



Green Thumbs

September 2010

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SCHS Board Meeting:

Monday, Sept. 27
Erickson Home
7:00 p.m.



Affiliate of
Ontario Horticultural Association
District 6

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Upcoming Events

Stoney Creek Garden Club



SEPTEMBER MEETING - Monday, Sept. 13

Guest Speaker - Randy Manuel "**All About Mums & the Mum Show**" Randy has been working for the City of Hamilton for 19 years in the Horticultural Department as a gardener. He is Lead Hand of the Greenhouse and grower of the Chrysanthemums and annual plant material for the traffic islands and parks. Join us for this interesting evening starting at 7:00 p.m.

FALL FLOWER SHOW - See revised schedule at this link:

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stoneycreek/news/online/1641>

OHA & DISTRICT 6 EVENTS

Nov. 6 An Evening with Freeman Patterson - A photographic celebration of gardening and biodiversity "Gardening with what you have" beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$35.

Location: The Meeting House, 2700 Bristol Circle, Oakville, Ont.

Tickets are available from the OHS, Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts box office and online at www.oakvillecentre.ca/1135.htm

Nov. 13 DISTRICT 6 FALL DINNER at the Acton Legion, 16 Wright Ave. Acton, Ont. **Registration:** 5:00 p.m. **Dinner:** 6:00 p.m.

Speaker: Sean James "Practical Solutions for Sustainable Landscaping." **\$24 per person.** Additional information available soon.

July 15-18, 2011 OHA Convention in Sudbury, Ontario
Next year's hosts for the Sudbury 2011 convention have arranged to set up an eye-catching picket fence in town. They came up with the idea of the entire OHA working together to produce a decorative fence that could be donated to a community organization such as a hospital or hospice in Sudbury - a thank you gift of sorts that would show our appreciation for being such generous and accommodating hosts of the upcoming convention. It would also serve as a permanent reminder that the Ontario Horticultural Association exists to "Keep Ontario Beautiful." Each district in Ontario was given four pickets for their district to decorate. Stoney Creek will be represented with a picket decorated by our own Shirley Temple. ✨ C. Temple www.agrowingexperience.ca

WANTED: Flower Show Entries *by Gwen Allan*

Wanted - Flowers for our September flower show. Red ribbons for 1st prize are available, also blue for 2nd, white for 3rd and purple for honourable mention.

Please read all the rules and flower show schedule carefully – myself, I need to read them all at least twice.

The flower show judges are very precise. When the class says three flowers, no matter how perfect it is, if there are only two flowers it will not get a prize.

When we shop for our fruits and vegetables we look for unblemished firm fruit, clean and fresh. It is the same with judging the flowers and shrubs for the flower show.

In the June Flower Show, the winner of the JOHN H. JONES AWARD for a Hybrid Tea Rose was Elizabeth Taylor.

The HILDRETH AWARD for a Rose in a Bowl went to Elizabeth Taylor. Great job Elizabeth!



Liz Chapple's stunning Dogwood won a red ribbon in the June Flower Show.

everyone to submit their pictures.

It is always interesting to see what people will bring to the flower show. At an earlier show, Sue Smulders did a lovely arrangement using ice; June Hurd's floral designs are always striking and Alice shows the most gorgeous roses. I was anxious to see Krys Jokic's gardens in July as she brings in some

wonderful specimens. And of course Marg Bosynak displays many talents in her flower arrangements. I've seen Beth Powell's peonies and they are amazing, just like her creative talents.

There were no entries in Potted Plants for the TWADDLE AWARD – this class will be included again in the September Flower Show Schedule.

We increased the number of classes in the Decorative Division to bring it up to a "Standard Flower Show" which must have a Decorative and a Horticultural Division with five classes in each. Hopefully with at least four entries in each class we may be able to have some student judges.

There are changes to the Rules and Regulations as well as the Schedule. Please read it carefully. If anyone has questions about either, please contact: Margaret Bosnyak 905-662-1424 or Gwen Allan 905-561-3862.

At the September Flower Show there will be many people available to help in any way, just ask.

Please enter, you might be pleasantly surprised. Enjoy! ✨GA

P.S. It helps if your entry tags are filled in ahead of time along with the entry form found in your Yearbook. **Please do not remove entries before 9 p.m.**



The Lockless Door - June Photo Winner

PEOPLE'S CHOICE IN PHOTOGRAPHY award for *The Lockless Door* was won by Art Ward. Kathy Ward was a very close second. This duo of photographers is amazing and wants

RBG Events

Veggie Village officially opens at Hendrie Park on September 8.

