



Streetsville Blooms



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

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Index

President's Message	... 1
Christmas Workshop and Bake Sale	... 2
Draw Table	... 2
Rotary Park	...3
Golden Citrus Fruitcake	... 3
Awards Night	... 4
New Board of Directors	... 5
Best Wishes	... 5
Winter Care of Garden Tools	... 6
Oct. Flower Show	... 7
Poinsettia Care	... 8

Next meeting: December 8, 2015

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

CHRISTIAN REFORM CHURCH

Doors open 7 p.m.

Meeting starts 7:30 p.m.

Please bring a canned item for the food collection bin for our Annual Christmas Food Drive



President's Message

Hello everyone, as I am writing this at seven in the morning the sky is just starting to lighten and my garden is almost an inch deep in snow. Flakes are still floating down, big and fluffy – what I usually call Christmas Eve snow. And I think to myself 'it's going to be winter again'.

We can't get away from it; it happens every year. I've always envied my relatives in milder climates. I like to work in my garden; I like the varied plants and flowers, and the seasonal changes.

The other day while chatting with my cousin, who lives in Birmingham, England, I mentioned that I had finally 'put the garden to bed for the winter'. He asked what I meant, so I explained. He said "You are lucky you don't have to mow the lawn or weed the beds all winter". He has a walled garden and was planting cool season vegetables, pansies, and other annuals for winter colour. The bonus of having a real winter is that we actually cannot garden; we are busy from May to October and then it's cold. There's something very satisfying about tidying everything and having downtime. Does it make us appreciate spring and a new growing season more? It certainly gives us time to review what happened in the garden last year and what our plans and hopes are for next year.



We don't have flowers outside in the winter but there are some very pretty sights, such as this burdock in the snow.

I'm excited to be your new president and also a little nervous – it's a big responsibility. I know that we have many talented people with good ideas who support our society by volunteering. I would like to invite all of you to suggest ideas for activities or fundraising.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.

Monica Ross, President



CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

And

SILENT AUCTION BAKE SALE

Come and join Nicky Hall as she demonstrates how to put together a Christmas arrangement on December 8. Participants to both workshops registered and pre-paid for supplies at the November meeting.

Purchased greenery that has been treated to last will be provided for the low cost of \$10. Bring your container, soaked oasis, cutters, baubles, picks and flowers or any other embellishments you want to use to create your own masterpiece.

There will be one centerpiece raffled off at the end of the evening.

Patrick Kelly from the Peel-Halton Woodlands and Wildlife Stewardship will bring the wren

birdhouse kits for assembling and all the tools required. For more information, contact Nicky Hall at bignurse@bell.net.



centerpiece/arrangement: Secateurs sharp knife, florist tape or wire, scissors, ribbons and decorative accessories.



Delicious cider is available during the workshops. Please remember to lug your mugs.

Members are asked to bring baked goods to the December 8 meeting. Contributions do not need to be home baked, but may also include preserves and candies etc.



From the Membership Desk to the Draw Table

I would like to thank all those who have helped me out on the membership desk over the last two years. You all made the job much easier for me and I think our improvements were successful. Lynn Merritt will be taking over in December and I wish her all the best as I move over to the draw table. Mary Bernier is stepping down and I will be at the table in January. There will be no draw table at the December meeting.

Moving forward I ask that any members who have received any gifts they would like to re-gift after Christmas donate them if they wish to be used as part of our fundraising efforts for

our society. In addition, if you have any gently used items that you feel would suit our table please feel free to bring them in as well. I am also looking for any baskets and/or filler for the baskets.

If anyone has any suggestions for improving our draw table please feel free to email me at gracemcelhinney@hotmail.com. We want this to be fun while at the same time earn funds for the society. Remember, all these monies help to keep our society running, without the extra monies raised our fees would have to rise. If everyone spent just \$2 at the draw table every meeting we could raise approx. \$120 every meeting or \$1200 for the year! Wow!

I would like to take this time to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing everyone on January 12, 2016!

Grace McElhinney, Draw Table Chair

Rotary Park

The park has been cleaned, plants hilled up and the rhododendrons sheltered with burlap.

Thanks to all those who spent two hours putting the plants to bed for the winter:

Asoke Bera; Jon Eldridge; Heather Walker; Martha Witney; Lilly Duke; Don Bolder; Henry Schouten; Anita King; Alex King; Sue Flack; Grace Nelham; Linda Bush; Terry Boughner; Christine McEwan; Irene Murdock; Philip Walker; Rob Harshman; Ron Beehoo and Ruthanne Beehoo.

