



# 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)

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm beginning to think November is my favourite fall month, although I don't ever remember feeling this way before! It has been a great month for playing catch up. I am working hard to remove all of those perennial weeds, dandelion, plantain, dock and quack grass that will be there for sure in the spring if not removed now.

I'm developing the NIMBY attitude to some of the perennial flowers that I used to enjoy having in my garden. High on this list is *Malva sylvestris* and *Pysalis alkekengi*, commonly known as Chinese lanterns. These are plants that in the past I have found so useful for floral design work and good fillers in the perennial border. Now I find that I don't really have the fortitude to keep these plants under control and the problem is all the more difficult now that we can't use Round Up.

The lanterns are lovely as dried flowers but quickly take over the garden. I tried growing them in the hard heavy clay of the hedge row, but they migrated into amended soil of the perennial border at least 15 feet away. The ground was literally filled with thick white root like roots that spread through the area and needed to be carefully extracted. Breaking one off just lets the plant establish a new plant from the broken piece.



I really like the Malva flowers but it really is a less than perfect plant. Its large leaves tend to hide most of the beautiful purple striped flowers. In a design, I remove most of the leaves and I think that's also what they do in the photographs you see in seed catalogues. Who would buy a plant with most of the flowers hidden? Me, I guess. The plant is a perennial with a deep root that has no problem withstanding Zone 6 winters and it seeds

prolifically. A member of the hollyhock family it has a multitude of little pinwheels forming the seed head, each one containing hundreds of seeds. And everyone grows ... or so it seems! Now, every fall and every spring I remove hundreds of the seedlings. I try hard not to let any go to seed, but because it is not the least bit fussy where it grows there are always a few that sneak off to a hidden corner and ensure the seed source for a few more years. I have been told that the seed can stay in the soil for many years waiting for the right time to germinate.

Two beautiful plants, but ... too little time, too much work!  
Cheers, Dawn

THE NOVEMBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH AT 7:30 p.m.\*\***

\*\*Note that this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month in order that we do not conflict with the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, which is the Caledonia Light Up Night

at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Orkney Street in Caledonia .

Our Guest Speaker will be Lizzie Matheson who will be doing a floral demonstration on a Christmas theme (note that arrangements made by Lizzie will be raffled off at the meeting).

This is also our Annual General Meeting. The 2012 Executive will be installed by Assistant District 6 Director Mary Lyn Brown. Auditors Nancy Komarniski and Bernadine Tompkins will present their Report. The Constitution and Bylaw proposed amendments will be presented for approval. The President will present her Annual Awards and the Monthly Competition Winners will be presented.

THERE IS NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

We hope that you can come out and join us!!

**BE SURE TO MARK YOUR 2011  
and 2012 CALENDARS WITH  
THESE GENERAL MEETING  
DATES**

2011

**No meeting in December**

2012

(Note: Fourth Thursday of each month, with exceptions as noted: No meeting in July – bus trip instead; October Pot Luck starts at 6:00 pm; November meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month; No meeting in December)

Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – Bus Trip

Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm – Pot Luck

Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm (3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs)

No Meeting in December

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
DATES FOR 2012 ARE:**

Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm  
 Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm - Social

**'RECREATING EDEN' TV SERIES SEASONS 4 AND 5 ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON DVD**

For more information on purchasing these seasons – refer to these websites:

[www.recreatingeden.com](http://www.recreatingeden.com)

OR

[www.meritmotionpictures.com](http://www.meritmotionpictures.com)

**October 2011 Monthly Competition Winners**

**Design Section:**

(a) Boo – Centerpiece in Halloween themed container

(Large Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Roz Rumball
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ans Vaarkamp
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Don Reeder

(Small Entries)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Doris Thomson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lena Atkinson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Helen Sabo

(b) Fall is in the Air – Interpretative Design

- 1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jody Holland

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

(a) Perennial, 1 stem, stalk or spray

- 1<sup>st</sup> Doris Thomson tied with Roz Rumball
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ans Vaarkamp
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Doris Thomson
- 4<sup>th</sup> Doris Thomson

(b) Annual, 1 stem, stalk or spray

- 1<sup>st</sup> Doris Thomson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Reeder

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Roz Rumball
- 4<sup>th</sup> Doris Thomson
- 5<sup>th</sup> Helen Sabo