Rainforest Adventure open at Hendrie Park until Thanksgiving.

Red-hot Jazz & Cool Blues Wednesdays in September from 6-8:30 p.m. at Hendrie Park.

Fall Plant Sale Friday, Sept. 10 from 3 to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 12 from 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All items half price. Rare perennials, new stock of woody plants, ornamental grasses, ferns, spring bulbs and more. Sale takes place at the **Arboretum**.

The Royal Botanical Gardens is hosting an exhibition called "Wild Music: Sounds and Songs of Life" in



winter, 2011. We will be showcasing plants used in making music, one of which is *Arundo donax*, or giant cane. It is used to make flutes and reeds for other woodwinds like clarinet and oboe (and for the bagpipes). We'd like to offer some instrument-making workshops and are in need of a quantity of stems for this. If you grow giant cane in your garden and are cutting down last year's growth, would you be willing to save the stems for us? For ease in handling, the stems can be cut into 1 to 2 metre lengths. If you have this plant in your garden and are willing to share, please email Kristen Janke, our interpretation coordinator at kjanke@rbg.ca.

Web Links

<http://groups.google.ca/> There's a new Ontario Horticultural Association discussion group on Google. Search for "Ontario Horticultural Association" at the above URL. This group is a place for horticultural society members to discuss topics about the OHA. You may have questions about such things as OHA programs, forms, awards or grants. You might have an idea you want to propose and get some feedback on. We'll need lots of members to get the discussion going. All horticultural society members are welcome.

<http://www.gardenontario.org/>

Fall 2010 Trillium - Convention 2010 Issue:

- * Competition Results
- * OHA Awards
- * Society Anniversaries
- * Your Garden as a Reflection of Your Personality
- * Judges' Registry

Subscribe to the electronic Trillium by emailing Linda Hugli editor@gardenontario.org

<http://www.wingsofparadise.com/>

For the fourth year, Wings of Paradise Butterfly Conservatory in Cambridge Ontario is offering comprehensive Monarch Butterfly Rearing kits. Each kit includes everything you need to raise, tag and release five migratory Monarch Butterflies. The kits must be pre-ordered online **before September 7** (or while quantities last) and picked up at Wings of Paradise Butterfly Conservatory on Wednesday, September 8 between 7:00 am - 9:00 pm. **Cost:** 72.50 + tax

"Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing in the soil, getting dirty without feeling guilty and generally taking the time to soak up a little peace and serenity." Lindley Karstens



New Members

Carole Chapple
Sue Knight
John Lambert
Tony Matthews
Ruthanne Mehlenbacher

June Noonan
Joanne Poos
Peter Poos
Dianne Summers
Carolyn Taylor



to all members
celebrating a birthday in September

Janice Froats Diane Hebner

SCHS Bursary Winner

by Elizabeth Taylor

Stoney Creek awards a bursary for a student who is entered into a Horticultural Program and Saltfleet High School runs the District Horticulture Program. They welcomed me warmly last spring when I visited and gave me the grand and dirty tour of their facilities, introducing me to some of their students. Saltfleet received a government grant to set up the program and perhaps we can look for ways to work together going forward.

Those of you who attended our June meeting had the opportunity to meet our award recipient Kristen Sandvall and the program head Jake Kurtz and hear him speak a little about their program. Thank you for making them welcome.



Kristen was also given two other awards at their commencement – Specialist High Skills Major Horticultural Award and the Stan Stys Environmental Award and is on the Honour Roll.

We received a lovely note from Kristen, thanking us for the award and telling us she would be using the funds to purchase books needed in her further education. ✨ET



“The greatest gift of the garden is the restoration of the five senses.” Hanna Rion

The Legion Garden

by Elizabeth Taylor

The Ontario Horticultural Association provides a number of grants each year, up to \$500, for local Societies to create Community Plantings. We applied last February and were awarded a grant for the Legion Garden. Since the area had been neglected for some time, additional support and sponsorships were needed so we reached out to the community and were warmly received.

The City delivered a load of compost for the beds. Our friends at Fortinos Fiesta gave us a financial subsidy to purchase annuals (not covered by the grant) and special-ordered the red Geraniums we used. Harry DeVries from Cole’s gave us a healthy discount on the perennials we purchased.

