Horticultural Association Annual Convention hosted in Sudbury. Watch for more details as they unfold.

#### **October 22, 2011**

OHA District Fall Dinner being hosted by Ancaster at the new Ancaster Fairgrounds at Merritt Hall. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Ancaster Society and the event will be marked by the development of a new day lily for Ancaster. The Society is hosting a 'Name the Lily' contest. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Keynote Speaker will be Sonja Day, writer for the Toronto Star.

### **GREEN THUMB COMPETITION 2011**

This winter, why not plan a "Theme Garden" so that you can enter the Green Thumb Competition in 2011. This is a challenging and 'skies the limit' opportunity.

So – as you scan the seed and plant catalogues and gardening magazines, give some thought to what theme you want to create.

Our Judge is looking forward to what our Society Gardeners will come up with!! See Christine Mickeloff for more details.

### **November Monthly Competition Winners**

#### **Design Section:**

(a) Let there be Peace

1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder

(b) One for me & One for you!

1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder

(c) Dried flower arrangement made from your garden!

1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder

**Specimen Section (grown by exhibitor for minimum 3 months):**

(a) Amaryllis

no entries

(b) Schlumbergera bridesii (Christmas cactus)

1<sup>st</sup> Coby Osinga

2<sup>nd</sup> Carol Jones

(c) Chlorophytum Comosum (Spider Plant)

1<sup>st</sup> Carol Jones

2<sup>nd</sup> Don Reeder

(d) *Branch out – a collection of branches*

1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder

**Photo Section**

(a) *Proof I grew it!*

1<sup>st</sup> Audrey Derii

2<sup>nd</sup> Don Reeder

(b) *Christmas Card*

1<sup>st</sup> Audrey Derii

2<sup>nd</sup> Don Reeder

**A note from President Dawn Suter about a new Society:**

"As you no doubt are aware, there are societies for dahlias, lilies, gesneriads, hostas, daylilies, delphiniums, peonies, etc.

This new Society is organized for the benefit of those who want to learn more about the growing of bulbs, tubers, rhizomes and corms and promises to make us more familiar with a wide range of the lesser known varieties of bulbs that can be successfully grown here with a little bit of know how. It will be known as the Greater Toronto Bulb Society and will meet at the Toronto Botanical Garden.

If you require further information, you may contact me"

**UPCOMING SPEAKER:**

**February 24<sup>th</sup>** Rob Howard, Garden writer for The Hamilton Spectator and broadcaster and organizer of Open Garden on the subject of "Nine Things I learned in other people's Gardens"

**What does 'heirloom' mean?**

Here's a good explanation from one of the seed catalogues:

"Heirloom varieties are seeds that have been saved from generation to generation. They are open pollinated meaning that they rely on natural pollination from wind and insects.

Usually varieties referred to as heirloom have been around for more than 50 years and offer a wonderful history in the names and flavors that continually provide dependable quality season after season"



It's "JUST ABOUT TIME" at the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Successful Gardening Show, March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 at the International Centre, 6900 Airport Road in Mississauga. Once again 2400 square feet will be dedicated to the Ontario Horticultural Association, promoting horticultural societies and showcasing members' gorgeous plant material and designs.

The design section will have you "Suspended in Time" with hanging designs and make you want to "Take Time to Smell the Flowers", a plants and flowers exhibit for Societies to enter. Of course, you'll also want to take a "Moment in Time" to enjoy the miniature designs and the invitational class of free standing designs up to 7' tall.

The cultural section of the show has something for everyone, from prickly cacti to velvety African violets and unbelievable orchids. There are 62 classes of houseplants, cut garden plant material and special exhibits.

Be inspired by the two demonstrations offered daily: "Simple and effective floral designs for your home" and "How to create your own outdoor planter."

We encourage you to participate by entering one or more of the classes, volunteering at the OHA booth or simply visiting the show. Don't wait to check out the schedule or volunteer. Before you know it, it'll be "Show Time."

The show schedule and entry forms are available at <http://www.home-show.net/successfulgardening/swgoha.htm>. To volunteer, contact Barb O'Malley at 905-278-1958; [tom.omalley@sympatico.ca](mailto:tom.omalley@sympatico.ca).

See you at the show!

