



Flamborough Horticultural Society

Co-President's Message

Fall is arriving. Cooler nights and sunny days to work in the garden. The trees and plants are shedding their leaves getting ready for a rest over the winter. A great time to move plants around in your gardens. Also, the time to plant your spring bulbs for a beautiful spring show.

There will be no Annual General Meeting (AGM) this month. Due to Covid we are unable to meet in person to celebrate a year of hard work and dedication. We will be appointing the new Board positions as part of our Zoom meeting on the 21st.

I wanted to thank each volunteer who helped to make our Society one of the best in the District. A special thanks to my fellow Board members who have adjusted to the "new" way of working together and have strived to ensure our members receive timely information.

I've enjoyed my time as Co-President and couldn't have done it without my partner Trudy Bliedung. I am truly blessed to belong to our Society and value all my friendships and the people I have met along the way.

Thank you to those who do stay home and wear their mask when in public.

We hope you continue to be in good health and spirits.

Tina Coverly

Co-President

Important Notices:

Please watch your email for details about the October meeting.

An email will also be sent to about information on renewing your membership either online, in person or by mail.

Newsletter
October 2020

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September Meeting

This has been a challenging year for our Society. Meetings were cancelled from March onward due to the Covid pandemic. After surveying members, the executive decided to hold a meeting in September with the maximum of 50 people being allowed to attend in person. We would like to thank Connon Nursery for donating their time and the use of their greenhouse space at the Robson Road location. There was lots of room for the (padded!) chairs to be set up with the required masking and distancing protocols. Entry and exits were staffed with members of the executive to direct participants, hand out information sheets and to answer questions. Those who could not attend, were able to watch the presentation by Dougald Cameron online via Zoom.

SEPTEMBER FLOWER SHOW

With the Covid restrictions in place, the flower show could not be held in person at the September meeting. Entrants emailed photos of their fall floral bouquets which were shown on a PowerPoint slide show. Members who attended in person voted by raising their hands and those watching on zoom could email their selections. The winners were as follows:

1st, Gayle Rewbotham



2nd, Tina Coverly



3rd, Liz Henderson



FHS News and Events

OCTOBER MEETING

Due to recent changes to the number of people allowed to assemble indoors, the October 21st, meeting will not be held in person, but the scheduled speaker will give a presentation online on Zoom.

OCTOBER SPEAKER

The speaker this month is Darren Heimbecker, owner of Whistling Gardens in Wilsonville. The topic will be "Whistling Gardens Then and Now."

Members will receive an email with instructions for registering for the online meeting.

Oct. Flower Show Competition

"Pumpkin Magic"

A fall-themed design in a pumpkin. **Natural materials only.** Please take a picture for submission and email to: flamhort@hotmail.com **no later than October 18th**

Committee Updates

Caring Committee

Our friend and fellow gardener John Baine, spent some time in hospital with a nasty infection in his leg. With lots of TLC from Linda, support from PSWs and a nurse who regularly came in to change his dressings, he's recuperating at home. While he's gaining some strength and mobility, he's still experiencing quite a bit of pain. It will be a long, slow recovery. We wish him well as he copes with this situation. Be patient John. Phone calls are welcomed. (Because of privacy issues, I can't give out his number publicly.) If you know of anyone in FHS who needs to be brought to the attention of the Caring Committee, please contact me, Annamary Kilham 905-689-4808 or amdakilham@cogeco.ca

District 6/OHA Garden Ontario News

Flamborough Horticultural Society District 6, Webpage

Please take a moment to check out other information available. Click [here](#)

OR www.gardenontario.org and look under Societies Listing - F for Flamborough

HAMILTON FALL GARDEN AND MUM SHOW

Free Admission this year!
October 23 to November 1, 2020
Open 9 am to 5 pm daily
Gage Park Greenhouse

Links to Remember

Connon Nursery and Manager Terry Vanderkruk has been a wonderful supporter of our Society.

Please show them your appreciation by buying products at Connon Nursery. Visit <https://connon.ca/> 905-689-7433

Wild Bird Unlimited offers at 10% discount on products you buy when you mention that you are a horticultural society member. Check out https://burlington.wbu.com/?utm_source=bing&utm_medium=local&utm_campaign=localmaps&utm_content=157

JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP

In the Search bar enter Flamborough Horticultural Society to access our Facebook. You will be directed to complete a short form to request to join the group. The Facebook group is an extension of the newsletter with regular postings of articles, photos and opportunities for members to add their own posts, comments and questions.

