

**What's Next in the 'Life in the Time of Covid':** We are all learning to live life differently now. Virtual is the new byword. Since there are few opportunities for the Port Hope Garden Club members to meet face-to-face, this newsletter will be longer. So pour yourself a coffee or tea and sit down for our virtual visit.

Thanks to members who completed our survey last month. These replies will help us plan for ways to keep connected as gardeners and friends. Sixteen of 24 responders are interested in attending meetings and had many great suggestions. This newsletter includes a precis of the responses. To receive the complete report, contact Bonnie Tuttle, [bonnie@aprod.com](mailto:bonnie@aprod.com).

We can hold our meetings at the Ruth Clarke Centre if we follow specific requirements that are being followed in all public spaces. These requirements include hand sanitizing, wearing masks, maintaining 6ft/2m distance from one another, taking attendance, limiting attendance to maximum 30 members/ speaker, and cleansing/disinfecting equipment.

Many organizations are holding some meetings by Zoom, which is new to many people. To do so participants need to have a computer/tablet and be able to access the internet. The meeting host (the speaker) would send everyone a link to allow attendees to join the meeting. More detailed instructions would be sent prior to our first time attempt.

Your suggestions will make for an entertaining, informative program. For example

- An outdoor workshop on creating a planter like the one held last year by Master Gardeners;
- Sharing and reviewing favourite gardening books
- Holding seed swaps
- Arranging a members-only plant sale
- Having a Question & Answer and Tips & Tricks program/s on Zoom
- Discussing which flowers thrive in Northumberland
- Repeat the Monday one-day garden tour but in spring and winter.

We'll include more of your suggestions in our December newsletter.

**Bridge Baskets and Lent's Lane:** Once again a team of friends and members has created charming arrangements to decorate the Baskets on Walton and Ontario Sts and Lent's Lane. A huge thank you to:

- The Barretts, from the Barrett Tree Farm & Elizabeth Fellows for once again providing greens
- Victoria Terry, Yvonne Lane, Maggie Money who helped pre-trim the branches
- Joan Ball for providing & painting the wooden trees and snowflakes
- Ron Tuttle for driving the truck to pick up greens and then to make several deliveries on the day
- Maggie Money for her last-minute provision of large pinecones, and to
- The decorators: Jane Allison, Joan Ball, Beverley Batchellor, Marilyn Curson, Diane Conduit, Yvonne Lane, Mark McFaden, Maggie Money & Bonnie Tuttle.

Be sure to take a trip downtown to admire their handiwork.



**Thanks to:** The Heritage Business Improvement Area (HBIA), once again, donated funds towards the expenses for these baskets and planters.

**OMAFRA Grant:** Annually those clubs whose membership is 50+ receive a \$1000 grant from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). Our grant that would usually be applied for in February 2021 is already in the Bank.

**Club donation of Trees in Port Hope:** The Club made a donation of a tree in 2019 and again in 2020; both were planted this past summer. The first, a tulip tree, was planted in the Kinsmen Park near the newly constructed gazebo along the river. It looks very nice; one can sit in the gazebo and enjoy the river and trees while on a walk. The second tree, a red oak, is to the west of the play structure at the West Beach. Both trees are marked with an acknowledgement plaque crediting the Club. The municipality has also installed a bench nearby which is a great stopping place to view the lake and admire our contribution.

Here photos of the trees and plaques. Thanks, Victoria



**Suggestions/Tips:**

**To help hydrate our pollinators,** fill a bowl with marbles and add water. Marbles give the bees a safe place to land so they can drink without drowning.

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**BEE WATERER**

Interested in tomatoes? There's an interesting podcast on Awaytogarden.com featuring Craig LeHoullier from North Carolina, author of **Epic Tomatoes**.

Check out Trowel Talk, the newsletter of Lanark County Master Gardeners. The November issue contains an article on **Green Roommates-Easy Houseplants for your home**, [www.mgottawa.ca/](http://www.mgottawa.ca/)

### **Canadensis Botanical Garden Society (CGBS)**

Canadensis AGM featuring **Dan Glenn, Landscape Architect & Planners of Canadensis**: The garden of Canada. Thur Dec 3, 7-9 pm, Virtual meeting – ONLINE via Zoom, Free, Registration required.

**Jardin quatre vents**, Sale of tickets for 2021, cancelled for now. [Jardins-quatre-vents/acheter-des-billets/](http://Jardins-quatre-vents/acheter-des-billets/)

TVO has recently been featuring the 3-part series, [Monty Don's American Gardens](#), with the first 2 parts (an hour each) shown thus far. After an episode airs, it is available for streaming at TVO.org for a limited time. The first two are available now at: <https://www.tvo.org/programs/monty-dons-american-gardens>.

They are also on YouTube:

- Episode 1 is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eQSg2z9zls>
- Episode 2 is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1MRLMOJ-UY>
- Episode 3 is at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R61pCxGZn\\_o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R61pCxGZn_o)

For those who have seen [The Biggest Little Farm](#) about a hard-scrabble organic farming exercise outside LA. The actual farm is called Apricot Lane Farm and the farm website has a number of heartwarming videos about their activities - like stories about Emma the pig and Mr. Greasy the rooster. Check the selection out at: <https://www.apricotlanefarms.com/our-media/films/>. And if you haven't seen the original movie, you're really missing something - Biggest Little Farm is available on Netflix. The trailer is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfDTM4JxHI8>

Newsletter editor, Carole Elliott, [celliott@eagle.ca](mailto:celliott@eagle.ca)