The generosity of these sponsors helped bring the project in under budget and allows us the additional funds for Mike Iskich to build an arbour as a focal point entry into the promenade.

The Legion has expressed their thanks for our efforts and if anyone spends time in this area – no one passes without paying us compliments. Someone told me “there are only three nice gardens on King Street now – the Fountain, the Legion and Smith’s Knoll” and our group is responsible for two of those gardens!

We are very grateful to our supporters and to all the members who took the time to come out and clear, dig, plant, water, weed and cultivate and feed this garden over the hot and humid summer months. ✨ET



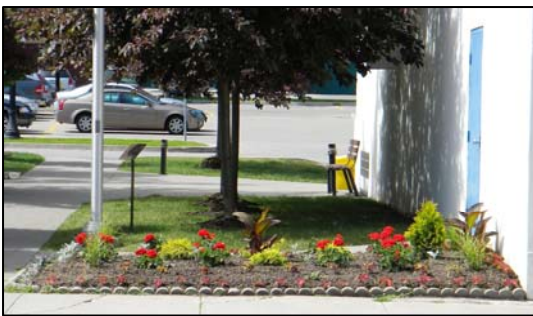
The Legion Garden



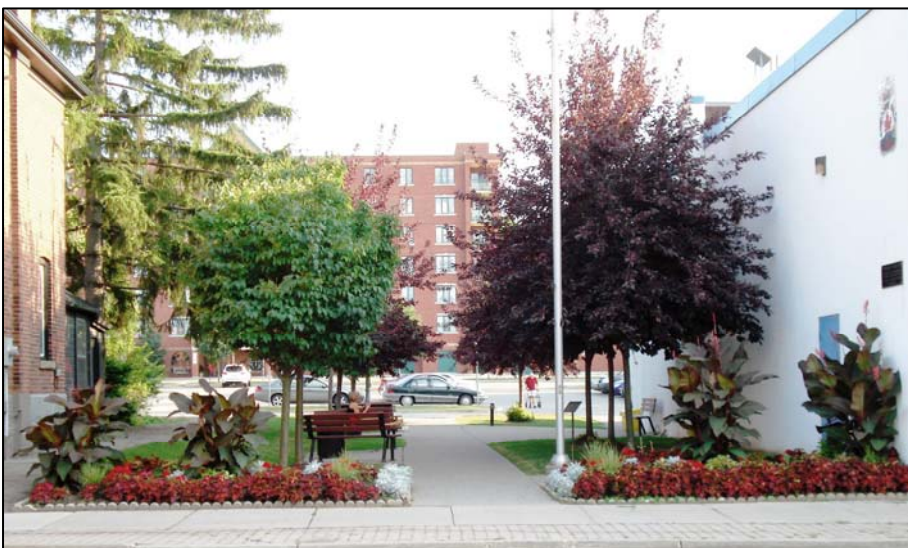
Before



During



After



Rhododendron Basics

Rhododendrons are forgiving plants but it is important to understand their basic requirements.

- ♦ Rhododendrons must have a constant supply of moisture.

- ♦ Rhododendrons must never sit in stagnant water.

- ♦ Rhododendrons must be grown in an acid medium (pH 5-6) that is coarse enough for the roots to have access to needed oxygen.

Understand these three conditions and you will succeed wherever you live.

Details how you can provide these basic needs can be found on the Fraser South Rhododendron Society's website at the following link: <http://www.flounder.ca/FraserSouth/basics/requirements.asp>

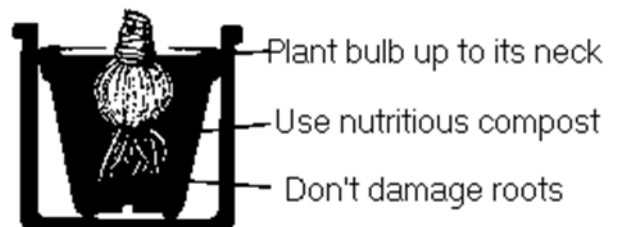


A 125 year old rhododendron in downtown Ladysmith, B.C. It is about 25 ft. high and 30 ft. wide. Thanks to Ruth Faulks for sending in this picture.

Amaryllis Reminder

In late September, when the leaves begin to yellow, cut the leaves back to about 2 inches from the top of the bulb. Remove bulb from soil. Clean the bulb and place in cool dark place such as crisper in fridge for a minimum of 6 weeks. (Do not store along with apples.) The lack of foliage and water will induce the amaryllis to send out the flower stalk first.. Before repotting

in November, soak the base and roots of the bulb in lukewarm water for a few hours. Remember to use a pot (5"-7") with drainage holes and be careful not to damage the roots.



