



Streetsville Blooms



Streetsville Horticultural Society

Proud to be a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

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January 2025



Bird Picture from Pixabay.com

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Streetsville United Church

In Heritage Hall

274 Queen Street South

Set Up at 6:30 p.m.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Glen Smyth

Topic: Redefining of Agricultural Spaces

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Co-Presidents' Message

Welcome to 2025! The new year gives us a chance to reflect on the past and presents a blank slate to fill with new goals, refreshed hope, and possibilities. As gardeners, you may be winter sowing, planning, or browsing through catalogues to get inspiration.

Members enjoyed participating in the "Greenery in the Mug" December workshop lead by talented designers Ursula and Monika! The results of everyone's efforts were spectacular (*see pictures below*).

During the meeting, Grace M., began collecting money for the TASC tulip farm excursion in May and she will be selling tickets again at the next meeting. Thank you to Monica for donating and selling the beautiful glass ornaments and to Liz for collecting the workshop fee and selling birch poles.



Our draw table was a huge success thanks to generous donations from members Ursula, Monika, Steve, Janice, and TERRA Greenhouses. As the slide show highlighted the events of the year, music filled the room, and members who were dressed in their holiday sweaters enjoyed socializing with each other while sipping on hot apple cider and nibbling on the members provided snacks. It was a great way to end 2024!

We are looking for someone to look after our SHS publicity. This includes sending monthly articles about our meeting to the Streetsville BIA, Councilor Brad Butt's office, and creating an event on Eventbrite. A bonus would be to assist with creating posters using Canva or graphic design software for each event. Please let a board member know if you and a friend are interested in taking on this role.

"Communities in Bloom" which normally chooses a garden colour for the year, has instead chosen a theme this year. The theme will be **Edible Gardens**. Hopefully you will take speakers Diana Westland or Maria Kasstan's advice and grow some vegetables, such as beans or lettuce and use a seed library to source your seeds.

Wishing you a year ahead filled with timely rain and sunshine to help nourish your garden and soul!

Shelley Dodd & Maureen Dodd

Berries picture from Pixabay.com

streetsvillehort@gmail.com



**5 Year Service Award
Don Pitson, Louay Qasha**

L to R: Shelley Dodd; Don Pitson; Louay Qasha



December Workshop



L to R: Monika Schouten; Shirley Boyes; Ursula Evanoff

L to R: Louay Qasha; Harpinder Nijar; Don Pitson; Stephen Gallant







December Meeting Draw Table Items

Our draw table was a huge success thanks to generous donations from members Ursula, Monika, Steve, Janice, and TERRA Greenhouses.



January Speaker

Our speaker is Glen Smyth, Founder of Appleflats, and the title of the presentation is "Crabapples - the Redefining of Agricultural Spaces".

Glen and his brother Alex, started Appleflats in 2016 with a mission - to keep a Canadian heritage variety of crabapple from going extinct. To take pressure off the small orchard they had planted, the brothers started harvesting what remains of the crabapples from urban environments. Eight years later, this harvesting style might offer a key for the next generation to enter agriculture.

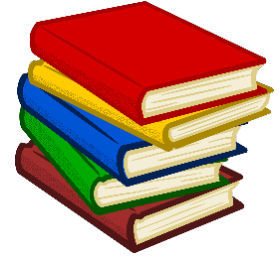


Crabapple Picture taken from Appleflatsfoods.com

Book & Jigsaw Puzzle Sale



Now that winter has arrived and we are spending more time indoors, it is the perfect time to do a jigsaw puzzle or cozy up with a good novel. We are holding our second annual book and jigsaw puzzle sale at the January meeting.



Do you have jigsaw puzzles or books which you have completed and are looking to give a new home? Bring your donations to our January meeting and Nury will be setting up a table to sell them at. Not only will you bring joy to the recipient, but the money collected will be used to offset the church rental increases. Books will be sold for \$2 and puzzles for \$3.

