



FALL 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.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by David Hearn

Greetings all.

We are now more than halfway through the summer and many plants are at their peak and some have faded away until next year. We have had a mixed bag of weather with cold north winds followed by very hot temperatures and a long period of drought conditions.

The grass has just greened up again after plenty of rainfall in the past week to end the drought. For some reason the earwigs are plentiful this year with a lot of damage to the leaves of the dahlias. The Japanese beetles are still around doing as much damage as they can. Crops of tomatoes, squash, zucchini, and green peppers all seem to be doing well. Hibiscus are blooming and glorious.

Our plant sale was held in May at a new venue at the Barrow's home and proved to be a huge success, despite the very hot weather. I wish to thank everyone

involved for all the hard work. We also managed to sell 55 hoses in our campaign with all profits going to the club.

We had a successful cleanup day at the College Street Garden although not all that needed doing was done (more work required because of Covid) and the annual barbecue had plenty of good food and was enjoyed by 37 members and guests.

Four members including myself attended the Spring meeting of District 11 at LaSalle.

In July and August the SHS enjoyed the return of the popular garden tours.

We will be back at the Navy Club in September and Barb has good speakers lined up for the meetings.

I know the club is made up of many volunteers and I wish to acknowledge them and thank everyone for their contributions, for we could not do it without everyone's help

Looking forward to our fall meetings and programs.

In closing let me include this quote from Louise Erickson "Gardening requires lots of water...most of it in the form of perspiration."

UPCOMING MEETINGS by Barb Toye

Sarnia Horticultural Society meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The start time is 7pm. The meetings are at the Navy Club at 1420 Lougar Drive, Sarnia.

Wednesday, September 21st - Cheryl Losch of Strathroy-Caradoc is speaking on "Gardening Myths and Legends."

Wednesday, October 19th- Nancy Abra from Arva, topic is "Remembering Them, A Horticultural Look at Commonwealth War Graves."

Wednesday, November 16th- hopefully our annual social

Wednesday, January 18, 2023- in the works

Wednesday, February 15, 2023- Ryan Slyzuk, Taproots Green Gardens

TREES by Marilyn Rawson

National tree day is Wednesday, September 21st, 2022.

Thoughts on Trees

Trees give peace to the souls of man.

A man does not plant a tree for himself but for posterity.

Thoughts are roots.

Words are leaves.

Actions are fruits .

He that plants trees loves others besides himself.

UPDATE ON HIGHWAY OF HEROES by Marilyn Rawson

The highway of heroes is the stretch of highway 410 between CFB Trenton and the coroner's office in Toronto. In May it was announced that 10 million dollars had been raised. This was the initial goal. The program was started in 2014. The tree planting is the largest living memorial to fallen military members. In July of 2022 Mark Cullen, the campaign chair, and Mark Hurly gave an update. Mark Hurly is the executive director of the New Trees for Life organization which started in 2021. After the initial Highway of Heroes stretch, trees have been planted in Ontario from the Quebec border to Windsor. This year 275,000 will be planted and the goal of 2 million trees will be reached by Remembrance Day. Then trees will be planted across the rest of the country. Some benefits are that 2 million trees will sequester over 3 million tons of carbon in the first 100 years and produce more than 300 million pounds of oxygen. Habitat for nature is provided, and water is transpired each day, plus there are other benefits.

Adopt the pace of Nature. Her secret is patience.

IN MEMORIUM by Marilyn Rawson

I've had the garden tidied up
As she would have me do
This pal of mine couldn't stay
To see the season through
The flowers were her dearest friends
The garden was her own
I've watched her work, but never knew the things that she had grown
Her catalogs keep coming and her garden magazines
I ran across the queerest names and studied what they mean
I read them all from end to end
And when the spring is here,
I'll have a garden just like hers as though she were near
In memory of Alice Lau

PLANT SALE by Marilyn Rawson

After a hiatus of 3 years, we had a successful plant sale. The date was later in May and took place at the home of Martin Burrow on Lakeshore Road. It was a good location with a circular driveway. When dividing plants this fall think ahead to the plant sale next spring.

