



SPRING 2022

SARNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

The purpose of a Horticultural Society is to increase interest in horticulture by encouraging private and public gardens, by holding meetings, exhibits, plant sales and field trips.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by David Hearn

Finally the snow is melting, temperatures are trending higher and the Tundra swans are back. Spring is just around the corner and we will be back in the gardens. Many of us have seeds started indoors and covid restrictions are being lifted. Our first indoor meeting was held March 16th at the Navy Club after a hiatus of 2 years. Hopefully we can carry on as normal from now on. Our spring plant sale will be on again in May and we are planning our May barbecue at the College Ave. Park.

Unfortunately Canada Blooms was cancelled again this year, but will be on again next year. Lots to look forward to in the coming months with Barb Toye having some great speakers lined up for this year. Hope to see you all soon.

“Gardening adds years to your life and life to your years.” Unknown

DAY TRIPPING by Marilyn Rawson

With warmer spring and summer weather, it is a good time to get out and enjoy the beautiful gardens, whether local or afar. Sarnia has some beautiful parks and gardens. Germain Park is often considered a hidden gem. Enjoy our own park on College Avenue. Wander downriver and visit Greenhill Gardens on Wilkesport Line. If travelling further south, visit Dieppe Park at the Windsor waterfront. If your day outing is to the London area, visit Springbank Park or travel to St. Thomas to see the elevated gardens (former railroad bridge). Whistling Gardens in Wilsonville is worth a visit. See the musical water show. The gardens have the largest public peony and conifer collection in North America (see peonies in May/June). If venturing further afield, visit the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton. If in the Niagara area, wander through Niagara Parks Gardens on the parkway. Visit the arboretum in Guelph adjacent to the University of Guelph. A trip to Stratford is worthwhile to see the Arthur Meghan gardens at Upper Queens Park at the festival site. Stop in Fergus to view the Temple Gardens along the riverside. Riverbend Gardens are located at 43846 C Line in Wroxeter. Stop at garden centres in your travels this spring and summer. There are also many great garden tours to enjoy on Youtube.

EVENTS

London Middlesex Master Gardeners are presenting Seedy Saturday on April 22, from 10am to 4 pm. The theme is "Explore Gardening". Beside the seed exchange, there will be exhibitions and vendors. This event is at Dundas Place, an outdoor venue, located near the London Public Library. There will be 3 speakers at Wolf Performance Hall which is adjacent to Dundas Place. Advance tickets are required for the speakers(\$10.00) and ticket sales started March 1st.

We will keep you informed of other upcoming events. Things are opening up, but that could change if further covid restrictions are put in place.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SHS

-Sarnia Horticulture Society meets again on Wednesday April 20th at 7 pm at the Navy Club at 1420 Lougar Ave. Jeff Baarschers will be speaking on productive raised bed vegetable gardening.

-Earth Day is Friday, April 22, 2022. It was founded in 1970 as a day to highlight education and environmental issues.

-Sunday May 1st is known as May Day and celebrates the season of spring.

-There will be a cleanup at the College Ave. Park on Sunday May 1st from 1-3 pm. Bring your garden tools.

-The pot luck and barbecue at the College Ave. Park will be held at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, May 18th. Bring your own beverage and lawn chair. You will only be able to park on College Ave. and parking is allowed on only one side of the street.

COLLEGE AVE PARK

This is a good year to volunteer. We are always looking for helpers at the College Ave. Park. Contact Heather Ashe at heatherashe1819@cogeco.ca if you can help.

Heather also has copies of the 100th Anniversary book from 2020. The cost is \$10.00.

WEBSITE

The website for OHA is gardenontario.ca

Garden Ontario is on our Facebook page too.

CANADENSIS

Canadensis is the term used to denote species indigenous to or strongly associated with Canada. A Botanical Garden for Canada is being planned in Ottawa. The botanical garden of Canada will be a magical botanic place where visitors can enrich their lives with unique learning experiences. The Canadensis Botanical Garden Society has been working on the plans in cooperation with agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Arboretum, Fletcher Wildlife Garden and Central Experimental Farm. It will be located on 34 acres on land just south of the National Arboretum in Ottawa.

Their website is canadensisgarden.ca

“We don’t own the earth; we are caretakers,
We take care of it, And when we’re done with it
It should be left better than we found it”.

