

Newsletter

London Fanshawe Horticultural Society
where people grow with their gardens



Photo credit: Jetti Collins

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bob Crowhurst

It's September and another garden season is slipping by. I'm looking forward to a long autumn. Thinking back, we had to contend with some pretty hot and dry weather through the late spring and early summer. Kudos to all of you who managed better than I did watering to keep plants from drying up.

This year we have been celebrating the **Year of the Garden**. While we have only had one in-person meeting so far this year, we have celebrated the Year of the Garden with five wonderful garden walks. A big THANK YOU to each of the hosts for opening up their properties! All the gardens were different, but special in many ways. They are a credit to the creativity and labour of love of each of the gardeners. As Rudyard Kipling said, "Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful,' and sitting in the shade." There were many good comments about spreading the walks over several days. It made the walks more relaxing and allowed time to socialize.

We also celebrated Year of the Garden by recognizing a number of member's gardens. Congratulations to those who had their garden nominated as a **Garden for Special Recognition**. As you can see from the photos in this Newsletter, the honour is well deserved. Thanks to Ann Larkin and committee for organizing this.

Looking forward, the Board, in line with most of society, is cautiously planning to move to some "normality" for our future meetings. September's 3P's meeting will



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<https://london-fanshawe-horticultural-society.square.site/>

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[London-Fanshawe-Horticultural-Society](https://www.facebook.com/London-Fanshawe-Horticultural-Society)

be in-person outdoors, weather permitting, with October and November also in-person, inside at Siloam. Fingers crossed that we can proceed without hiccups, but as we are used to by now, we'll remain flexible. We will discuss more at the September meeting.

Any successful club has to reflect the wishes of its membership and continually mix successful, tried and true activities with new ideas and projects. To that end, the Board is always looking for ideas and comments from you. The depth and diversity of knowledge among our membership is truly amazing. Please feel free to speak to any of the directors with your thoughts. As well, the Board needs to focus on renewal and succession planning. Anyone who thinks they may be interested in joining the Board is welcome to sit in on a meeting to explore.

I look forward to seeing you in person at our meeting in September. It's always interesting to see the great variety of 3P's (Plants, Produce, Preserves) you bring to share. Let's fill the tables again this year.

As always, my thanks to the editors and contributors for putting together this attractive Newsletter.

FALL PROGRAM LINE-UP

As COVID restrictions continue to relax and as we gradually adjust to a new normal, we look forward to seeing you in the Fall. **Membership (\$15) renewal for 2023** is available in-person, by mail, or online at <https://london-fanshawe-horticultural-society.square.site/>

September 15: (6:30 pm start time)

3Ps – bring 1-2 plants, produce, or preserves to share with fellow members.

Jeremy Horrell (Urban Roots) will update us on the progress on the Siloam Urban Garden and Orchard Project and will take us on a tour of their ever-expanding garden plots at Siloam United Church on Fanshawe Park Road East. [Bring your cold drinks and lawn chairs.]

<https://siloamunitedchurch.org/blog/2022/05/19/siloam-urban-garden-and-orchard-project/>

October 20:

Jeff Crosby (Greenhouse Academy) will take us through his journey from seed idea to building a working facility that serves as a hands-on educational resource for young learners. Tucked away in Thorndale is a 60,000 square foot, student-run greenhouse that provides opportunities for students to gain valuable real-world learning experience outside the classroom.

<https://www.tvdsb.ca/en/our-board/the-greenhouse-academy.aspx>

November 17: (6:00 pm start time)

Annual General Meeting – members only

Planning is in the works (fingers crossed) for our usual potluck social. Bring your favourite appetizers or desserts. LFHS will provide beverages.