VIBURNUMS

Why is viburnum fruit shiny blue?

Have you ever thought about why this fruit has such a blue sheen? Here is the [fascinating answer](#).

Researchers at the University of Bristol in England published a paper to explain this phenomenon. The shine on blue fruit, such as blueberries and viburnum berries, is due to “the plant’s cells creating thin slabs of fat arranged in a stack, like the flakes of puff pastry, and their peculiar gleam is the result.” The scientists explain that colour is important to attracting birds. The blue colour is appealing because it signals to birds that the fruit is nutritious and worth eating.

Every yard needs at least one Viburnum species (if not more).

Native Viburnums bloom in spring with a prolific display of large white flowers that offer plentiful support to early season pollinators. Cardinals, Eastern Bluebirds, Robins and Cedar Waxwings are just a few of the birds that will visit Viburnums. In autumn, Viburnum leaves turn a range of colors from gold to burgundy or red to purple and the spring flowers become vibrant berries for the birds!

Throughout the growing season Viburnums also attract a variety of butterflies and moths. The presence of their larva (caterpillars) are also an important food source for nesting birds.

NANNYBERRY (*Viburnum lentago*)

One of the largest Viburnum shrubs, Nannyberry grows well in a wide range soil conditions. It is a native shrub often found near stream banks in full to partial sun. It is a hardy and adaptable, multi stemmed, upright shrub that can also be grown as a small tree (maturing at about 5 m tall and 3m wide) in both sun and shade. It is attractive to birds, but not as much to deer!



Viburnum

HIGHBUSH CRANBERRY (*Viburnum trilobum*)

Another smaller, native viburnum is highbush cranberry. This is a native shrub with year-round interest. Clusters of pure white pinwheel flowers emerge in spring followed by brilliant red berries in late summer that remain on the plant providing food for birds during the winter through to spring migration. The foliage turns a brilliant red fall color. A very hardy shrub, it matures around 3m tall by 2.5 m wide and grows best in full sun to part shade.



CAROLINIAN ZONE

The Carolinian zone is a unique ecosystem zone found in southern Ontario. It is called 'Carolinian' due to its similarity to the forests found in North and South Carolina in the southern United States. The Carolinian Zone in southern Ontario has great biodiversity, with more species of rare plants and animals than anywhere else in Canada.

Southern-type deciduous forests are the main feature of this unique Canadian ecosystem.

The most common species of trees are sugar maple, beech, oak, basswood, and ash. However, these forests also include rare and lesser common trees such as tulip tree, sassafras, flowering dogwood, sweet chestnut, sycamore, red mulberry, and black gum.

Paw Paw (*Asimina triloba*)



The Paw Paw is indigenous to the Carolinian zone of Southern Ontario and is part of a woodland ecosystem. Once commonly found from Niagara to Point Pelee, the Paw Paw Tree is now only found in a few pockets of the Carolinian forests of southwestern Ontario due to deforestation. It is a small tree growing to about 5m tall.

In recent years there has been renewed interest in cultivating these trees. Young trees first require shady conditions and after a few years, they need at least a few hours of filtered sunlight to produce fruit. After 4 or 5 years, large burgundy flowers will appear.

They need to be pollinated by Bottle Flies that have visited another nearby Paw Paw flower. Thus, it is best to plant more than one tree and no further than 3m apart as the flies seldom travel more than 3 meters or 10 feet between trees. The Paw Paw is the largest edible tree fruit in North America. It is said to taste like a combination of mango, papaya and banana with a creamy, ice cream like quality.

Paw Paws are very perishable, and when picked, are best eaten within 24 hours.

October Gardening Checklist

Fall is a great time to plant trees and shrubs and to get your lawn healthy for next spring.

Remember to keep watering, especially new plantings. Trees and shrubs that are deprived of water now will be easily stressed in the winter.