PLANT SALE

We are planning the sale for Saturday, May 14th. The time is 8am until 1 pm. This is a week later than our usual date of the Mother's Day weekend. The sale will be held at Martin Borrow's place at 1515 Lakeshore Road. Martin's is the second house on the south side of Lakeshore east of Modeland Road. Parking is not allowed on Lakeshore but there is a parking area at the north end of Modeland and on Modeland Road. If working at the sale, carpooling would be wise. Bring plants, books and garden items to Martin's by the Thursday before the sale. Memberships will be on sale too. Label plants with botanical genus, species, cultivar or common name and colour. Martin can be contacted at thegardenexpert@gmx.com

THE YEAR OF THE GARDEN 2022

March 20th was the launch day for Year of the Garden. Many activities will be taking place across Canada this year. On March 1st, Canada Post launched 2 beautiful stamps with Calla lilies. Red is the official colour. Plant red flowers in honour of front line workers who have lost their lives during the pandemic. This is a way to express your pride in gardening. For more information go to Year of the Garden website or Canada Garden Council website.

GARDEN PRUNING

Wait to prune spring flowering shrubs such as forsythia, deutzia, and spring flowering spirea until shortly after they have finished blooming. Their flower buds are already formed and pruning too early will decrease the flower show.

IN MEMORIUM

Poem, "Meet You At The Garden Gate", used at the OHA convention, permission granted for use.

A beautiful garden now stands alone
Missing the one who nurtured it
But now you are gone
Your flowers still bloom and the sun still shines
But the rain is like tear drops for the ones left behind
The weeds are waiting to take the garden's beauty away

But the beautiful memories of its keeper are in our hearts to stay
You loved each flower even though some were weeds
So much you loved would you plant each little seed
But just like flowers, you were part of His plan
So when it was time, He reached down His hand
He looked through the garden searching for the best
And that's when He found you and it was your turn to rest
It is hard for those who love you to just let you go
But He had a spot in His garden that needed a gentle soul
So when we start missing you, we will remember to wait
When He has a spot in His garden, you'll meet us at the gate.

REMEMBERING

Ronald Bert Deacon was a member of the Sarnia Horticultural Society

Michelle Peters (Prudum) was secretary for several years and did the newsletter. She organized obtaining heritage tomato seeds and distributing them. Michelle loved peonies.

Elizabeth Lawton passed away on Christmas Eve 2021 at the age of 88. She loved digging in the dirt and enjoyed the labor of dead heading all her flowers. The bane of her existence was the annoying Japanese beetles, who were so tough on her roses. She was dragging mulch bags around, herself, right up until this past summer. She gardened as long as her daughter can remember and passed on her love of flowers and gardens to her.

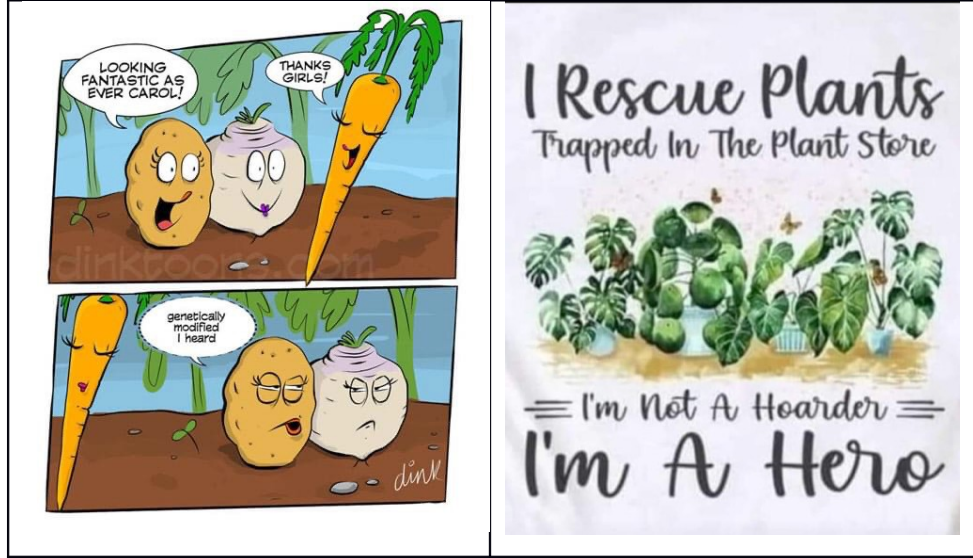
NEWSLETTER

Articles can be sent to;

Mary Rastall rastalls@gmail.com

Jackie Spearman jackiespearman018@gmail.com

Marilyn Rawson mrawson1@cogeco.ca



SARNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM 2022

Jan. 1, 2022 – Dec. 31, 2022. Single membership \$12, double membership \$20.

Please complete the following information:

Name: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please include your email to receive e-newsletters, updates and meeting reminders.

Submit to: Jan Casbourn, 559 Lakeshore Rd., Sarnia, ON, N7V 2S6
519-337-9139, jcas@cogeco.ca

If you would like your membership card mailed to you please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

If you are paying with a cheque, please make it payable to "The Sarnia Horticultural Society".

Pdf format