Ruthanne Beehoo, Rotary Park Co-Chair

Jon Eldridge, Rotary Park Co-chair

Golden Citrus Fruitcake

If you were at the November meeting, perhaps you tasted this fruitcake. It is certainly not the much joked about old-fashioned fruitcake, sometimes best used as a door stop. This is a light golden cake, with lots of fruit, no nuts and no hard lumps of candied peel.



1.5 cups, (375ml) chopped dried apricots; 250 grams
1 cup (250ml) dried cranberries; 200 grams
1 cup (250ml) golden raisins; 150 grams
1 cup (250ml) dark raisins; 150 grams
½ cup (125 ml) lime juice concentrate, I use Rose's lime syrup,
¾ cup (175ml) softened butter; 160 grams
¾ cup granulated sugar; 150 grams
3 eggs
1 tbsp. finely grated orange zest
1 tbsp. finely grated lemon zest
1 ¾ cups (425ml) all-purpose flour; 220 grams
1 ½ tsp (7ml) baking powder
¼ tsp salt

Preheat oven to 300F (160C). Place shallow pan of water on bottom rack. Butter a 9 x 5 inch loaf pan. Line bottom and sides with parchment paper-(I have often used waxed paper) and butter again.

Combine fruit – not the orange and lemon zest- with the lime syrup in a glass bowl,

microwave on high for 2 minutes, stirring once, let cool, stir occasionally.

Place butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl, and cream using an electric mixer until fluffy. Beat in the eggs until incorporated. Stir in orange and lemon zest.

Stir together flour, baking powder and salt in another bowl. Beat into the creamed mixture until combined, and then fold in the fruit mixture including any remaining lime syrup.

Spoon batter into prepared pan, place on rack in middle of oven and bake for approx. 90 mins* or until a toothpick or cake tester inserted in the centre comes out clean.

Transfer to a rack, let stand for 15 minutes. Lift cake out of pan place on rack until cool. Remove parchment paper, wrap cake in cheesecloth and **drizzle with lime syrup**, then wrap in heavy duty foil or plastic storage bag. Store in cool dry place or refrigerator **for at least one week, or for up to 4 weeks ahead of slicing**

Monica Ross, President



Awards Night

The following awards were presented at the Annual General Meeting:



Nicky Hall receives the Elizabeth Colley Designer of the Year from Sue Harshman. Novice Designer Award was received by Debra Buckler who was absent.



Grace Nelham receives the Photographer of the Year award from Henry Schouten.

We hope that you will enter the photography contest next year. The photo categories are available on our SHS website.



Lynn Merritt receives the Jean Kennedy Volunteer of the Year award from Eleonora Roberts. Lynn volunteered 389.75 hours. Amgad Boles had 245.75 hours. Debra Buckler followed with 200 hours and Monica Ross with 168.25

Seventy-four members submitted their volunteer hours from September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2015. The hours totaled 2,581.25 hours. Congratulations to all our fantastic volunteers.



Henry Schouten presents Shirley Boyes with the Judge's Choice Award and a framed picture of her winning photo.

Meet the Board of Directors



L to R: Kathleen Hayward, Education Chair (alternating); Mary Hachey, Refreshment Chair and Children's Program Chair; Christina Anonychuk, Premiums; Amgad Boles, Publicity and Fundraising Chair; Lynn Merritt, Membership Chair; Marg Rowan, Vice President and Secretary; Dean Scully, Plant Sale co-Chair; Monica Ross, President; Sue Harshman, Past President; Debra Lemire, Newsletter Chair; Christine McEwan, Treasurer; Phil Walker, Speaker Program Chair. Missing: Janet Shaw, Flower Show Committee Volunteer.

Best Wishes



Thanks to Nicky Hall, a member of the Lake Wabukayne Stewardship committee, a platform for turtles to bask on at Lake Wabukayne was built and installed on October 20.

This is a much safer option than on top of the outflow/dam where the turtles have been swept off twice this year.

Nicky was the driving force in getting this project off the ground and I wish to thank her

for her passion in caring for this jewel in the heart of Meadowvale.

