



Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society

March 2023

President's Message

It finished snowing again. It's the wind that made drifts and now it remains cold but sunny. That's late February in the Ottawa Valley :)

I covered three of my plants last fall, with oversized pots upside down filled with dry leaves. Hopefully this will keep them warm enough to bloom this spring. One was a spring flowering witch hazel, also a hydrangea and a butterfly bush.

March first is approaching - our first meeting of the year. This should be a very interesting one with Ed Lawrence being the presenter. We meet at Zion Memorial Church, 37 Franklin Street at 7pm (doors open at 6:30). Masks again are optional.

As this is the beginning of the year membership renewals are due for \$15.00. Non-members may attend for \$5.00. Laura Cupper will be there early to renew memberships and welcome new comers. Membership is important -- to get our grant from the provincial government we need a minimum of fifty paid up members.

Brianna Logan and Daniel Brumar are new on the board. Great to see the two of you become part of it. Daniel suggested at the last meeting we have a show and tell each month about something good or bad horticulturally. Just speak up at the meeting.

This year again we will have a spring flower show and a fall photography competition. So take a lot of pictures. More information later.

Delighted to let you know that Wendy Leblanc, former mayor and one of the founders of this society, has once again made a donation of \$500. Thank you Wendy.

On April 5 Brittany Lepage, one of our own, will give a presentation on Dahlias.

If any of you have problems with your home landscaping give me a call for advice. Or a pruning problem. I do house calls. For a coffee.

Paul Pietsch, President

2023 Board of Directors



From left to right: Dianne Elliott, Doreen Harris, Laura Cupper (Membership), Linda Bartlett (Treasurer), Paul Pietsch (President), Brianna Logan, Debbie Guthro (Secretary), Daniel Brumar, and Rick Roberts

2023 Program

March 1

Gardening Q & A Session
with Ed Lawrence

April 5

Dahlia Darling
Speaker: Brittany Lepage

May 3

Vineyards and Wine Making
Speaker: Brian Hamilton

June 7

Hanging Baskets
Speaker: Elizabeth Salter

September 6

Bulbs and More Bulbs
Speaker: Paul Pietsch

October 4

Bonsai for Beginners
Speaker: Ottawa Bonsai Society

November 1

Orchids - Moth Orchids
Speaker: Janet Johns

December 6

Christmas Design Demo
Christmas Social/AGM
Note: Starts at 6:00 PM

Photo Competition

Theme: Paint Canada Purple - 2023

Class 1: Colour purple:

Your favorite purple flower or shrub, in your garden or in your neighbourhood.

Class 2: Indoor Gardening:

Photograph of an indoor plant or herbs you are growing at home.

Class 3: Catch me if you can!

Photograph of chipmunk, squirrel, rabbit, bird or deer, with horticultural content.

Rules

Photographs must have been taken during 2022/2023 and must include some horticultural element.

The original image must have been taken by the member, but printing may be done either by the member or commercially.

Each member is eligible to submit up to two un-matted 4 x 6 colour photo prints in each category.

Photographs may have any finish, but must be without borders.

Record your name and the Class number on the upper right corner of the back of the photograph.

Photographs will be displayed on a black background.

Photographs to be submitted in sealed envelope, with an entry tag to the Photography Convener at the October general meeting.

The winning photographs will be displayed, and the winners announced, at the November general meeting.

Photography Convener: Doreen Harris
email: doreenharris@teksavvy.com

2023 Spring Flower Show

May 3, 2023

All entries are to be staged prior to the 7:00 pm business meeting.

DIVISION 1: Horticulture

Section A: Spring Bulbs

- Class 1:** Tulip, single, 1 bloom
- Class 2:** Narcissus, 1 scape
- Class 3:** Any other flowering bulb, named, 1 stem

Section B: Houseplants

- Class 4:** African violet, 1 pot
- Class 5:** Flowering houseplant, named, 1 pot
- Class 6:** Foliage houseplant, named, 1 pot
- Class 7:** Succulent, other than cacti, 1 pot
- Class 8:** Cactus, 1 pot
- Class 9:** Trailing plant, named 1 pot

DIVISION 2: Decorative

Section C: Floral Design

Theme: Spring Fling – Jump into Spring

Designs will be staged on a white table covering.

- Class 10:** Bring on the Flowers - A Modern Line design
- Class 11:** Bring on the Flowers - A Modern Line design - NOVICE
- Class 12:** Harmony of Spring - A Miniature design – displayed in a black niche.

Definitions:

Line Design – Modern: A design in which line direction is dominant, characterised by a minimum of plant material and other components. Line is strongly defined and either vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Lines may extend from more than one area of interest, and in different directions. Plant material used to form the line has bolder forms than that used in traditional Line Design. Focal area should not destroy the strong linear thrust.

Miniature Design: A design with maximum dimensions of 5" (inches) in any direction. For good proportion, the container should not exceed 1.5" (inches) in height.

Architectural Plants

Written by Helen Halpenny - photos by Judy Wall (Members of Lanark County Master Gardeners)



Now is a great time to think about your property, which changes can you do this coming season, to enhance it?

Just as an architect use geometric forms to build a house, such as triangles for roofs and dormers, rectangles for windows, columns for porches, etc. to make a box-like building look interesting, we as gardeners use various shapes to add interest to our yards. How boring to have a house sitting on a lot with no walkways, fences, and no plants.

Permanent structures like decks, pergolas, fences, walkways, etc. are called hardscaping, and they organize our yards to make them functional and attractive.

Plants including trees shrubs, perennials annuals and bulbs enhance the basic structure of a house. Plants come in many shapes, sizes and colours. When we think of trees, we see conical shaped trees like cedars and spruce, oval forms like maples, round forms such as crabapple, weeping willows, and columnal forms as in skyrocket juniper. The shapes of trees and shrubs provide the bones of a garden and provide architectural elements. Look to shrubs for vase-shaped, mounding and round forms. All these shapes add variety and interest to the landscape. Repetition of forms add unity to the overall design.



Perennials and annuals also have an important role to play in enhancing our yards. As well as form, they provide colour and texture. The tall stocks of hollyhocks, delphinium, and ornamental grasses add height. The spiky leaves of yucca grow to make a round shape. Bushy weigelas or ninebarks can hide unsightly objects like compost piles. Climbing plants like morning glories, and Dutchman's pipe will twine around poles and soften vertical elements as well as providing shade. Plants such as these and many others can be called architectural plants.

Even some of our edible vegetables can add great colour and interest. Flower beds need not be just for flowers. Artichoke and cardoon with their thistle like leaves and globular heads are show stoppers, and when they bloom

their purple flowers are amazing. The pendulous seeds and leaves of love-lies-bleeding are edible. So too, are the colourful stocks of 'bright lights' Swiss chard. Kale cultivars like 'Redbor' or 'Tuscany' add great texture and taste. Of course they have many nutrients too. Indeterminate tomatoes can be attractively trellised and fit right in amongst annuals, adding colour and snacks.

No garden is too small to include interesting plants that have a variety of shapes, sizes and texture. Don't be afraid to mix it up and try something new this year.

This newsletter is published by the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society and is distributed to its members free of charge.

We depend on our members for its content. If you would like to contribute, please send your submissions to: cphorticulture@gmail.com

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