

Omeme & District Horticultural Society



President: Heather Grassie
705-328-0342
hgrassie@cogeco.ca

Newsletter

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Summer Edition

<http://www.omemeblooms.ca>
omeme@gardenontario.com



Secretary: Barb Morrison
705-745-8738
lakehouse@eastlink.ca

Notes from the Editor...

The temperatures are cooler, the school buses are back on the roads, and the days are noticeably shorter. As much as we hate to see it happen...our lazy, hazy, crazy (emphasis on CRAZY) days of summer have drifted past and we are moving into autumn. In my gardens I sadly cut off the last late blooming daylily and watch the Goldfinches enjoying the seed heads on my faded coneflowers and cosmos. As much as I hate to see the end of the phlox, daylilies and other summer perennials, I welcome the vibrant colours of the zinnias, the beautiful hydrangea blooms, the tall grasses waving in the breezes and the newly blooming fall mums. Fall is here.

Is it possible that as we grow older, time speeds up? This past summer seemed to go faster and be busier than ever! This is reflected in the fact that our President was so busy having fun - she didn't have time to do her usual 'Greetings from the Pres'. And in my case, you are receiving your Summer Edition Newsletter, just days from when I will hopefully have the September Edition in your email box! Yes, it was indeed a busy summer. But didn't we all have fun?!? I sure did.

As the season changes into the slower paced fall months, we look back on the very busy and very productive summer as experienced by members of our gardening group. Not every member attended each of the summer activities. Whether you attended one, or all, I know that you had a wonderful time! If you didn't take part in any of these events, do consider participating in a few next year. You won't be sorry. So read on and see what has been happening.

Carol Mitchell
Editor

Our June Spring Show: Once again, Christa did her usual 'arm twisting' to encourage members to bring in their floral entries! The result was another amazing show! The Coronation Hall was filled with a floral rainbow of colours and the wifing scent of peonies met you as you entered the door. There were 168 entries in over 47 different categories. Many prizes were awarded but Best in Show was presented to Donna Hollingworth for her perennial over 15" and Judge's Choice went to Aron Muscutt for his breath taking Allium. Many thanks to Christa and her team for another successful event!

Our June Silent Auction & Plant Sale:

The back of the hall may have been filled with beautiful floral material but the front overflowed with unique plants and a variety of garden related items for the annual Silent Auction. The bidding soon became fast and furious. Members split their time between viewing the floral displays; purchasing plants from the wide and varied selection for purchase outside; enjoying the delicious snacks; and keeping an eye on their items on the auction table. The continuous slide show with photos of "The Past Year in Review" and a chance to visit with fellow gardeners rounded out the evening. Hazel Cook donated a very large bouquet of some of the over 600 varieties of peonies from their Blossom Hill gardens. Included were blooms from the plants that won top prizes at their most recent competition, and including the Grand Champion Award winner.

The proceeds of this evening go toward subsidizing our convention delegates and/or recognizing our wonderful volunteers.

It's what you learn after you know it all, that counts.



Congratulations to Hazel and Joe Cook! At the June 12th Annual Canadian Peony Society Convention at the Montreal Botanical Gardens, the Cook's entries won 58 ribbons, 2 special Court of Honour Awards for the best blooms in their category and the Grand Champion Award, equivalent to the Best in Show. You do good work Hazel! (We know who really does all the work Joe! LOL)

If you are interested in acquiring a new peony, I know that the Cooks are digging and dividing right now! Their catalogue is on line and they would be happy to match you up with the perfect variety for your garden. www.blossomhillnursery.com

District 4's June Celebration Luncheon:

The sombreros came out of the costume box as several of our members got into the spirit and "dared" to dress in Mexican style costume to attend the District 4 "Mexican Fiesta" Celebration Luncheon on June 12th. Those attending, visited with friends from other societies, participated in a lively and very competitive silent auction, and enjoyed a delicious luncheon buffet of Mexican themed foods. We were delighted to have some of our senior life members in attendance. Ruth Bailey, Betty Stephenson, and Alice and Bob Burke joined us for the afternoon. Although several District 4 awards were presented, the highlight of the day for us, was the presentation of 25 year "+" service pins to Alice and Bob Burke.

The speaker of the day was Dalibor Tichak speaking on 'Indoor Cacti and Succulents'. He was enjoyed by all and some even went home with a new cacti.



Some of our members with D4 President Rose.



Alice and Bob Burke receiving their 25 year service pins from President Rose.

Peony entries in the June Flower Show.



Crafted Mushrooms on the Silent Auction Table.



Poppies blooming in the Legion Bed.



The sign bed at the village entrance.



And Then Came July...

July brought heat & humidity but we still managed to have fun!

First there was a Day Trip to Uxbridge

Uxbridge, including John's Garden and the Tin Mill, in particular, is always a great trip for members of the Omemee and District Horticultural Society.