Pelargonium Cuttings

a.k.a. Annual Geraniums

- * Select vigorous maturing shoots, preferably ones that show a slight pink tinge to the green of the stem, making the cut just above a leaf.

- * Strip the cutting of all but a couple of the uppermost leaves.

- * The stem is trimmed cleanly just below the lowest joint to leave a cutting three or four sections long.

- * Only the cut end is touched into rooting compound being careful not to overdose.

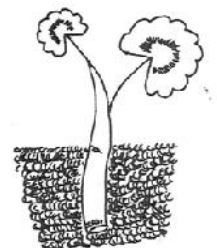
- * Use a clean container and a porous medium. A good potting mix will work but added perlite helps improve it.

- * Cuttings are inserted in holes made with a dibber or chopstick to about half the depth of the cutting. Water with clean water.

- * Cuttings should root in about 10-14 days and normally do not require further watering during this time. Cuttings will rot if over-watered.

Adapted from Ian C. Gillam's article "Success with Cuttings" on the Canadian Geranium and Pelargonium Society's web page.

<http://www.cdngeraniums.com/>



Stoney Creek Garden Club June Meeting



Strawberry Social

June and Wendy assist Veryl in the kitchen preparing strawberries for a packed house including eight new members.

Photos by Art Ward



Margaret Bosynak's decorative entry in *The Flower Boat* class.



Reminder

Annual Photo Contest pictures are due at the October 13 meeting. For the list of rules and categories, pick up a handout at the September meeting or visit the SCHS website at this URL:

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stoneycreek/news/online/1638>

OHA 2010 Convention Competition Results

Three Stoney Creek Garden Club members won awards at the 2010 OHA Convention in Barrie. Congratulations to the winners!

Art Competition

Class 1 *Everything Old is New Again* (pencil sketch)

Shirley Temple - Honourable Mention

Class 3 *Recovered Logs* (carving)

Shirley Temple - First Place

Class 5 *The Power of Water* (water colour)

Shirley Temple - Third Place

Photo Competition

Class 3 *I'm Green with Envy* (monochromatic)

Kathy Ward - First Place

Class 5 *Room to Let*

Art Ward - Second Place

Class 8 *Good Morning Sun*

Kathy Ward - First Place & BEST IN SHOW

Class 13 *I Should have had a V8*

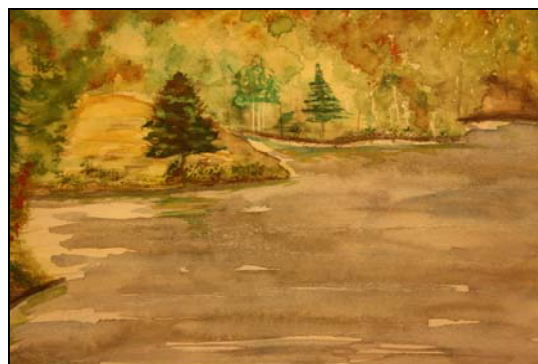
Kathy Ward - Third Place



Good Morning Sun
BEST IN SHOW



Room to Let - Second Place



The Power of Water - Third Place

STONEY CREEK GARDEN CLUB & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 66597
Stoney Creek Postal Outlet
Stoney Creek, Ontario L8G 5E5

Monthly meetings are held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 622
12 King St. East, Stoney Creek.
Guest Fee: \$2.00



Est. 1926

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Green Thumbs is published nine times per year and is sent to all Society members and other interested parties. Material for the newsletter can be submitted to the editor by mail, telephone, fax or email.

October Green Thumbs Deadline: Sept. 29

We're on the Web!

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/stoneycreek>

End of Season Driveway Sale

Our friends at Fortinos Fiesta extended their generosity to us by donating the leftover product they had on site when they closed the Garden Centre in July. We lugged 31 flats of plants home and held an impromptu Driveway Sale. The sale generated an additional \$250 in profit for our group! Thank you to the volunteers who came out to help on short notice.

The leftovers were donated to Glanbrook Home Support, "The Great Iris Divide" fundraiser, a local church to supplement their garden planting and to the Winona Horticultural Society for their booth at the Winona Peach Festival. ✂ET

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\$40 (9 issues)

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for further details

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