

MOUNT HAMILTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



March/April 2010

News

The brown bag event was a great success. Many fine entries were judged by our own master gardeners, Wilf and Isabelle Pugh !

and the winners are

in first place: Claire Kostyshyn, earned 10 points. Here is Claire's brown bag. Talk about resourceful!



Chedoke Presbyterian Church
865 Mohawk Road West
7:30 P.M.

President
Shelley Peterson

Secretary
Margaret Verbeek
margaret.verbeek@ca.ey.com

Barbara Forsyth came in second earning 6 points; and in third place, Lin Garbett, who earned 4 points.

Many thanks to all those who made such lovely bags which became our wonderful door prizes for the evening.

Flower Show

Our main flower show will be held on June 18th, with a mini spring show scheduled for April 16th and a fall show to be announced later.

You can now earn points all year, not just at one show. All points will go towards our November prize night.

Don't forget, we now have a total of 5 publications and 34 books for our members. These are Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards that our judges use for all flower shows. They are full of information to help you enter a show and will be available to borrow at the general meetings

We would also appreciate any ideas on how we can improve our show or encourage our members to enter.

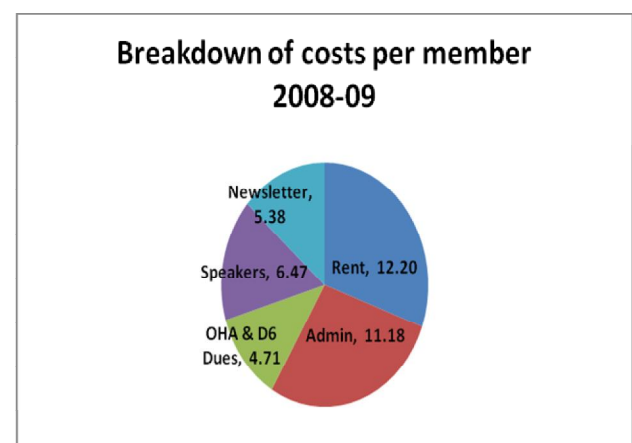
Your Flower Show Committee

Effective January 2010, guests will be asked to pay \$4.00 for the evening.

Annual membership fee is \$10 per annum. What a great deal!

As you may or may not realize we charge a nominal fee for membership to our society. And each year we review our finances and calculate the costs of providing meetings to

our members. In 2008-09 the cost for basic services was \$39.94 for each and every member. For your interest we've included a breakdown of the \$39.94 by type of expense. A large portion goes to administrative costs such as treasurer bonding, auditing fees, honorariums, flower show supplies and prizes, etc. If you are interested in more information please contact Ruth Mills, our treasurer and she will be happy to share more details.



If you're still receiving this newsletter by snail mail, help us save up to \$10 a year postage per member by giving us your email address. Stop by the membership desk at the start of any meeting and let us know where you are in cyberspace.

Ever wondered **how many volunteer hours per year** keep your society running? Last year it was over 1278!

Program News

March 19, 2010 – Everything old is new again! Join us tonight as Simon Taylor of Dundurn Historic Site takes us on a tour of

the restored kitchen garden at Dundurn Castle. This garden is a local treasure, both amazingly productive and beautiful in a very orderly, but rustic way. Feast your eyes on some of the heirloom veggies here, and consider staring a few yourself. Remember to bring a box or bag for the pansies you ordered, at \$1.30 a cell pack. If you haven't ordered any, we will have a few extra.

April 16, 2010 – Time to kick the gardening season into high gear! I hope you planted the pansies you purchased last month, because this month we have more plants for sale: Jake will bring his very healthy geranium plants. Rob Howard, garden writer for the Spectator and host of Room To Grow on CHML will be our speaker tonight, with a slide show celebrating the many gorgeous gardens featured in the Open Gardens over the years. This may inspire you to open your garden, and give you a chance to see some gardens you haven't been able to get to. Time to start thinking about May's Plant Sale, and decide what you are going to donate.

May 7, 2010 – Bring your donations to the plant sale to the hall, between 7-9 pm. The plant sale is Sat. May 8, 9-12, with set-up beginning at 7:45 am. No general meeting this month.