*The Board wishes to thank the **Program Committee – John McLeod, Vince Chicoine, Camillia LaRouche, and Linda Hawker** – for all their hard work in planning a variety of activities: in-person and via zoom, outdoor walks and alternate venues, to keep our members engaged and enlightened.*

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Plant donations to London Food Bank clients

With our members' full support, our Earth Day donation of more than 50 plants was so well received that we wish to do it again, and again! Don't miss out on the two opportunities to brighten someone's day.



House Plants

Bring yours to the September 15 meeting.
Please clearly label your plants.

Amaryllis Bulb Kits

Purchase a kit or two and bring them to
the November 17 AGM.



Constitution Park Pollinator Garden

If you stroll by the pollinator garden in Constitution Park (725 Grenfell Dr.), be sure to check out the dedication rock that bears our society's name. Bend down and yank a weed or two. You will be rewarded by neighbours walking pass expressing their appreciation of what you, our society has done in beautifying the park. Here lies the result of a multi-year project and ongoing watering and weeding by a dedicated crew of LFHS volunteers.

We will be looking for ideas and helping hands to add more native pollinator plants in the fall. Your contribution is always welcome. Contact the team captain at londonfanshawehortsociety@gmail.com.



LFHS Supports Children from Ukraine

The generosity of our LFHS membership was very evident during two events organized to support children recently arrived from Ukraine to London.

Lois and **John McLeod** kicked into action when they heard about the number of Ukrainian children being registered in London schools (over 120 so far). They decided to raise funds for school supplies for these children. As organizers extraordinaire, they were able to plan two events in very short notice.

Neither of these two events would have been possible without the generosity of **Carter Moore** and the support of **Bob Crowhurst** and the LFHS membership.

Carter Moore has an annual plant sale out of his Byron driveway. He pots up hundreds of plants to offer gardeners some unusual choices at good prices. This year, Carter donated almost 200 plants to the fundraiser Plant Sale for school supplies for Ukrainian children.

The sale was held on August 3rd at the Eastern Star Temple. While it was to be 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., a heavy downpour ended the sale an hour sooner. Nevertheless, in that short time we were able to make almost \$500 with good attendance and generous donations by members.

Thank you to John, Bob and John's grandson, Nicholas, for the heavy hauling they did of plants from Byron to the sale location and then afterwards to the McLeod residence. (They were drenched in the last part of plant moving!)

On the following Saturday, John and Lois opened up their gardens to members of our society, also as a fundraiser. On this very hot day, many came out to the Garden Walk to enjoy the colourful summer gardens and the McLeods' trademark hospitality. Several neighbours added their support. Visitors brought school supplies and made generous donations. Plants left over from the sale were handed out. As of this writing, no plants are left over.

The two events (combined) raised over **\$1,400** — a handsome amount to be used to supplement the school supplies provided by the Thames Valley Foundation which, through the boards, provides some basic supplies.

A lively information evening (with presentations by the school boards) was held on August 29th with more than 65 parents and children in attendance. They were excited and happy to receive school supplies. More items are yet to come as families continue to arrive.

After 6 months of a brutal war, the newcomers from Ukraine in London have seen difficult changes. Let's hope that school will bring some normalcy into the children's lives. Our contribution of school supplies is much appreciated.

I am in awe and in gratitude of how our members came together and supported this cause. Thank you to John and Lois for such effective organizing of the two events and for hosting the Garden Walk. Thank you to Bob for his tremendous support. Thank you to Carter for his huge donation of so many healthy potted plants. Thank you to Anne Sawarna for her role in this project. Thank you to all those who attended the events and contributed to the funds for children.

Ola Nowosad

Editor's note: Special thanks to Ola for bringing such a worthy cause to our society's attention and for her critical role in the success of this fundraiser.

GARDEN WALKS

~ Can gardens be mouth-watering? ~

I hope you were able to visit the outstanding gardens so generously opened to us by a few of our members for special garden walks in June, July and August. Captured below are some of the highlights with photo contributions by member visitors.