Pat Saito, Ward 9 Councillor

Winter Care for Garden Tools

Hand tools (trowels, rakes, shovels, hoes etc.):

Use a putty knife or a wire brush to remove stubborn, residual dirt and caked-on materials. Do not use a wire brush on the painted surfaces or it will remove the paint and give rust a place to start. Use soap and water to thoroughly wash the tools. If rust has started to appear, use steel wool to remove.

Mowers and trimmers:

Scrape remnants of grass off mowers and trimmers. Grass can react with the metal and cause rust when in prolonged contact.

Sprayers:

Empty chemical sprayers and properly dispose of leftover chemicals according to package instructions. Rinse the sprayers a minimum of three times with soap and water before storing for the winter.

Disinfect:

Disinfect all tool surfaces that come into contact with the soil by dipping into a solution of one-part non-chlorine bleach to four parts water.

Remove Gas:

Gasoline should not be held over the winter to the spring season. Drain your lawn mower and gas trimmers

Sharpen Blades:

Sharp blades make cleaner cuts which heal quicker. Use a whetstone or a file and follow the existing angle on the blade. Sharpen lawn mower blades in the fall to avoid the spring rush.

Prevent rusting and cracking:

Sand down all wooden handles and apply boiled linseed oil to protect them from cracking. Wipe off any excess oil. Lubricate all tools with moving parts and springs with WD40. Pay special attention to wheels, axels and moving parts.

Drain and Hang all hoses:

After the garden has one last, long drink, remove nozzles, drain and hang hoses away from freezing temperatures.

Turn off water supply systems at the main line to prevent freezing and cracking.

Tighten up and Check for leaks:

Tighten up loose bolts and check for wear and tear. Check air pressure in wheelbarrows, garden carts and lawn mowers and check tires for any splitting.

Proper Storage:

For safety, tools should be stored upright and off the floor using hooks, nails or wooden pallets.

Dry chemicals should be kept dry and liquid chemicals should be kept from freezing.

<http://www.thriftyfun.com/Winter-Care-for-Garden-Tools-Guide.html>

October Flower Contest Winners



Designer Division

Class 1
Frosty morning
First place, Judge's
Choice
Nicky Hall

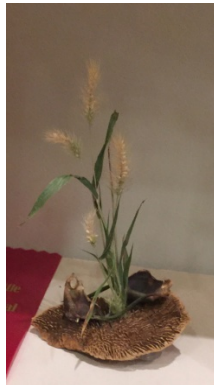
Designer Division

Novice
Class 4
Pumpkin Fest
Debra Buckler



Designer Division

Class 3
Gone to Seed
Miniature
First Place
Lynn Sereda



Cultural Division

First Place,
Judge's Choice
Debra Buckler



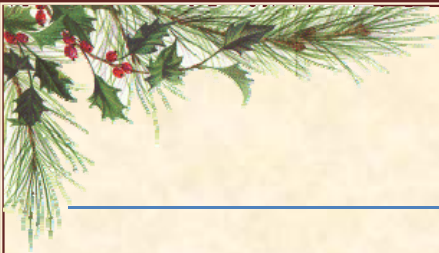
Designer Division

Class 2
Sun Setting
Judge's Choice, First
Place
Greg Sereda

Cultural Division

First Place, Judge's
Choice
Toad Lily
Nicky Hall





Streetsville Blooms

President: Monica Ross

Vice president: Marg Rowan

Secretary: Marg Rowan

Co-secretary: Arlene Crothers

Past president: Sue Harshman

Treasurer: Christine McEwan

Editor: Debra Lemire

Web Master: Nigel Roberts

Questions, concerns, ideas, or would you like to volunteer for a position on the board?

Contact Monica Ross at 905.824.7283 or at thegardenlady@psstnetwork.ca

Article suggestions; please contact Debbie Lemire at debra.lemire@gmail.com or 416.268.4348.

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Taking care of your Poinsettia

With proper care, your poinsettia will last through the holiday season and right into late winter. Pay close attention to the following tips:

Place in a room where there is bright natural light but not where the sun will shine directly on the plant.

Keep the plant away from locations where it will receive hot or cold draughts.

Place the plant high enough to be out of reach of unmonitored children and pets.



Set the plant in a water-proof container to protect your furniture.

Water the plant thoroughly when the soil surface is dry to the touch. Discard any excess water which remains in the saucer after 10 minutes.

The bright colour of the bracts will remain longer if temperatures do not exceed 22°C.