DISTRICT 11 by Marilyn Rawson

On May 28th, David Hearn, Ann and John VandenHoven, and Marilyn Rawson attended the annual meeting of District 11 in LaSalle. Marg Lamien has retired as president and Sandra Rammelare is the new president. David Hearn has agreed to be director representing Lambton County. District 11 represents Essex, Chatham-Kent and Lambton.

It was recommended that each year societies honour a person for their work. Driving home we felt Mary Rastall should be our choice. Mary has been a member of the Sarnia Horticultural Society for many years. She has helped organize the garden tours each summer. Mary is the person uniting us together. She sends out announcements and information by email regularly. Mary helps edit the newsletter and sends it out.

Mary- all your work and dedication are appreciated. Thank you

OHA website is gardenontario.org

GARDEN LIFE by Marilyn Rawson

“Live the Garden Life” has been the theme for “The Year of the Garden 2022”.

The 5 best places listed for gardens in Ontario are:

Royal Botanical Gardens in Toronto

Parkwood National Historic Site in Oshawa

Glenhyrst Art Gallery and Garden in Brantford

Dieppe Gardens in Windsor

Gairlochchurch Garden in Oakville

Red is the colour for this year and can be found in some of these fall flowers- Asters, Chrysanthemums, Russian Sage, Autumn Sedum, Fushias, Heuchea, Red Jewel Helenium, Celosias, Amaranthus, Verbena, Salvias, Turtleheads, Gamphrena Glabosa, Shrub Rose and Sumac.

Fall can be a busy time in the garden with cleaning up the flower beds, dividing and moving plants, pruning, planting spring bulbs, digging up certain bulbs, collecting herbs for drying, planting new trees and shrubs, and raking leaves to use as mulch.

BUGS- THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY by Marilyn Rawson

At the District 11 meeting, Jan Dugdole of LaSalle gave a slide presentation on bugs.

Good is healthy and helpful

Bad is devastating and a menace

Ugly can be healthy or devastating

Here are some examples:

Ladybug-good, keeps pests away

Boxelder-trust bug, good and bad

Milkweed bug- bad

Japanese Beetle- bad, munch on 300 species of plants

Stink Bug (really stink)- ugly and bad

Cicada (tree cricket)- good, and noisy

Fire flies (also called lightning bugs)- good

Praying Mantis (close relative to termite and cockroach)- good, bad and ugly

Ear Wig (200 species)- bad and ugly

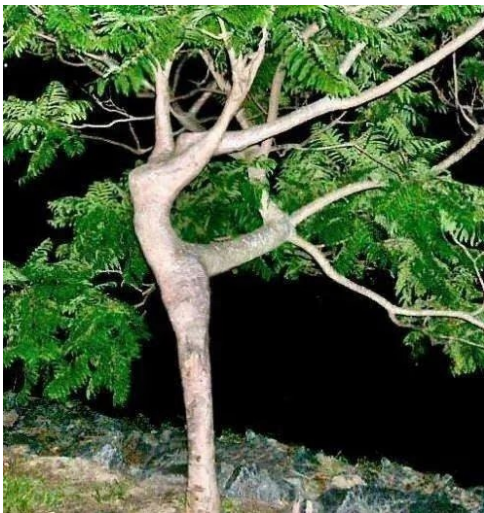
Honey Bee (fly to 50-100 flowers daily, can fly 6 miles per day, Queen produces 2500 eggs per day)- definitely good

She included many more in her presentation.

FACEBOOK by Jackie Spearman

Nora Penhale has offered to help administer the SHS Facebook group. She has lots of photos of our members hard at work and beautiful gardens to share with everyone. We will have more information at the September meeting, plus a sign up sheet. In the meantime we will work together building the site.

GARDEN HUMOR





Articles can be sent to;

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Jackie Spearman jackiespearman018@gmail.com

Marilyn Rawson mrawson1@cogeco.ca

Memberships can still be obtained. Call Jan Casbourn at 519-337-9139 or email her at jcas@cogeco.ca.