



Blooming News

Haldimand Horticultural Society

Celebrating 26 Years

Box 2078

Caledonia, ON N3W 2G6

President – Dawn Suter

905-768-0467

dawn.suter@accglobal.net

Editor – Susan Reeder

905-692-5843

susan.reeder@optionsdsl.ca

Contact us at: www.haldimand@gardenontario.org OR www.haldimandhorticulturalsociety.org

JULY 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write this message, we are preparing to celebrate Canada Day. I will be away the early part of July on a trip to Mars. Yes, Mars. Mars, Pennsylvania that is. I will be attending the North American Lily Society's Annual Show and Symposium. While there I will be judging lily stems, entering the design competition and taking in lily associated field trips and workshops. The theme for the design section is all about space and the one I find intriguing is "What the Earthlings Discovered when they landed on Mars". And what else could it be but a lily. I hope it works.

This is the time of year when we are visiting gardens and attending shows. I read an interesting comment on garden tour etiquette and think it is worthy of passing on. When visiting a garden, whether a friend's or a tour for which you have purchased a ticket, the article advises, mind your manners. Unless you have been invited to, resist the urge to pull weeds. It's a little like going into someone's living room and starting to dust! Not only have you brought this shortcoming to the gardener's attention (as if he/she didn't know), but you also run the risk of pulling out some obscure, treasured plant which maybe looks like a weed to you but is dear to the heart of the gardener.

If you are one of the ten people who won a ticket to the Bob Kemp Hospice Pond tour, we hope that you enjoyed the event and we look forward to hearing about it. Maybe you will have some tips to pass on to members.

Gord Robert's bus trip will take the place of the July meeting. This will be a great day. Guaranteed!!!

Happy Gardening,

Dawn Suter

Reminder: If you have any containers, paper milk boxes, tin cans, or any disposable container that would hold small flowers, I would appreciate receiving them at the August meeting. (You can even bring them to the bus trip and put them in my vehicle in the parking lot). These are needed to get flowers to Hamilton for the floral carpet for the anniversary celebration at Christ's Church Cathedral in September.

N.B. Have returned from Mars, where my daughter got first place in design, and I got second. To her I pass the torch!!

BUS TRIP REMINDER FROM GORD ROBERTS:

Just a reminder to everyone going on the bus trip: We would like to have the bus leave no later than 8:30 am. Of course you will remember that it is on the fourth Thursday of the month, which for us is

THURSDAY, JULY 22ND.

If you could all be at the parking lot across from the Fire Hall in Caledonia, our usual departure area, **by 8:15 am**, it gives us plenty of time to get settled in our seats.

Your cost for the bus trip includes all your expenses, including a tip for the driver. If like most gardeners you wish to buy plants at one of our two supply stops, you will need money for your purchases.

We will also have a 50/50 draw, tickets will be one for \$2.00 and 3 for \$5.00. Hopefully we can get that done before our first stop so that the winner has a little extra to spend. We will also have a couple of quizzes and I will be giving out gift cards to the winners.

It will be a full day, and we like to make it a fun day as well between stops. Our plan is to be back in Caledonia by about 6:30 pm, but that's only if we can get you out of the Belgian Nursery by a reasonable time. The weather looks promising for us right now, let's all keep our collective fingers crossed.

Look forward to seeing you all on the 22nd,
Gord

Here's a recap on the great program that Gord and Wendy have prepared for our July 22nd Bus Trip:

Our first stop will be the gardens and nursery of Whistling Gardens in Wilsonville. You may have been at the presentation Darren Heimbecker gave to the Society earlier this year. He has a very good selection of plant material for sale. Not that we want to fill up the bus too early! He is still working on his gardens. It's an ongoing thing with Darren as you know, and you are welcome to walk around his 56 acre property. Please don't get lost! We next take a 30 minute bus ride to Otterville and the Gardens of Mae Leonard. Of any gardens we have seen in the past, surely Mae's have to be some of the best. She has about 1-1/2 acres that she looks after with just a little bit of help. Look for the many natural fish ponds around the property and also the box wood caricature's standing guard at the entrance to her greenhouse.