Jason's House

A March of Dimes Home for the Disabled

As I write this and try to get in the mood for spring which is a mere few weeks away, we've just had our first real taste of winter. At last, we have some much needed snow cover in the garden. Hopefully it won't be too little, too late. I've been nurturing loads of cuttings under grow lights since the fall and can't wait to get back out there and plant them all. I

should have more than enough for my garden, the plant sale and Jason's House. We have been tending the gardens at Jason's House for ten years now and like our own gardens the gardens there have changed and evolved over the years. But what hasn't changed is Jason's House appreciation for what we do our society's commitment and the dedication of the volunteers who come out for cleanup and planting days and those who adopt a week to maintain the garden. Many hands make light work and we always have a good time and learn something from each other in the bargain. (In fact, I have acquired several great new gardening gadgets I couldn't live without after fellow volunteers sang their praises) The treats and laughter we share during coffee break are an added bonus.

At our March and April meetings I will be asking for volunteers for the various cleanup days and the Adopt a Week program which requires only 3 to 4 hours during the week of your choice anywhere from Victoria Day weekend until the end of September. You can team up with a spouse or friend for the week if you like. Hopefully some new faces will join us this gardening season.

For more information or to volunteer please contact Helen at 905 648 6771

Announcements

Are you interested in volunteering in the OHA booth at the **Royal Botanical Garden's first Garden Show** April 23 to 25? If so, please contact Mary Lyn Brown at [Marylyn.godson@sympatico.ca](mailto:Maryllyn.godson@sympatico.ca) or by telephone at (905) 573-9438. Shifts will be 2 hours duration. Admission to the show for those working at the booth will be free. As I will be away from March 4 to 12, please do

not call until March 13 at the earliest.
Thank you.

OPPORTUNITY

Can you think of ways to make your society even better? Have you some ideas which you would like to share with the executive? We are looking for enthusiastic members to join our executive. No experience necessary, just a sense of fun and a willingness to help improve your Society. Get involved and help your society grow! Interested and want to know more about what's involved? Talk to any member of your executive. *Training is provided.*

Dates to Remember ***

April 24 is fast approaching:

1. We are offering \$100 to the Society that has the largest percentage of members attending.
2. Please remember your Society's donation for the draw, a \$20 value please. These get better every year!
3. Tickets are only \$15. Please bring a Brown bag lunch.
4. Please bring your Society banner and a support to hang it off of.
5. Please Support our 50/50 draw, special draw for print and our fabulous vendors. A great shopping experience to start your garden off for the year!

Looking forward to seeing everyone!!
Please help us achieve our goal of 300!!!
Together we can achieve this!!!!

Lianne Krane - President
Milton & District Horticultural Society
Tel: 905-876-2955
www.halinet.on.ca/miltonhort
lkrane@sympatico.ca

The agenda and Flower Show Schedule are attached.

Let's Grow Together
Ontario Horticultural Association's 18th Annual Floral Design and Plant Show at Successful Gardening Show & The International Home & Garden Show is March 18-21, 2010 at the International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd, Toronto and features numerous speakers such as Belinda Gallagher, Marjorie Mason, Ed Lawrence, Frank Kershaw. There is also a Floral Design and Plant Show with numerous classes. The theme for the show is 'Magic'. Cost varies between \$10-\$14. Details can be found at www.successfulgardeningshow.ca. or www.gardenontario.org.

If you are interested in exhibiting (there's money to be won), and are a member of an O.H.A. society in good standing, Garden Club of Ontario club or speciality club in the class categories offered, we would like to invite you to enter the show. For Horticultural Judging School students, this is an excellent show in which to enter and gain credentials towards your certificate.

There is also a class in which a society can enter with 1 or more people creating a design. For those who do not enter flower shows, come and enjoy the wonderful designs and horticultural specimens – it's a feast for the eyes in late winter.

For a copy of the show schedule, rules and regulations, as well as definitions and tips on

how to enter, the information can be downloaded from www.successfulgardeningshow.ca or contact Showcase Marketing 416-512-1305 for a hard copy.

Celtic Spring at Gage Park: Spring bulb show Gage Park Tropical Greenhouse, March 19 to March 28, Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm; Saturday & Sunday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, free admission. This is a much smaller display than the mum show but a nice taste of spring before the spring actually arrives.