Photo credit: Dawn and Bob Crowhurst, and Stephanie Hilton

CELEBRATING YEAR OF THE GARDEN 2022

If the garden walks have yet to inspire you to keep digging in the dirt, there's no shortage of drool-worthy gardens amongst our talented members. Just look at the nominations received to-date for our **Garden for Special Recognition Campaign**. Hurry up! Send in your nominations and we will pop by with a yard sign to honour our fellow members and commemorate YOTG 2022.



Laura Fairbairn's rhododendrons side yard
– nominated by Ann Larkin



Beth Muia's tranquility corner
– nominated by Gigi Wong



Maureen Beamish's borage closeup
– nominated by Gigi Wong



Vince Chicoine's vibrant lily
– nominated by Jette Collins



Ann Duffield's back garden onto woods
- nominated by Laura Fairbairn



Kathleen Ledoux's meditation alcove
- nominated by Gigi Wong



Linda Armstrong's zen space
- nominated by Vince Chicoine



Janet Collins' bustling front yard
- nominated by Vince Chicoine



Marilyn Lyon's whimsical front garden
- nominated by Brian Sherry



Ola Nowosad's colourful dahlias
- nominated by Gigi Wong

Gratitude to all who nominated your fellow gardeners and sent in gorgeous photos or shared photos taken during the garden walks. Simply too many to show here. Looking forward to seeing more fall gardens photos.

In awe of seeing all these photos of gorgeous gardens? Do you sometimes wonder about how you can take better photographs and capture the beauty of a flower in bloom, a hummingbird feeding, or a dew drop on a blade of grass? I chanced upon a couple of older articles worth revisiting.

The Rule of Thirds in Garden Design

by Mary Lahr Schier

March 17, 2014

This past weekend, I was able to hear *Northern Gardener* columnist [Eric Johnson](#) talk about garden design and inexpensive, do-it-yourself projects that bring drama to the garden at a local horticulture day event.

Eric's talk was full of inventive, fun ideas, such as using [marbles in a fence](#) to create light and interest in the garden or [fashioning a mosaic garden gazing ball](#) out of a bowling ball (no need to worry about it rolling away!) But, amid the projects and ideas, Eric also conveyed solid garden design theory about proportion, scale, creating a narrative in the garden and the all-important "rule of thirds."

If you are a photographer or an artist, you may be familiar with the rule of thirds, which points out that there are sections within an image to which the human eye is drawn and which give an image or scene a balance, harmonious feel. If you look at the photo above, you'll see two lines to divide it in thirds horizontally and two to divide it in thirds vertically. (I did this freehand, so it may not be perfect, but you'll get the idea.) The main part of the image encompasses about one-third of the photo and centers on where two of the lines intersect. For gardeners, Eric says, the artwork you are placing in the garden should encompass about one-third of the scene you are creating and be placed in one of these prime spots.



This helps the artwork be in scale with what's around it. Notice the large sculpture in the photo: It's big enough to be noticed amid the trees and plantings that give it a setting.

Source: <https://northerngardener.org/the-rule-of-thirds-in-garden-design/> (Accessed and abbreviated September 1, 2022)

Rule Of Thirds: How to Improve Your Photo Composition

by Laura Bass

In this article, Laura elaborates under these topics to illustrate one of the many compositional techniques you can use in photography.

1. Using negative space with the Rule of Thirds
2. Use the Rule of Thirds to position the horizon in landscapes
3. Use the Rule of Thirds to position your subject off-centre
4. Use the Rule of Thirds to compose abstract images
5. Position vertical lines with The Rule of Thirds
6. Break the Rules

Source: <https://photographypro.com/rule-of-thirds/> (Accessed and abbreviated September 1, 2022)



PODCAST SPOTLIGHT by Maureen Beamish

The Ultimate Guide to Flower Growing with Jenny Rose Carey – The Joe Gardener Show

July 14, 2022 | 55 min <https://joegardener.com/podcast/ultimate-guide-flower-growing/>

An incredible podcast to inspire all of us to plant more flowers and create all season gardens. Also, Jenny Rose Carey likes to swap plants and seeds just like our Society does with Seedy Saturday, our plant sale, and our 3P's plant and produce swap in the fall. It's all for the joy of gardening!