(c) Collection of mixed annual/perennial in a suitable container

- 1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Reeder

(d) Hosta – Collection of 3 leaves, different varieties, in suitable container

- 1<sup>st</sup> Don Reeder

(e) Gourd/Squash – 3, need not be the same variety

- 1<sup>st</sup> Karen Foster
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Reeder

**Congratulations to first time entrants Jody Holland and Helen Sabo. Congratulations Karen Foster on your winning squash!!**

**CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!!**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL NEWSLETTERS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES AND THE OHA TRILLIUM?**

If you receive The Blooming News electronically, we can also forward to you the newsletters of other Societies, the OHA Trillium and other horticultural news that comes to our website.

If you would like to receive this additional material (only by email – sorry), **please send an email to the Editor – [susan.reeder@optionsdsl.ca](mailto:susan.reeder@optionsdsl.ca)** and we will put you on the list to receive this extra material.

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS:**

**December 2011**

No meeting

**January 26, 2012**

Rob Howard, garden writer, The Hamilton Spectator and organizer Open Garden Week

**'THE BEST OF GRACE – THE SOUP EDITION' and 'HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING' COOK BOOKS**

Grace United Church, Caledonia has published a Soup Edition Recipe Book AND a Holiday Entertaining Cookbook.

See Audrey Derii to purchase your copies

**VAN NOORT BULBS AND PERENNIALS**

The Spring Catalogue has arrived. See Dawn Suter for details.

Remember that as a Horticultural member, you are able to purchase these products at wholesale cost and small fundraiser amount for the Society.

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**A NEW FEATURE AT THE GENERAL MEETINGS IS A 'FREE-HELP YOURSELF TABLE'**

The Secretary will place magazines, plant catalogues, and flyers received in the Society Mail on a Table – free to anyone who wishes to take them.  
Do you have magazines, plant catalogues, and flyers about horticulture that you would like to share with other gardeners??  
Bring them along to each meeting and place them on this table. This is a great way to save unwanted landfill and share gardening information.  
Thanks everyone for the increasing number of books being made available for this table!!

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

**November 17,18, 2011** - RBG 'Christmas by Design' Christmas Show and Sale – 10 am – 6 pm; \$2. admission; free parking; Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium – [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

**November 26, 2011-January 8, 2012** – RBG 'Doorways to the Holidays' 10 am – 4 pm RBG Centre – [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

**December 6, 2011** – RBG Evergreen Design Workshop – Table Design Workshop – 1 pm and 7 pm Cost is \$30. [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

**December 7, 2011** – RBG Evergreen Design Workshop – Door Design Workshop – 1 pm and 7 pm Cost is \$30. [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

**January 21-February 25, 2012** – RBG 'Glass under Glass' – Mediterranean Garden, RBG Centre – [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

**January 28-April 15, 2012** – RBG 'Chocolate – The Exhibition' – RBG Centre – [www.rbg.ca/chocolate](http://www.rbg.ca/chocolate) For a list of Chocolate Mondays Workshops see the website.

**February 4, 2012** - OHA Spring Meeting – Hosted by the Glen Morris Society – Centennial Hall, Dunbar Street, Glen Moris – more details will follow

**March 16-25, 2012** – Canada Blooms/National Home Show – Direct Energy Center, Exhibition Place, Toronto. [www.canadablooms.com](http://www.canadablooms.com) – check website for area group bus tour spot openings  
NOTE: The Flower Show Schedule is ready and can be found at [www.canadablooms.com/hort.pdf](http://www.canadablooms.com/hort.pdf)

**April 12-15, 2012** – 20<sup>th</sup> Successful Gardening Show – International Centre, Toronto

**April 21, 2012** – OHA Annual General Meeting – Hosted by the Delhi Society – Delhi District Secondary School – more details will follow

**August 17-19, 2012** – OHA 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention – Theme is 'Gardening Then and Now – 1812 – 2012' – Hosted by District 9 Niagara

**Fall 2012** – OHA Fall Breakfast Meeting – Hosted by the Brantford Garden Club – more details will follow

**November 3, 2012** – OHA Fall Dinner – Hosted by the Port Dover Society – Port Dover Community Centre – more details will follow

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The University of Guelph Arboretum hosts many workshops throughout the year. To see what they have to offer, visit their website at [www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum](http://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum).