- Transplant shrubs or young trees to new locations.
- Prune diseased areas out of perennials. Do not compost.
- Rake and compost any fallen leaves from your lawn. Spread leaves on flower beds.
- Clean up garden debris. Remove all vegetable plants and fallen fruit.
- Remove dead annuals from the garden, after a frost.
- Cut back perennial foliage to discourage overwintering pests. Leave flowers with seeds for the birds.
- Continue watering trees and shrubs until the ground freezes.
- Sharpen lawn mower blade and pruners.
- Trim tall grass away from trees and corners of your home to discourage small rodents from creating nests.
- Dig up tender bulbs such as dahlia, canna and gladiola. Wrap them in moist material like peat moss or wrap in paper and store in a cool, dark space.

Bulb Planting for Spring

Spring-flowering bulbs including tulips, daffodils, grape hyacinths, and even garlic, are best planted in the fall as they need a certain amount of time to get established before ground frost sets in and they need enough time exposed to cool soil temperatures to be properly chilled. Within weeks they will have sprouted roots. Ideal planting times vary according to Canadian Hardiness Zones. (our Flamborough/Hamilton/Burlington zone is zone 6). The ideal time for planting spring bulbs in zones 4 to 7 is as soon as the ground is cool, with overnight temperatures

around 5 to 10 °C and at least 6 weeks before the ground freezes. For zone 6, the best time is generally late September until about mid-October.

Dig soil at least six or eight inches deep, loosen the soil and mix a small amount of compost or other organic matter into hard clay or sandy soils. Also, bulbs need a little help with nutrients. While any all-purpose fertilizer will work, a light dusting of specially-formulated bulb food can yield research-backed benefits. Mix fertilizer into the soil to avoid burning the bulbs. Water well and cover the planting area with mulch or leaves to insulate the bulbs during winter and to hide evidence of soil being disturbed.

Planting tulips 8 inches deep or deeper will help to reduce the risk of them being dug up by squirrels.

Is Your Garlic Planted Yet?

The Ideal time to plant garlic is in the fall (mid-autumn). Select large, healthy cloves, free of disease. The larger the clove, the bigger and healthier the bulb you will get the following summer.

Plant in a sunny location with rich, well-drained soil.

Amend soil with compost or rotted manure and 10-10-10 fertilizer. Set cloves pointed side up, 4-6" apart in rows 1-1/2 to 2' apart, and cover with 1-2" of soil. Pat down the soil and water well.

Adding some protective mulch will help to prevent the cloves from being heaved out of the ground during freeze thaw cycles. Raised beds are ideal for garlic. In the spring, remove the mulch when danger of frost has passed and fertilize again as garlic is a very heavy feeder. A side dressing of blood meal will add additional nutrients. This can be done when planting the bulbs or in the spring.

Garlic Trivia

Garlic is a type of bulbous plant that belongs to the family of [lilies](#) and originates from an old English word, garleac, meaning "spear leek."

There are more than 450 varieties of garlic. Garlic was one of the first herbs to be cultivated.

How to Harvest Pumpkins



Harvest pumpkins when they are fully mature. Do not pick pumpkins off the vine because they have reached your desired size. If you want small pumpkins, buy a small variety instead!

- A pumpkin is ripe when its skin turns a deep, solid color (orange for most varieties).
- When you strike the pumpkin with a finger, the rind will feel hard and it will sound hollow. Press your nail into the pumpkin's skin; if it resists puncture, it is ripe.
- Harvest pumpkins and winter squash on a dry day after the leaves have died back and the skins are hard.
- To slow decay, leave some of the stem on pumpkins and winter squash.
- To harvest the pumpkin, cut the fruit off the vine carefully with a sharp knife or pruners; do not tear. Be sure not to cut too close to the pumpkin

Late summer or early autumn is the

[best time to divide and transplant](#) spring-blooming perennials. The most commonly divided perennials are [irises](#), [peonies](#), [hostas](#), and [daylilies](#).

How to Cure and Store Pumpkins

- Pumpkins should be cured in the sun for about a week to toughen the skin and then stored in a cool, dry place —anywhere around 10 °C.
- If you're saving pumpkin seeds, wash them thoroughly and separate from the pulp. Allow them to dry for about a week, and store in a paper bag in a cool, dry place.