Zucchini recipes and vegetable-bounty strategies with Ali Stafford – A Way to Garden

July 18, 2022 | 27 min <https://awaytogarden.com/zucchini-recipes-and-vegetable-bounty-strategies-with-ali-stafford/>

I wanted to get busy in the kitchen after listening to this conversation. But I don't even grow zucchini and other sudden bountiful veggie crops! Follow the notes under the podcast for recipes and ideas for baked items to tuck away for the winter. I did buy one of those kitchen gadgets to spiralize veggies, and my goal is to try it out before the September 3P's meeting. *(Editor's note: Go Maureen Go!)*

Tender Plants Worth Saving – Let's Argue About Plants

August 19, 2022 | 60 min <https://www.finegardening.com/article/episode-117-tender-plants-worth-saving>

Hosts Danielle and Carole who live in New England present simple suggestions about overwintering many diverse plants. Their guest speaker discusses ideas about how to over winter some edible plants such as lemon grass and mouse melon.

MEMBERS CORNER: Perfect Pairings

One of our long-time members, Maureen Beamish, has been sharing her love of garden-related podcasts which I thoroughly enjoyed. I have learned so much. Recently, she suggested that we provide a "corner" in our newsletter for members to share their love of flowers and foliage plants that work well together in their gardens. To add, I think critters, creatures, and garden accessories and gardeners will work very well, too!

To kick off this corner I can't help but share this photo of Vince and Norma Chicoine taken at a recent garden walk. Doesn't it spell Perfect Pairing?

So don't be shy. Send us your photos at londonfanshawehortsociety@gmail.com.

Who doesn't love to "ooh and ahh" at other's creativity and hard work, or chance meeting of a sleeping bee.



Also of interest...



100 Garden Moments of Canada

– OHA, founded in 1906, made the top 100!

To celebrate Canada's garden culture roots and to create a legacy, the Centre for Canadian Historical Horticultural Studies, supported by Know History, has researched and established 100 'Garden Moments of Canada' since 1867.

<https://livethegardenlife.gardenscanada.ca/100-garden-moments/>



You, Me & Half A Million Trees September 17 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Come and celebrate London's Million Tree Challenge reaching the halfway milestone of 500,000 trees planted and counted. Event takes place at Westminster Ponds Centre on the green in front of the Wellington Building. Activities, refreshments, tree giveaway and more! <https://www.reforestlondon.ca/programs/million-tree-challenge/>



Festival of Fountains – The Night Garden

Whistling Gardens invites you to a magical visual immersive experience. Watch the gardens lit up with computerized lighting synchronized to music. Multiple Friday and Saturday evenings throughout September and October. For ticket information visit

<https://www.ticketscene.ca/venues/3078/> Watch a preview at <https://youtu.be/Azi9nlCoNmw>



Seed Collection Events Weekly August 25 to October 15

Join the Seed Hub in collecting native seed throughout London parks. Learn about ethical collecting and growing of seeds from our native trees and shrubs. These events shift seasonally to include forecasting and hands-on collecting as well as the processing and cleaning of seeds and planting seeds directly into naturalization sites or into pots for giveaways. For more information on dates and weekly locations, visit

<https://westminsterpondscentre.ca/the-seed-hub/>



OHA 50/50 Cash Raffle next draw date: September 16

Purchase tickets today and help keep Ontario beautiful. Garden Ontario's first winner of the 50/50 draw held on July 16 took home \$2637.50!!

Will you be the next winner? Sale ends September 15.

Tickets available at <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

Trillium summer issue is here.

Quarterly newsletter of OHA (Ontario Horticultural Association).

<https://gardenontario.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-summer-trillium.pdf>