Heinke Thiessen-Zemancik  
SG Show Committee, Publicity

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMPETITION JUDGE

Hello Everyone!

I hope you all have had a Merry Christmas and have great hopes and dreams for the New Year! Anyone want to join me for the polar bear swim?

This is an all call for anyone with an artsy flare! The OHA 105<sup>th</sup> convention has a great line up of categories for those who Paint, oil, acrylic, watercolour, draw, even on rocks! Do you Quilt? Stain glass? Collage? I will have the class list at the meetings and will get it up on our website [www.haldimandhorticultural.org](http://www.haldimandhorticultural.org). Think about it, you do not necessarily have to go this summer, (July 15-17) your work could travel with those that are planning a great time away (Sudbury). This also applies to any youth of your families as there is a great lineup of categories just for them!

Catherine



## Ontario Hosta Society in conjunction with Royal Botanical Gardens

PRESENT A

### 1 – DAY HOSTA FORUM at the RBG

Sunday, March 27, 2011 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm

**Price:** \$55. Includes 5 fabulous speakers, a light lunch, coffee/tea/juices/water/home baking!

**Prizes! Great Friends!**

9:00 am - 9:30 am	HOSTA FORUM	Registration
9:30 am - 9:45 am		Welcome & Opening Announcements
9:45 am - 10:45 pm		<b>Hostas in the English Garden:</b> <i>A review of English gardens and how hostas feature in English gardening. Mike Shadrack</i>
10:45 am - 11:00 am		Break
11:00 am - 12:00 pm		<b>Flip This Garden:</b> <i>When a garden is in its infancy or after seasons of time – it will need a flip. Lots of before and after pictures on how to make dramatic changes to your landscape. Sandy Wilkins</i>
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm		Lunch Break
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm		<b>Photographing Gardens:</b> <i>Keep it Simple - Trish Symons</i>
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm		<b>The Book of Little Hostas:</b> <i>200 Small, Very Small, and Mini Varieties. Kathy &amp; Mike Shadrack (authors of this fabulous new book!)</i>

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm	Break
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>The Beauty of the Woodland Garden:</b> <i>A four season look at the beauty to be found in the woodland garden, winter structure, spring renewal, summer explosion, and fall fruit. Jim is a great photographer and will share pictures of their garden, which was designed for year round interest. Jim Wilkins, M.D.</i>
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Social hour

For more information or to purchase your tickets, please contact Cindy Deutekom @ [cindydeutekom@netscape.ca](mailto:cindydeutekom@netscape.ca) or 905 986 4363. Looking forward to seeing you at this one-of-kind event that you would typically have to go to the U.S. to attend!

**RECIPES FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE**

**CARROT PUDDING**

By Karen Foster  
 This is a childhood family recipe. I still make it today 60 years later with a few changes. I use a food processor to mix. I remember my mother's arm being very sore from mixing. My Dad, brother and I all had to help stir.  
 1 cup grated raw carrots  
 1 cup grated raw potatoes  
 1 cup chopped suet  
 1 cup each – raisins & currants  
 ¼ cup mixed peel  
 1-1/2 cup sifted all purpose flour  
 1 tsp salt  
 1 tsp baking soda  
 1/ tsp. each – cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves (ground)  
 1 cup brown sugar – packed  
 grated rind & juice of 1 lemon  
 1 egg, beaten  
 2 tbsps. Milk  
 Combine first 6 ingredients in large bowl. Measure – flour, salt, soda and spices and sift together over fruit. Add brown sugar. Blend. Add lemon rind, juice, egg and milk. Blend in batches in food processor.  
 Spoon into well greased large Pyrex bowl. Cover with foil. Steam 4 hours. Serve with sauce – lemon or caramel. Also freezes well.

**ICE BOX COOKIES**

By Karen Culp  
 1 lb. butter  
 1-1/2 cup corn starch  
 1/1/2 cup icing sugar  
 pinch of salt  
 3 cup all purpose flour  
 Cream together. Add:  
 2 cups glazed cherries – cut  
 1 cup walnuts or pecans – small pieces  
 Divide into three portions. Make into long rolls and wrap in wax/parchment paper. Chill or freeze. Slice in ¼ pieces and place on cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes until golden around edges.