Royal Botanical Garden's first Garden Show

April 23 to 25

- Meet the authorities on hot topics: sustainable gardens; building a meadow; and the evolution of trees
- Hands-on demonstration garden
- Feature gardens: East meets West
- Display of new perennial introductions
- Garden-friendly vendors including plants
- Master Gardeners and info booths staffed by experts from plant societies
- Plus ... learn how to prune lilacs, care for orchids and much, much more

Magnolia Society International Annual Meeting and Tours, Niagara Falls, Ontario April 30 to May 2, 2010

The Magnolia Society International is holding its Annual General Meeting and tour in Canada and specifically in Niagara Falls, Ontario, the weekend of April 30th to May 2nd 2010.

The event will include a speaker series and various field trips in the Niagara region and surrounding areas. One of the speakers is the most prolific magnolia breeder for cold climates and he will be discussing fabulous new cultivars that he has developed and that are now starting to appear in nurseries in Southern Ontario. The meeting will be preceded by two days of field trips in the Niagara Parks system and will be followed by a week long bus tour to Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec City.

Details of the meeting and tours can be found at www.magnoliasociety.org. Members of your horticultural club are welcomed to participate to any degree that they wish. The program has many options. The registration deadline is March 29, 2010.

Glenn Clark
Host for the 2010 Magnolia Society International Annual Meeting – Niagara Falls

HARDY PLANT SALE

**Sponsored by the
ONTARIO ROCK GARDEN &
HARDY PLANT SOCIETY**

**SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010
12:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

*Unusual shrubs & perennials
Hardy Ontario-grown plants
Alpine & rock garden plants
Shade & woodland plants
&
Vendors, Vendors, Vendors!*

Check www.onrockgarden.com for plant lists and vendor details.

at

Toronto Botanical Garden
777 Lawrence Avenue East
(Lawrence & Leslie)

The 2010 Trillium Awards program begins in June with the White Trillium Award Judging; visit www.hamilton.ca/trilliumaward for all the details.

Waterford Daylily Garden Tour

Tour the World Famous Daylily breeding trials and cultivar collection of Brian Culver.

Mark Wednesday July 28th on your calendar right now. The tour will begin at 11 am (so please arrive 10 min or so prior).

Phone in sick if you have to or cancel any of your holiday plans just to attend this very unique opportunity!

The address is 1881 Blueline Road, two roads south of Waterford.

You can view his operation at: www.culverfarmdaylilies.com

As always, cash is king!

Royal Botanical Gardens

No End to the Banana

January 15 to June 15; Mezzanine, RBG Centre

A traveling exhibit that looks at the diversity of bananas, and at who uses them and for what. It also shows how research can help us use this diversity to increase options for both small-scale farmers in the developing world and consumers in industrialized countries. The exhibit concludes by challenging people

to reflect on the type of banana they are eating and the one they could eat.

Amazon Voyage, vicious fishes and other riches

February 6 to April 11, 2010, Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium; RBG Centre. Developed by the Miami Science Centre and Aquarium, this 5000 sq. ft. exhibition explores the seven perils of the Amazon River. Learn about the river's ecosystems and residents with interactive displays, live animals and exciting programs.

Check the following web sites:

www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca
Their current 'enews' is available.

Go to www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum and click on "Programs & Workshops" for details on their upcoming programs.

Canada Blooms "Passions!"

Held this year at the Direct Energy Centre. Dates: March 17th to March 21st, 2010.

Hours:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Wednesday - Saturday)

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Sunday)

Website: www.canadablooms.com

Peterborough Garden Show:

The Peterborough Horticultural Society, the Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners, and the Northumberland Master Gardeners invite you to the 2010 For the Love of Gardening Show.

Show hours and location:

Friday, April 9th (6 - 9 p.m.),

Saturday, April 10th (10 a.m. - 6 p.m.),

Sunday, April 11th (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

Evinrude Centre,

911 Monaghan Road, Peterborough.

**104th Ontario Horticultural Association
Convention: Everything Old is New
Again**

Barrie - August 13th & 14th, 2010.

Georgian College, Barrie Campus

Plenary Speaker on Friday, Aug. 13 is Paul
Zammit

More information

Marion Jarvie's Open Garden Dates are:

APRIL 24 - 25

MAY 29 - 30

JULY 24 - 25

SEPT 18 - 19

Remember there are always some neat
plants for sale.