The University of Guelph now offers on line horticulture, turf and landscaping courses starting this Fall. Check out the details at [www.horticulturecertificates.com](http://www.horticulturecertificates.com)

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**Public Programs @ The Gardens** - the Royal Botanical Gardens provides 'courses and programs for gardeners, nature lovers, artists, health and wellness aficionados, families and more'. For a listing visit [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

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Are you interested in **learning more about Japanese Flower Design**? Contact the Ikenobo Society of Hamilton, 8 Greeningdon Drive, Hamilton at 905-389-7406 about lessons.

## MONTHLY COMPETITION CATEGORIES

**NOVEMBER 2011** (note date change for this meeting - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday and not the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday)

### Design Section

- (a) Winter is in the Air - Design of choice
- (b) Company's Coming! - create 2 place markers for the holiday table. Need not be the same but should be co-ordinated. May use any type of materials. Display with accessory of choice.
- (c) Gone for now - Dried arrangement made from your garden

Specimen Section (must be grown by exhibitor for minimum 3 months)

- (a) Amaryllis
- (b) Schlumbergera bridesii (Christmas Cactus) in bloom
- (c) Chlorophytum Comosum (Spider Plant) - 1 pot

### Photo Section

- (a) Did you see that! - Photo of interesting object/plant/item you saw outside this summer - need not be framed.
- (b) Christmas Card - Card you have made with photo you have taken suitable for the holidays

## DECEMBER 2011

No meeting for the holidays  
Have a great Christmas and New Year!

## JANUARY 2012

### Design Section

- (a) New beginning - Design of choice
- (b) Colours of a New Year - Mass Design of choice

Specimen Section (must be grown by exhibitor for minimum of 3 months)

- (a) Forced bulb of choice
- (b) Potted plant of choice
- (c) Cactus Garden - 4 variety minimum

Photo Section - one entry per exhibitor

- (a) It came upon a midnight clear - Night photo - need not be framed.

## FEBRUARY 2012

### Design Section

- (a) Love makes the world go round - Biedermeier design
- (b) What I love - design of choice (remember the title!)

Specimen Section (must be grown by the 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

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 - may be opened

**FOR MORE DETAILS AND GUIDELINES; AND A COMPLETE LISTING OF THE MONTHLY COMPETITIONS, SEE OUR WEBSITE OR TALK TO CATHERINE MCGILL AT THE MEETING OR AT 905-765-3515**

**PLAN TO VISIT THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS COURTESY OF YOUR HALIDMAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES.** If you would like to plan a day's outing to the RBG, contact Karen Foster. You will be able to borrow the HHS free pass, and parking pass to enjoy the day.

**MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM:** available as an on-line course from The Centre for Continuing and Distance Education at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. For more information see [www.nsac.ca/cde](http://www.nsac.ca/cde) or call the Centre at 90-893-6666.

## TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

**13 DAY FULLY ESCORTED GRAND EUROPEAN GARDEN TOUR WITH CARSON ARTHUR**

**MAY 13 - 25, 2012**

Destinations are to: Keukenhof, Floriade 2012, Chelsea Flower Show, Amsterdam, Maastricht, Brussels, London. Cost per person based on double sharing is \$4,975.00 Cdn. For more information see [www.thetravelbroker.ca](http://www.thetravelbroker.ca) or email [jpychel@thetravelbroker.ca](mailto:jpychel@thetravelbroker.ca)

**CUBA GARDEN/CULTURE TOUR - February 4-18, 2012**

For more information, go to [www.cuba1tours.com](http://www.cuba1tours.com) and click on 'special tours'

THE 1812 ROSE - Official Rose for the 2012 OHA Convention is now available for order through Palatines Fruit and Roses Nursery. To place your order see [www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org) and click on 'The 1812 Rose'.

**2012 MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW AVAILABLE**

2012 Memberships will be available for purchase at the October General Meeting. Why not consider purchasing a membership for a friend or a family member - as a Christmas gift - or just because it is a great way to share the many opportunities that membership provides

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**MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2012**

It's that time of year again! We hope that you enjoyed your membership benefits for 2011 and that you renew your membership for 2012. Perhaps you know someone who would enjoy becoming a member as well.

**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
  - Delhi:** The Flower Shop
- \*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

**HALDIMAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY  
2012 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