**PARTY CHEESE BALL**

By Lena Atkinson  
 1 lb sharp cheddar cheese, grated  
 2-8 oz cream cheese, softened  
 ½ cup chopped stuffed olives  
 ¼ tsp. baking soda  
 ¼ cup evaporated milk  
 ½ tsp. Tabasco sauce  
 1 tbsp parsley flakes  
 1 tbsp grated onion  
 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce  
 1 tsp. lemon juice  
 1 cup chopped pecans  
 Combine cheeses and mix well. Add remaining ingredients except chopped pecans. Refrigerate for 2-3 hrs. mold into 2 balls or 2 logs, and roll in chopped nuts. This will freeze.

**CHRISTMAS FRUIT BARS**

By Doris Thomson  
 3 eggs, beaten  
 1-1/4 cups sifted icing sugar  
 2 tbsps melted margarine  
 1 cup flour  
 1-1/2 tsp. baking powder  
 1 tsp salt  
 3 cups of whatever – chopped nuts, dates, raising, cherries, cut up glazed fruit.  
 Mix all ingredients well and pack into a buttered 9 inch square pan. Bake in preheated 350 degree oven for 35-40 minutes. Let cool, then cut into squares.

**BRIE WITH PECAN AND CRANBERRIES**

By Catherine McGill

500 g brie wheel

½ cup pecan – toasted and chopped

½ cup cranberry sauce (full berries)

¼ cup pecan pieces – not toasted or chopped

baguette slices or crackers

Place brie in freezer for 1 hour. Cut off Top rind of brie. Place cheese on a micro safe plate and cover with chopped nuts (push into cheese top). Cover with cranberry sauce and then top with pecan pieces. Heat in microwave for 3 minutes. Serve hot with the bread and crackers for spreading.

**MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2011**

It's that time of year again! We hope that you enjoyed your membership benefits for 2010 and that you renew your membership for 2011. Perhaps you know someone who would enjoy becoming a member as well – maybe as a Christmas gift?

**Benefits of membership:**

- ❖ As a member of the Haldimand Horticultural Society, your membership card\* entitles you to a 10% discount off regular priced garden supplies at:
  - Caledonia Area:** Caledonia Garden Centre, Home Hardware, Canadian Tire (not all items), Home & Hearth, Coach House
  - Cayuga Area:** Kinnear Greenhouses
  - Dunnville Area:** The Potting Shed
  - Hagersville Area:** Home Hardware, Mohawk Garden Market
  - Hamilton/Mount Hope Area:** Hamilton Sod, Rainbow Acres, Daylily Farm, Ed Ciardullo Garden Centre, Sharples Nurseries, Mountain Garden Centre
  - Renton:** Eisings Greenhouse and Nursery
  - York:** Mallord Farms
- \*You must show your card prior to purchase for discount
- ❖ Annual Meetings – Gardening and Planting tips; Guest Speakers; Monthly Competitions; raffles and prizes
- ❖ Monthly Newsletter containing gardening advise; upcoming events from your Society and community events; quotes and humour; and great articles contributed by our members

**What does your Society do in a year:**

- ❖ We look after some of the public garden beds in Haldimand County such as the Hagersville Hospital, Caledonia Bank of Nova Scotia, the Cenotaph, the Dam, the Caledonia Reading Library
- ❖ We plant memorial trees to honour past members of our Society
- ❖ We hold an Annual Green Thumb Competition
- ❖ We participate in the Caledonia Fair
- ❖ We hold a Plant and Bake Sale at McKinnon Secondary in May
- ❖ We hold a Flower and Vegetable Show at the Riviera Retirement Lodge in September
- ❖ We offer an outstanding Bus Trip in July
- ❖ We offer wholesale bulbs and plants at our meetings
- ❖ We participate in the Caledonia Garden Show
- ❖ We teach you design techniques by practice; and recognize your accomplishments through our monthly competitions
- ❖ We share refreshments at the end of each meeting where you have a chance to chat with other gardeners in your area

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**HALDIMAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY  
2011 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION**

**First Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership Fee is: Single \$8.00 Family \$12.00 Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to: Haldimand Horticultural Society, P.O. Box 2078, Caledonia, Ontario N3W 2G6**