After leaving Mae's we will be heading to the Breslau and Cambridge area. On the way we will stop for lunch at Dean Michael's Griddlehouse just south of Woodstock. Dean has told me we won't be disappointed with the food and we won't leave hungry.

After lunch we will be heading to Cambridge and Wings of Paradise Butterfly Conservatory. We visited here many years ago when the conservatory basically consisted of two hoop houses. They have since gone more hi-tech. They have 2000-3000 live free-flying butterflies on exhibit year round, over 12 species of exotic birds that fly freely in the conservatory. There are more than 80 different species of tropical plants showcased and of course this wouldn't be complete without the collection of live bugs.

Our last call before heading home will be at the Belgian Nursery just a few minutes away from Wings of Paradise. They carry an extensive range of plants, statuary, pots and an amazing cactus house. There should be something for everyone here. Belgian Nursery is the Kitchener area equivalent of Humber Nurseries.

To keep you amused on the bus trip we will be having the usual 50/50 draw, a multiple choice quiz and one other competition which will be a bit of a surprise. And of course, prizes for the winners. Yes – it could be you!

Finally, remember that you are responsible for the items that you take with you on the bus, and remembering to take them all with you when we get back. If you forget your plants – they could finish up in my garden.” Gord Roberts

GENERAL MEETING DATES FOR 2010

Mark your calendars

7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church
on Orkney Street in Caledonia

6:00 p.m. for Annual Meeting in November

Thursday, July 22nd – No meeting – BUS TRIP

Thursday, August 26th

Thursday, September 23rd

Thursday, October 21st

Thursday, November 18th – Annual Meeting

No meeting in December

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!!

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR AUGUST 24TH MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH IN CALEDONIA – OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE
MAE LEONARD
(ONE OF THE GARDENS VISITED ON THE BUS TOUR) AND SHE WILL BE TALKING TO US ABOUT
ORGANIC GARDENING.

GUEST SPEAKERS FOR 2010
 Sept 23 – Paul Knowles – Down the Garden Path, Back to the Future
 Oct 21 – Green Thumb Awards – Pot Luck Supper & Awards Night
 Nov. 18 – Jim Ray – Floral Decorating for Christmas & our Annual Meeting
 Dec – No Meeting

MONTHLY COMPETITION WINNERS:
 June 2010

Design Section
 (a) Father's Day
 (1st Ans Vaarkamp, 2nd Lena Atkinson, 3rd Don Reeder)

(b) Summers on the Way
 (1st Don Reeder, 2nd Lena Atkinson)

Specimen Section
 (a) Annual – 1 stem/spray (named)
 (1st Don Reeder, 2nd Carol Jones, 3rd Carol Jones, 4th Lena Atkinson)

(b) Perennial – 1 stem/spray (named)
 (1st Don Reeder, 2nd Deborah Keddy, 3rd Carol Jones, 4th Carol Jones, 5th Lena Atkinson)

(c) Peony – 1 bloom
 - no entries

(d) Iris – 3 stems
 - no entries

(e) Rose – 1 bloom
 (1st Carol Jones, 2nd Don Reeder, 3rd Lena Atkinson, 4th Lena Atkinson, 5th Don Reeder)

(f) Rose – 1 spray
 (1st Don Reeder, 2nd Lena Atkinson)

UPCOMING MONTHLY COMPETITION CATEGORIES

NO MEETING IN JULY – BUS TRIP

AUGUST 2010

Design Section

- a) Found it! – Design using found item, either for the container or as an accessory! (Clean up that garage)
- b) Fireworks abound – Design using large blooms

Specimen Section

(must be grown by exhibitor for minimum 3 months)

- a) Dahlia – 1 bloom, decorative
- b) Dahlia – 1 bloom cactus
- c) Dahlia – 1 bloom, single
- d) Collection of dahlias displayed in a suitable container
- e) Perennial – 3 stem named
- f) Annual – 3 stem, named

Vegetables in this section will be displayed on a paper napkin

- g) Tomato, 3, any variety
- h) Beans, 3 any variety
- i) Any other vegetable not named here

September 2010

Design Section

- (a) A,B,C's – Design in a mug for the teacher
 - (b) Grandparents day – Design with an old fashioned feeling
- Specimen Section** (must be grown by exhibitor for minimum 3 months)