Celebrations



January's birth flowers are the carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus*) and the snowdrop (*Galanthus*). Carnations are often used in floral displays, with each colour having a different meaning. The snowdrop is always white, is usually the earliest spring ephemeral to bloom, and prefers to grow in full sun. Wishing Adele, Monika, and Janice W., who are celebrating a birthday this month, a happy and healthy 2025!



Congratulations to Martha and Brian who are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary this month! The Iris is the chosen flower which represents a strong, bright relationship.

Eden Food for Change

The Streetsville Horticultural Society was pleased to donate to **Eden Food for Change** again this year. A cheque in the amount of \$341.25, consisting of monies collected from the Refreshment Table \$121.25, and Draw Table \$220.00 and a donation of approximately 90 lbs of non-perishable food items was delivered to Eden Food for Change.

Thank-you to our members, who donated at our Annual Holiday Workshop, either by dropping off food or giving money, buying draw tickets, or donating to the refreshment table. Thank you to Martha who delivered the food and cheque on the Streetsville Horticultural Society's behalf.

Membership Desk

What fun we had at our December meeting! So many happy members, working on their colourful Christmas mugs! Thanks to Ursula and Monika for all their expertise! Every mug looked beautiful and festive! And all the tasty offering for refreshments put us all in the Christmas spirit!

Word of mouth from current members is a great way to increase our membership. Did you know that guests are welcome to attend one meeting for free, EXCEPT for the November AGM?

If you happened to take your nametag home, please remember to bring it to the next meeting. Thanks to our helper at the membership desk, Karen N.

Faulene Hopkins, Membership Chair

Refreshment Table



Thank you to members: Shelley Dodd, Nury Garzon, Judi Kokis, Marg Rowan, Janet Shaw, Janice Ward and Martha Witney for donating to our Christmas Workshop Refreshment table.

Please remember to sign the sheet if you contribute and I will record the amount of time that you used to prepare, etc. as volunteer hours, with Amarin Tsujimura. A BIG thank you, once again to Marica Spear for your endless help in setting/cleaning up. Also, thank you to Vino Xavier for your much appreciated help with the clean up.

Members who have signed up for the January 2025 Refreshment Table are: Mary Bernier, Cathy Clipperton, Maureen Dodd and Judi Kokis. Just a reminder the church is a nut-free facility.

Martha Witney, Refreshment Table Co-Ordinator

TASC Tulip Farm and The Watering Can Excursion – Grace McElhinney

We are looking forward to Spring and our excursions to the TASC Tulip Farm and the Watering Can. Admission includes free parking, 10 tulips, many photo opportunities, food trucks, and flexible visitation dates. To date, 18 people have prepaid the \$25 entrance fee, but there were several members who expressed interest in attending by signing up on the clipboard at the November AGM.

We will be selling tickets again at the January meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, please reach out to me if you still want to go on the trip.

We will be carpooling since some members are not comfortable driving alone. As in the past, the driver will get gas money from all passengers which was usually \$10. A meeting place and the exact amount will be provided as we get closer to the excursion date.



Winter Sowing

Now that the winter solstice has passed it's time to start winter sowing! Nature does this naturally with many native plants, but Trudi Greissle Davidoff popularized this simple method of seed starting outside.

All that it requires is a clear container so that light can pass through with either an opening at the top or holes, drainage holes at the bottom, and deep enough to hold at least 8 cm of sterile potting mix. Each labelled container is typically planted with one variety of seed from January to March with perennials being planted first, then hardy annuals such as marigold and or snapdragon, and lastly annuals. Tropical plants do not work with this method.

Once planted and watered the containers are put outside away from structures, such as eaves and fences, that will protect and prevent them from getting snowed on or exposure to the elements.

The beauty of winter sowing is that the seedlings are already hardened off when it is time to transplant them, they don't take up space inside your home, and don't require sophisticated equipment like grow lights.

If you would like more information about winter sowing you can visit this Royal Botanical Garden website to learn the basics <https://www.rbg.ca/winter-sowing-part-one/> or detailed instructions at <https://www.rbg.ca/winter-sowing-part-two/>.



