

# *The GardenShed*

MAY 2015

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CRAMAHE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



TRILLIUM WOODS

Photo by Barrie Wood



# The Garden Shed

## ~ From the Editor

*There is good news and bad news. The good news is that it is finally raining, after an extremely dry spring. The bad news is that it started raining – and the weather turned cold and miserable – right in the middle of Colborne's Apple Blossom Festival.*

*Thank goodness Saturday was such a glorious day. As usual, our Cramahe Hort members donated an impressive array of plants for our annual sale. Thanks to JoAnne Titus and her team of stalwart helpers who always work so hard in the weeks and months preceding the event, and to all the members who come out to enthusiastically share their gardening knowledge with our happy customers ... despite sun and heat one day and cold, blowing rain the next.*

*My favorite garden writer, Patrick Lima, refers to June in the Ontario garden as 'Sweet Harmony'. Many gardens are at their most glorious in June and I guess this is why we have so many flower shows and garden tours at this time of year. These are listed later in this issue. Surely this frigid weather cannot last long, and we'll have lots of entries for our June Flower Show and lots of visitors in our members' beautiful gardens when we host the 4-Club Garden Tour at the end of June. See you there!*

*~ Lorelyn*



JoAnne Titus and Robin Young take a break in the shade during our annual plant sale. Photo by Barrie Wood

## ~ President's Message

WHEW. What a whirlwind of a month I have had!! May is always particularly busy for me because of the Apple Blossom Festival and this month was no exception. I also managed to slip away for a much needed break to the other Big Apple, New York City, where I spent some 'me' time enjoying a play on Broadway, sightseeing with all the other tourists, doing lots of walking and of course, having lots of great food and wine!! If you ever get the chance to go to New York, by all means go ... it was a fantastic experience.

As for Apple Blossom, I spent a great deal of time procuring the vendors for the event and getting everything ready for the big



day. Of course, I could not have done it without the support of my fellow members. Thanks go out to the crew that came out to help me set up the vendor spaces in the park on Friday night and to the crew that came out to help with the vendors as they arrived on Saturday. Also, a big thank you to all the members that came out to help at the plant sale on Saturday and to JoAnne Titus for once again managing to find so many plants to bring for the sale.

Saturday was an almost perfect day for the Festival, with scores of people mingling on the streets and in the park at the Vendor Village. And then the rain came. I am hard pressed to remember a Festival where we had rain, but I guess this was our year. Sunday dawned wet and COLD and the Classic Car Show was cancelled, but that didn't deter the vendors! They were already set up, so they decided as a group that they would hang in and see what the day brought.

Unfortunately, the day continued cold and wet and by 1:00 p.m. the vendors were starting to take down their tents and head home. I don't blame them one bit and I applaud them for staying as long as they did. I had been out since 6:00 a.m. that morning and I was more than ready to go home, get out of my wet clothes and finally get warmed up. I hope that, even with the bad weather on Sunday, the Festival was a success for the most part and now I can take a break for a bit before I gear up for next year.

My next project starts right away. June 27th is the Four-Club Garden Tour and I have to get that under way and make sure

that all the gardens for the tour are ready. If you think you might like to help with this project, please sign up at the next Horticulture meeting on June 16th. Don't forget that is also the night for our Summer Flower Show and since you all learned how to make a decorative display at the last meeting, I think we should have a really good turnout at the show!! I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and I hope to see some of you at the Garden Tour.

From the cluttered desk of your President,

*~ Sharron*



Government of Ontario Volunteer Service Awards, 2015: Cathy Galt, 25 Years; Sharron MacDonald, 15 Years; Anne Marie Vanstone, 5 Years. Photo by Brenda Chapman

## ~~~~ April Presentation ~~~~

### Flower Arranging with Lenna Broatch



Shirley Ross' bridal wreath spirea Photo by Lesley Blake

Flower Arranging was the subject of the Cramahe Horticultural Society meeting on Tuesday, May 19th.

An attractive display of spring flowers was brought in by members to start off the evening with our mini spring flower show. In spite of the long winter and sudden onslaught of summer-like weather, there were 19 entries. Those present were given six marbles which they could drop into containers beside their favourite six entries. Lenna Broatch, our speaker for the evening, came first with her lovely arrangement of irises and Shirley Ross came second with her bridal wreath. Shirley Ross and Jo Anne Titus both had five entries.

In the hope of raising interest amongst more members Lenna gave an outline of what judges look for in a competition. The principals of floral design include balance, proportion, rhythm, contrast, dominance and harmony. Other important elements include colour, space, form and texture. For reasons of freshness, flowers should be picked before 8:00 in the morning or after 8:00 at night. Supporting materials include flower-arranging foam, armatures, chicken wire, kenzan (flower pins), frogs, sticky tape, cedar boughs and moss. Tools of the trade include flower food to keep the water fresh, floral knife and saw, pruners and clippers, sticky tape (to keep two stems together, giving the appearance of one flower), wire



Lenna Broatch

Photo by Lesley Blake



and wire cutters, and wood picks. It is permitted to use the latter for support, provided they are not visible. Creative containers add to the overall appearance of the design and the recommended balance is one third container to two thirds flowers. It is important to follow the specifics of the design, which are given in the Year Book.