- (a) Dahlia – 3 stem – over 5"
- (b) Dahlia 3 stem – under 5"
- (c) Dahlia – collection suitably displayed in container
- (d) Collection of vegetables suitably displayed
- (e) Collection of perennials
- (f) Collection of annuals

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

**26TH ANNUAL HALDIMAND
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL
FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW –
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2010 –
RIVIERA RETIREMENT LODGE, CALEDONIA**

- Mark your calendars
- See our website for the categories list
- Ask Catherine McGill about any questions you may have

FROM OUR MAILBOX

**Upcoming Garden Shows and Events to mark
in your Calendar**

July 23,24,25 10 am to 4 pm – **Open Garden Weekend – We're in the Hayfield Now Daylily Gardens**, 4704 Pollard Road, Orono ON – plants and seedlings for sale – refreshments and lunch available – for more details visit the website at www.hayfield.ca

July 24th, 25th Buffalo Garden Walk – a free tour, nominal donation of your choice – There are free shuttles to take you from one area to another. Once you get to a district there are many gardens in one area and you can just walk from one house to another. Take a hat and water, and stop at one of the local eateries. Check out more details at the website – www.gardenwalkbuffalo.com

July 23 – 25 Upper Canada Village Culinary and Gardens Festival in Morrisburg. Check out more details at their website www.uppercanadavillage.com

August 13-14 **104th Annual Ontario Horticultural Association Conference** – Georgian College, Barrie – Theme "Everything Old is New Again" – check out

www.ontariogardening.org
for details

August 15 Canadian Iris Society Annual Sale – RBG – 1:00 pm – check out the Canadian Iris Society Website and for details on the types of iris on sale, check out www.mid-america-garden.com

September 25 **OHA Fall Breakfast** – hosted in Caledonia by Haldimand Horticultural Society

Oct 29-Nov 7 **Hamilton Fall Garden & Chrysanthemum Show** – Gage Park Greenhouses – this year's theme is "Hamilton – Capital of Waterfalls"

Anna Mickeloff wrote me about a local magazine. It's called **Gardenmaking** and they are located in Niagara on the Lake. If you are interested in subscribing – look them up on their website at www.gardenmaking.com/charter
Thanks for the tip Anna!!

**THE NEW ELEVATOR AT ST. PAUL'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH SHOULD BE IN
PLACE FOR OUR AUGUST MEETING**

GARDEN QUOTE:
**'HE WHO PLANTS A GARDEN
PLANTS HAPPINESS'**
This is a quote that Anna sent to me. She said it was circulating in the hospital before she retired 5 years ago and she wanted to share it.

Editor's Note: Don and I were in the Welland area recently and happened to stop in at the Rice Road Greenhouse and Garden Centre located on 1361 Rice Road. We were very impressed with the huge selection of plants available. If you are in the area – check it out!!

HALDIMAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
2010 GREEN THUMB COMPETITION
'DAHLIA AWARDS'

The Haldimand Horticultural Society annually presents awards to property owners who have pleasing gardens, personally landscaped.

THIS YEAR'S CATEGORIES ARE:

1. Vegetable Garden
2. Rose Garden
3. Theme Garden – your choice

Entries must be received by Monday, August 16th, 2010
Judging will be on Thursday, August 19th, 2010
Rain Date for Judging – Friday, August 20th, 2010

Note: This year country residents will be judged separately from Town residents. Entries must be within the Haldimand area and/or a member of our society if outside the Haldimand area.

Per category entry fee:
\$2.00 for Horticultural Society members;
\$5.00 for non-members

Awards and Certificates will be presented at the Haldimand Horticultural Annual Dinner on Thursday, October 28th, 2010

2010 GREEN THUMB COMPETITION
ENTRY FORM:

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Circle categories 1 2

3 – Theme Garden is

Entry fee enclosed: \$_____

Detach and mail your entry form and cheque payable to the Haldimand Horticultural Society to:

Green Thumb Dahlia Awards
c/o Christine Mickeloff
310 Caithness Street East
Caledonia, Ontario
N3W 2J5

Are you interested in membership in the Haldimand Horticultural Society:
Yes _____ No _____
\$8.00 a person; \$12.00 for family

For more information, call Christine at 905-765-9987

FROM THE EDITOR

FOR GREEN THUMB ENTRANTS:

If you are entering the Green Thumb Competition – would you be interested in having a pre-tour of your garden by other participants in the Competition before or after the Judging Date?