Photos by Shelley Dodd

Centennial Park Conservatory

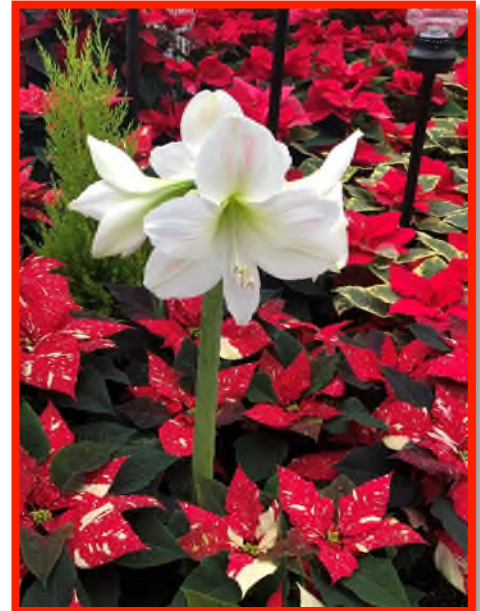
Nestled a short drive away from the Etobicoke and Mississauga border, just south of Pearson airport is the Centennial Park Conservatory. This 12, 000 square foot greenhouse is made up of a south wing which holds unusual cacti and succulents, a main section filled with tropical plants, and during Christmas the seasonal greenhouse is filled with over 30 varieties of poinsettias and beautiful amaryllis.

In the tropical section there is a rare tree called the Wollemi Pine (*Wollemia Nobilis*) which was thought to be extinct until someone hiking in Australia stumbled upon 100 of them growing in the wild. The conservatory received one of these trees to sustain.

The Wollemi pine is a unique evergreen that can self-pollinate because it grows both male and female cones. Pollen from the lower male cone drifts upward to the female cone above helped by the upward wind currents of the valley they typically grow on. Its bark is a bubbly brown and it has flat needles that spread out in a crisscrossing pattern.

The Centennial Park Conservatory is located at 151 Elmcrest Road in Toronto and is open 10 am – 5 pm daily. It is accessible with ample parking, seating throughout, and washrooms.

Photos by Shelley Dodd



Gardening News & Happenings – January 2025:

- [**The Riverwood Conservancy**](#): Is taking their birding events on the road for their inaugural Mississauga Park Crawl, where they will visit five parks in the city to observe migrating waterfowl.

[**Birding with the Expert January 11 | 8:30 am**](#)

[**Mississauga Park Crawl: Birding at R.K.**](#)

[**McMillan Park January 16 | 9:00 am**](#)

[**Mississauga Park Crawl: Birding at Marie**](#)

[**Curtis Park January 13 | 9:00 am**](#)

[**Mississauga Park Crawl: Birding at Rattray**](#)

[**Marsh January 17 | 9:00 am**](#)

[**Mississauga Park Crawl: Birding at Lakefront**](#)

[**Promenade January 14 | 9:00 am**](#)

[**Tea Garden Workshop January 21 | 5:30 pm**](#)

[**Mississauga Park Crawl: Birding at J.C.**](#)

[**Saddington Park January 15 | 9:00 am**](#)

[**Birding with the Expert January 22 | 8:30 am**](#)

- [**Royal Botanical Gardens**](#): only a few days left to celebrate the magic of the season and visit [**Winter Wonders**](#) Thursdays to Sundays to January 5.
- [**Credit Valley Conservation**](#): is inviting you to explore a brightly lit winter trail at Terra Cotta Conservation Area at their [**Ignite the Night**](#) on January 4, 11, 18, and 25.

Streetsville Horticultural Society Newsletter Content Deadlines

Issue	Deadline Date	Issue	Deadline Date	Issue	Deadline Date
Dec '24	Nov 22/24	Jan '25	Dec 20/24	Feb '25	Jan 24/25
March '25	Feb 21/25	April '25	March 21/25	May '25	April 18/25
June '25	May 23/25				

Do you have any Society news, an interesting article of a horticultural nature, or a tasty recipe to share with our members. Please send it in. Articles should be in Word format with or without photos. If a photo is included, it should indicate where taken and by whom.