Those present were divided among six tables and Lenna supplied containers, foam and flowers to enable each table to create a different specific design. These were then critiqued by Cathy Galt and Rose Odell who were both encouraging as to the results.

We hope to have some new exhibitors at our next flower show which is coming up on Tuesday, June 16.

~ Jill Sellers



Rose Odell and Cathy Galt

Photo by Lesley Blake

## ~~~~ Ecology Garden Clean-Up ~~~~



Spring cleanup at the Ecology Garden : Bea Fredenburgh, Len Salvati, June Johnson, Barrie Wood & Lorelyn Morgan  
Photo Sharron McDonald



Len Salvati at the Ecology Garden

Photo Sharron McDonald

## ~~~~ OHA News ~~~~

- June 10 - District 4 June Celebration Event, Peterborough (Naval Club)  
11 am – 3 pm, Theme: “Western Cowboy” – dress if you dare in Western style  
Speaker: Doug Kennedy on “Native Grasses”
- June 13 – 21 GardenOntario Week  
Check the website for daily events province-wide during the week:  
[week.gardenontario.org](http://week.gardenontario.org)  
For info, contact the OHA Secretary, Kelly Taylor at [secretary@gardenontario.org](mailto:secretary@gardenontario.org)
- July 3-5 - OHA Convention, Ancaster (Redeemer College)  
“Summer in the Southern Tier”
- October 24 - District 4 Fall Seminar, Location TBA.
- Photo Competition for 2015 is as follows: (a) There’s Much to Love About Autumn  
(b) Two Seasons (2 pics, same view in spring & fall)  
(c) Up Close and Personal (flower with a bug)

## ~~~ News You Can Use ~ Garden Tours ~~~

- June 27, 2015 - 4-Club Garden Tour (Cramahe, Grafton, Cobourg & Port Hope)  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hosted by Cramahe Hort. Free to members.
- July 11, 2015 - Architectural Conservancy Ontario of Port Hope  
‘10 Lovely Town Gardens to fascinate, educate & inspire.’  
905.885.7929 [www.acoporthope.ca](http://www.acoporthope.ca)
- July 11, 2015 - 19th Annual Gardens of Uxbridge Garden Tour Tickets \$25, in support  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. of Community Care Durham. Includes lunch. Phone 905-852-7445 or  
email [cpaisley@communitycaredurham.on.ca](mailto:cpaisley@communitycaredurham.on.ca) or visit  
[www.ccdgardensofuxbridge.org](http://www.ccdgardensofuxbridge.org) or [www.communitycaredurham.on.ca](http://www.communitycaredurham.on.ca)
- July 11, 2015 - Bobcaygeon Horticultural Society’s 19<sup>th</sup> Garden Tour, Tea & Market.  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Horticultural displays, refreshments, music, artists’ garden, consult with  
Master Gardeners. Includes admission to Kawartha Settlers Village. \$25,  
kids free. <http://www.bobcaygeonhorticulture.com/events.shtml>



## ~~~~ Executive Doings ~~~~

From May 12, 2015

Spring has arrived, and with it, a very well-attended Board Meeting – 11 in attendance! (And still, we didn't eat all the donuts.) Thanks to all for coming.

Notable at the table was Clair Breton, sitting beside outgoing Treasurer Carol McArthur, with many questions to clarify the unfamiliar goings-on (and acronyms!) for her, as she prepares to take over next year. We are all grateful to Clair for coming forward. Thank her when you see her – it's an important position – and I can already tell that she will do a great job.

All the "usual" issues came up: Plant Sale at Apple Blossom Tyme, Four-Garden Tour, Ecology Garden.

Sharron has now upped our Facebook presence to 117 Likes and a Post Reach of 3,254. There are those who would understand just what that means and be suitably impressed; and then there are the folks like me who just see it as a really large number of people paying attention to the Cramahe Hort Facebook page. And that's

GOOD!! It's a good thing Sharron enjoys doing the Facebook page, because she does spend a lot of time on it. Racking up the Volunteer Hours . . .

. . . and speaking of which – ***don't forget to log your volunteer hours!!***

There will be many to log after the Apple Blossom Tyme Festival, with the preparations, the setups, the manning of the plant sale table (I guess that's "personing" the table), the takedowns, the aftermath and any side effects. Keep track!