Your participation is completely voluntary.

As we can all appreciate, getting your garden ready for a judging is a lot of work. Having a pre-tour is a great way to share what you have accomplished with others who have also worked hard to get their gardens ready for the judging.

Would you be interested in sharing your garden for other members of the society to come and visit?

Please send me a note, and let me know your thoughts at

Susan.reeder@optionsdsl.ca

Or by phone at 905-692-5843

Or talk to me on the Bus trip on your thoughts

If there is enough interest, I will put together a map and details for a Garden Tour.

THERE ARE SOME DANGERS IN THE GARDENS TO BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR THIS YEAR

The brown recluse spider is rumoured to be in the Ontario area. This spider, like most, tucks itself away in the plants. A bite can be quite nasty.

So – be on the safe side and be sure to wear your gloves when cleaning out the garden beds and working in your gardens

GIANT HOGWEED

This giant plant – looking much like a very large Queen Anne’s lace, has been spotted in Ontario and B.C.



It has been reported to grow six metres tall, sprout massive leaves and produce toxic, blindness inducing sap. This plant is easily identifiable by its teetering height.

This plant is often found in BC and Vancouver Island, and was recently discovered in the Renfrew county area in eastern Ontario.

Jeff Muzzi, a manager of forestry services for Renfrew County said “The sap gets activated by sunlight, so once you get out in the sun it reacts and can cause really bad burns, blistering and scars. It has also been known to cause temporary blindness, or in extreme cases, permanent loss of eyesight.”

Experts believe the plant was brought from Asia to England, and then into North America as an ornamental plant, and quickly flourished in wet, moist areas without a natural enemy.

David Galbraith, head of science at the RBG said that the giant hogweed is an example of what happens when people introduce foreign plants into a garden.

GREEN THUMB COMPETITION

'DAHLIA AWARDS'

Judging will be done using the following points system:

1. Design Attributes (10)

Scale/balance and relationship of landscaping to residence – out of 10 pts.

2. Horticulture (50)

a. Selection: Choice of annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, conifers and ground covers on the site (and water plants where applicable) – out of 20 pts.

b. Arrangement: Co-ordination of colours, textures, and size of plantings to one another and to create a coherent landscaping effect. – out of 20 points

c. Special effects – Horticultural selections deserving special merit, such as espalier, topiary and specimen plantings – out of 10 points.

3. Maintenance (20)

Condition (vigour) of lawns, perennials, trees, and shrubs and special attention to details such as clipping, edging, trimming and cutting. – out of 20 points.

4. General Overall Appearance (20)

In short, the gardener's contribution to an attractive neighbourhood and community – out of 20 points

Total Points: 100 points

RULES OF THE GREEN THUMB COMPETITION:

1. Members of the Horticultural Society and residents of the Town of Haldimand are invited to participate in the Annual Green Thumb Competition, "Dahlia Awards". The aim of the competition is to promote an interest in gardening and to further the beautification of the Town.

2. All entries must have been completed and maintained by the members of the household. Each category shall be void of any outside professional assistance, ie landscape companies and/or contractor. The only exception will be finished driveways, paths, and garden buildings.

3. Categories are determined by the Competition Committee. Judging of each category will be made on the points system shown above. Where the number of entrants does not meet the expectations of the Competition Committee, it is their decision to void that category and return all monies. All decisions made by the judges, competition organizers and the Haldimand Horticultural Society are final.

4. All entrants will be informed by the Competition Committee of the day of the judging. Every effort will be made to give a minimum of 48 hours notice. No reviews or recalls are allowed. Where bad weather is a factor, entries will be judged as soon after the initial judging day as possible.

5. Awards to the competition will be presented at the October General Meeting of the Haldimand Horticultural Society. A Pot Luck Supper and Society Meeting will precede a slide presentation of all the entries, followed by the Awards presentation. All participants are invited to attend.

6. On the day of judging we ask that all participants not be present at judging.