Thursday July 4th, twenty-one (21) members met at the Firehall in Omemee at 8:30 a.m. and travelled to John's Garden in Uxbridge. John's plants are without exception healthy, reasonably priced, and quite loveable, as is John as he guided us through the forest garden pointing out plants we might be interested in. Many plants, including annuals, which were 50% off, perennials, shrubs and trees, were purchased by the members so the vehicles were already full by the time we left there.

Next we headed off to Garden Artifacts and were taken on a tour of their water gardens. Water plants and garden artifacts were purchased and everyone went out with smiles on their faces and the cars just a little fuller.

Next stop was another favourite, lunch at the Tin Mill Restaurant in Uxbridge. Everyone enjoyed their meals there and some even enjoyed a glass of wine.

Last stop was Mason House Gardens where Jeff Mason gave us a guided tour of the succulent garden. By this time the temperatures were hot and everyone was tired and ready for the ride home after yet another wonderful day in the gardens.

Sue Lajeunesse, & Joanne Windrem Organizers

Shopping at John's Garden.



Our Own Annual Garden Tour:



The Annual Garden Tour was held on our meeting night, Monday, July 15th. Members and guests met at Trinity United Church at 7:00 pm and proceeded to the following gardens:

1. Nancy Evans/Perras - 590 Cottingham Road
2. Barb Morrison – 655 Fire Route #1B
3. Sunny Montgomery, Stillwater on the Lake B&B, 641 Lakeview Crescent
4. Steven Charest, Steven's Landscaping, 19 Lawrence Street North

Beautiful gardens again this year and a beautiful night to enjoy them. A little over the top by way of warm but still a beautiful night. Yet again, wonderful refreshments organized by Barb Muscutt were served at Sunny's B&B.

A special thank you to all who showed their gardens as well as all members who took the time to come out and enjoy the gardens. Again, I emphasize the many hours of labour that go into getting a garden ready for a garden tour and all this effort is most sincerely appreciated. Members showing their gardens are given free membership for either this year or next year, if they have already paid their membership for this year, as a way of thanking them for all the work they have done.



Barb's "potted garden".

Sue Lajeunesse

Garden Tour Chair

Other Day Trips: During July and August, various members attend day trips and garden tours in various parts of the province. Here are a few that we heard about.

Buckhorn Tour: July 14th - several of our members toured some gorgeous gardens, mostly along the Buckhorn waterfront. This fund raiser supported the Buckhorn Medical Centre.

Bobcaygeon Tour: July 15th - The Bobcaygeon gardens were as beautiful as always! This tour was in support of the Bobcaygeon Hort. Society.

Minden Flower Show: July 27th - This was a wonderful day. A carload of members went to the Minden Show which was lovely. As part of the admission, we were served tea and squares. For the remainder of the day we toured local garden centres. We admit - a few plants, and garden art objects did follow us home.

Crooked Creek: A few of our members joined with the Millbrook Garden group and spent an evening at Crooked Creek, enjoying the amazing display gardens and of course...a little shopping. I understand that the drive home in the torrential rain was most memorable!

Lakefield Antique & Flower Show: Several of our members attended this event. If you have never been to it -try to do so next year. You will enjoy it.

Sue Lajeunesse & I spent an afternoon there and then on the way home we stopped at Griffins and had a walk through their display gardens! If you haven't been there this year, try to find time to do it. The gardens are amazing!

I know that other members went on different tours. Wherever you went, hopefully you came away with a new idea, learned about a new plant or that you had a chance to sit in a garden and just enjoy the quiet and the beauty!



Tulip Choices



Glass Workshop

Wow, what fun! Wednesday, July 31st, ten (10) members, well actually 9 members and Gaynor's daughter-in-law met in my garage to make mushrooms, totems, windows, and other glass ornaments. What wonderful things we did. Mostly everyone brought glass and we glued them together, and while they were drying shared lunch on the deck overlooking the water. I think everyone went home with something to put in their garden. Since we had some members who could not come on the day, if you still want to make something, let me know as I am planning on having another workshop sometime in September as there is still a lot of glass on my shelf.

Call or email if you are interested – Sue Lajeunesse
705-799-1970 lajeunesse.sue@gmail.com



Tulip Bulb Sales:

Orders are being accepted now! You have three varieties to choose from. These tulips are beautiful and unusual and supplied by a company known for quality. They will sell for: 10 large bulbs for 10.00. (tax included)

“Angelique” is a double pink, 45 cm in height, and flowers in mid/late May, sun/part shade. It is referred to in the catalogue as a “spring peony”, very beautiful.

“Spring Green” is white with green ribbing, 50 cm in height, flowers mid/late May, and sun/part shade. This is an unusual and very striking tulip.

“Queen of the Night” is a black tulip, 60 cm in height, flowers mid/late May, sun /part shade. This is a tall, unusual, beautiful tulip.

We will sell until they are gone. Joanne Windrem will be taking orders and collecting money when orders are placed. You can contact her by phone 799-5685 or email jwindrem3@gmail.com if you can't order at the meetings.

If 10 are too many, do some switching with a friend. Don't miss out. They are beauties!