OK. Plants are growing like crazy despite the dryness – the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly ... uh ... no. No plant is really ugly – they are all trying to do the same thing: put out some seeds or roots and create more of themselves for the future. And there's nothing wrong with that. It's what we all do, I think. Let's get at it!

~ *Barrie Wood*

## ~~~~ Calling All Photographers ~~~~

Do you have a photograph of your garden or a particular bloom that you would like to see in our 2016 anniversary calendar? Photos should be in landscape format and must be submitted to Carol McArthur before June 30, 2015. Final selection of 13 photos for the calendar will be made by a committee of three, and their decisions will be final. Proceeds from the calendar sales will go towards our new Community Gardens at the Twin Diamonds/Rotary Park.

Digital photos may be sent via email to [mcarthur.198@sympatico.ca](mailto:mcarthur.198@sympatico.ca). Carol does also have the ability to digitize paper photographs, as long as you get them to her in time. Any questions? Give Carol a call at 905-355-2665.





## ~~~~ From One Gardener to Another ~~~~

The miracle happens again! It never ceases to amaze me – spring awakening in the woodland garden. The spring ephemerals bloom very early, are beautiful in their delicate simplicity – then gone! Until next year. The ones found in my garden are: Dutchman's breeches, Virginia bluebells, trout lily, squirrel corn, shooting star, May apple and several varieties of trillium.



Dutchman's breeches

To me, one of the most exquisite plants is twinleaf. The one inch wide white flowers bloom very early and are only open a few days, almost before the pollinators are active. It's the leaves that are so intriguing.



Twinleaf

Each blue-green leaf looks like it is paired with its identical twin, small when they emerge and enlarging after the plant flowers.

After the early flush of blooms, there are hepaticas, bloodroot, wild ginger, wild blue phlox, foamflower, bellwort, spreading Jacob's ladder and more. And then, there's the gorgeous yellow woodland poppy! A huge flush of bloom in spring, then sporadic flowers all summer if it's happy.



Woodland poppy

For later, there are wild orchids, cardinal flower and zig-zag goldenrod. All along is the foliage of various ferns.

My woodland garden is my dream garden. It is not an exact replica of a natural wild area, but rather my interpretation. And right outside my door! Of one thing I am certain – nature is actually in charge, I play a supporting role.

~ Peg Howden

*Photos from Peg's garden by Barrie Wood.*



## ~~ Gardening Wisdom ~~

From a First Nations Cookbook

*First, plant four rows of peas ...*

Presence.  
Preparation.  
Promptness.  
Perseverance.

*Next, plant four rows of squash ...*

Squash gossip.  
Squash indifference.  
Squash criticism.  
Squash impatience.

*Then plant four rows of lettuce ...*

Let us be faithful to our obligations.  
Let us be loyal and unselfish.  
Let us be diligent to duty.  
Let us love one another.

*And no garden is complete without turnips ...*

Turn up with a smile.  
Turn up with new ideas.  
Turn up with encouragement.  
Turn up with determination to ...

*"Remove the weeds  
and cultivate the good things  
that are growing in the  
garden of my life."*

~ Bea Fredenburgh



Rhubarb, rhubarb!

Barrie Wood

## ~Over the Garden Fence~

(Neighbouring Horticultural Societies)

**Brighton Horticulture** meets at King Edward Community Centre, 81 Elizabeth St. 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Next Meeting: June 13 **Spring Flower Show** 2-4 p.m.; June 23 **"Dahlias"** with Marian Jean of Oakridge Dahlias

**Cobourg Horticulture** meets at Cobourg Columbus Community Centre, 232 Spencer Street East (D'Arcy), 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. Next Meeting: June 3 **"Growing Dahlias & Gladiolus Successfully"** with Malcolm McDonald

**Grafton Horticulture** meets at St. Andrews United Church, 137 Old Danforth Rd., 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Next meeting: June 9 **"Recession Not Depression Gardening"** with Vicki Taylor-Scott; June 27, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. **Summer Flower Show & Tea**, Barnum House, 10568 County Rd. 2, Grafton. Admission: \$5.00 Adults

**Omeme Horticulture** meets at Trinity United Church, 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. Next meeting: July 20 **Garden Art/Gifts Demonstrations by Members**

**Port Hope & District Horticulture** meets at the Ruth Clarke Centre, 81 Mill St. S., 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month at 7:00 pm. Next Meeting: June 8 **"Summer Containers"** with Lynette Kirton of Vandermeer Nursery & Garden Centre, AND **June Flower Show**

## *~~ Please Join Us ~~*

... on *facebook* or online at [cramahehort.ca](http://cramahehort.ca)

... or at a meeting - on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month in the Keeler Centre, Colborne.

Next meeting: June 16  
**Growing Delphiniums** with Hazel Cook  
and **June Flower Show**

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Peony: 2015 Cramahe Hort Flower of the Year  
Photo by B. Wood

# *Growing our community .... one garden at a time.*