How to Avoid Killing Your Mums



Chrysanthemums are a sure harbinger of fall! Garden mums ([Chrysanthemum spp.](#)) are herbaceous perennials. Readily available in garden centres and even grocery stores. They are often used as annuals and discarded when the blooms fade. When gardeners try to transplant these mums into the ground late in the season, chances are they won't make it through winter as they have not had enough time to become established. If put into the ground as soon as they are purchased late summer or early fall, there is a greater chance that they will survive the winter, assuming they are a hardy mum. The best time though, to plant hardy mums is in the spring.

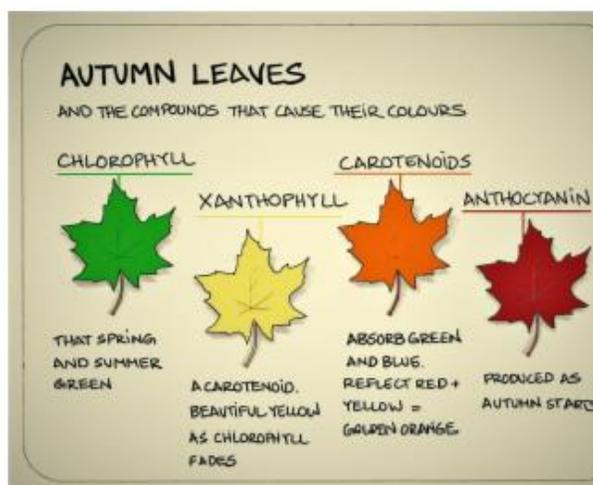
If mums are to be kept in containers, some special attention is required to keep them healthy and in bloom. Lots of sunlight, steady watering and deadheading are the key to keeping mums alive and thriving.

Mums are sun loving plants and need a minimum of four hours of daily sunlight and preferably more. Steady levels of moisture are ideal. Do not let them dry out and do not overwater or let sit in water.

Allowing the plants to get wilted shortens their bloom period and lifespan. A planter with drainage holes should be used for mums. Deadheading will prolong the blooming period, improve the look of the plant and may even allow it to rebloom.

Mums growing in the garden can be divided, but wait at least three years to have sufficient roots to survive. Taking cuttings is the best method to get a replica of the plant. Cut a stem that is at least 4 inches, dip the cut end into a rooting hormone, plant it in a container, wait about 4 weeks for roots to grow. Keep evenly moist during this time.

When rooted cutting has grown at least two inches and/or danger of frost is past, plant outside.



Our two soon-to-be Past Presidents, Tina and Trudy, digging up water lilies.



Directors for 2019-2020

Co-President - Tina Coverly
Co-President - Trudy Bliedung
Vice President - Theresa Santin
Past President - **Vacant**
Treasurer -Trudy Bliedung
Secretary - Susan MacMillan
Director - Ann Cochren
Director Publicity Susan MacMillan
Director & Facebook Administrator - Liz Visentin
Newsletter Editor – Liz Visentin
Director - Rosanne Waugh

Committee Chairpersons 2019-2020

Bus Tour– Tina Coverly
Caring – Annamary Kilham
Civic Improvement– Jan Bignell
Communications Copywriter- Jennifer Godyn
Flower Show & Trillium Liaison– Ann Cochren
Garden Walk – Looking for a Volunteer
Meeting Hospitality – Ann Williams
Membership – Janet Waterfall
OHA Website Monitor – Phil Longstaff
Spring Plant Sale – Connie Godyn and Roxanne Riley
Speakers and Programs – Theresa Santin & Connie Godyn

How to Reach Us

Flamborough Horticultural Society

P.O. Box 902
Waterdown
ON L0R 2H0

E-mail: flamhort@hotmail.com

or

Phone: Susan (as email monitor) at
905-977-8567

Have you heard of a good speaker that you would like to hear in 2021?

Please help by submitting their name and topic to the Chair of the Speaker Committee. Send to Theresa Santin / Connie Godyn at flamhort@hotmail.com.

The mission of the Flamborough Horticultural Society is to encourage interest and involvement in horticulture through civic improvement, preservation, exhibitions, the distribution of plant materials and regular instruction pertaining to the theory and practice of horticulture.

We are dedicated to sharing gardening knowledge.



Want to submit an article, question or tips for inclusion in the Newsletter?

Send your ideas to Liz Visentin at flamhort@hotmail.com

Deadline for Newsletter Submissions

Please send in your questions, comments, corrections or items for the Newsletter a minimum of **5 days** before the end of the month. Some exceptions can be made.

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