

Omeme & District Horticultural Society Newsletter



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October Meeting & Pot Luck

Our October Pot Luck was another smashing success. The approximately 60 members and family members enjoyed a social evening of good food and fellowship. Special guests included District 4 Director Rose Odell and Councilor McGregor. Following dessert, some of our members entertained us with a humorous rendition of a song previously presented at the District 4 Luncheon in June, by 13 of our members. Following the entertainment, Rose brought greetings from District 4. Heather recognized our Lifetime Members in attendance with a flower. These members were: Gladys Goodin, Ruth Bailey, Norma Evans, Ruth Arndt, Diane Webber and Heather Grassie. Life Members unable to attend, were remembered. A special mention was made of the passing of our final charter member, Hazel Wilson. Hazel played a very important part in our society history and in horticulture in the whole area.

Society awards were presented by Ruth Arndt and Norma Evans. Aron Muscutt and Joanne Windrem received the OHA 100th Anniversary Award for their dedication and leadership during the construction and dedication of the new Memorial Garden at the Royal Canadian Legion. Carol Mitchell received the Zufelt Award for her contribution to Horticulture. Aron and Joanne also received President's Awards for the volunteer hours contributed to the Memorial Garden. Councilor McGregor then brought greetings from the City of

Kawartha Lakes and presented a 2011 Volunteer Achievement Award to our Society for their work in beautifying and revitalizing the village of Omeme. Carol Mitchell and Heather Grassie accepted this award with thanks and surprise!

The membership then joined in the singing of two humorous Halloween Carols (adapted by Charles Schultz). Christa introduced Erika Thimms who showed a beautiful sideshow, to music, displaying things we should be thankful for. It was a delightful conclusion to the evening. The evening ended with a draw for door prizes.

A huge thank you is offered to all those that helped in any way ... to the organizing committee, to those who helped with clean up, and especially for the wonderful food dishes.

Our November 21st Meeting

The Holiday Season is quickly approaching. Join us on Mon. Nov. 21st to learn interesting tips and ideas to be used when decorating for the season. Master Gardener Rachel Burrows, an experienced gardener and floral artist will be with us, sharing her talents and answering your questions. Rachel is the creator of the magnificent floral designs on display in the halls and entryways at the Spring Peterborough Garden Show. Imagine what she can do with winter greenery. Come and be sure to bring a friend to this, our final meeting of 2011.



Annual General Meeting

Our November meeting is also our Annual Meeting. A slate officers has been prepared and will be presented. Nominations will also be taken from the floor for any of the positions.

Photography Show

Monday's meeting is also our Annual Photography Show. Please check your yearbook, page 13, for the categories and submit your favourite shots. They must be placed between 6 and 7 p.m. Judging will begin at 7 p.m. *****Please be sure to choose from the 2011 categories - not those selected for 2012.** (The 2012 categories are for your information when taking photos for next year. Read them over and keep them in mind when taking future pictures.)

Design Category

This month's Design Category is a Seasonal Wreath with accessories. See your booklet for details.

2011 Volunteer Hours

Within the next few weeks, the executive will be filling in and submitting the end of year forms. As part of applying for an annual \$1000 grant from the Ontario Government, we have to submit a copy of our volunteer hours. If you have any volunteer hours that you have not submitted to date. please be prepared to add them to the sheet that will be available at the Nov. meeting. If you miss the sheet - you can email them to Carol Mitchell asap. Examples: Work done on decorating the winter planters, set up or clean up help at the Pot Luck, or any work done in the village gardens that has not been recorded in Aron's gardening hours book are examples of what should be recorded.

Once again, we thank you for all the hours you have put into our group this year. A group is only as good as it's members and we are fortunate to have such wonderful volunteers! Give yourself a pat on the back!

Village Winter Planters

The planters are now cleaned up and decked out with their winter greens. It was a bit of a challenge working around the varied weather conditions and thus they were done in stages this year. A big thank you to Donna Hunter for organizing this venture and to all the volunteers who helped on the various days. The end result is that they look beautiful and everyone has been complimenting the final results! Thank you!

We are looking for one or two people who would like to organize this event next year. If you would be interested in this - please contact anyone on the executive.

Santa Claus Parade

The Omemee Parade is on Sat Dec 3rd. Pat has been busy visualizing another amazing float. Now we need your help!

- if you have silk flowers that you no longer need - Pat wants them! -just bring them to the meeting or contact any executive members to arrange pick up
- Friday Nov. 25th at 1:00 p.m.- there is a workshop at Burritt's to assemble the "flower trees"
- Fri Dec 2nd - 1:00 - meet in Darlene & Ken Hunter's workshop to construct the float
- Sat Dec 3rd - meet at Scott Young School at 12:30 to walk in the parade & hand out candy. Bring a decorated basket to hold candy, dress in seasonal clothing (to reflect the Christmas season) and if you have one, bring a hoe -with a sign that says "Hoe! Hoe! Hoe!"

We invite you to participate in all or just a few of these dates. It is a wonderful way to get into the holiday season. Feel free to bring children or grandchildren but you might want to bring a wagon to pull the small ones.



Thinking Ahead to Spring!

The weather now has a winter chill and we've had our first dusting of snow. We recognize those events as signs of the approaching winter months. On the bright side, the seed catalogues are appearing in our mailboxes and plans for the Peterborough Spring Show are under way. Read on for new happenings!

Peterborough Garden Show **2012**

This year's Spring Garden Show is on Easter Weekend - April 5th, 6th & 7th. So mark your calendars and spread the word to friends! The organizers already have almost their full allotment of vendors and this includes a few new ones. They are continuing to offer some amazing speakers in the auditorium hall as well as continuous demonstrations on the floor.

As the Show continues to grow, the committee continues to add new features as well as address problems found in the past.

New This Year: Advanced ticket sales!

All District 4 Horticultural Societies and Master Gardener groups are being extended an invitation to purchase their tickets ahead of time in order to bypass the line-ups. A separate wicket will be available during the Garden Show for those purchasing pre-sale tickets.

Some folks are purchasing these tickets now - to use as Stocking Stuffers for Christmas. What a great idea for your gardening friends!!

These tickets will be available for sale at our November meeting - \$6 for a one day pass.

New This year: Shuttle Bus service

This service will be available Sat & Sun, every 15 minutes from the Kinsmen Centre parking lot. This should help with parking problems.

Judged Flower Show

The floral competition is again our responsibility and we will be looking for entries from our members. The rules state that to enter, you must own a houseplant for a minimum of 3 months so here is a good excuse now -to purchase a new houseplant that you would love to own! You can enjoy it, care for it, and then enter it in the Horticulture Section of the Peterborough Show! It's called "Thinking Ahead!"

In Loving Memory

Vera Mae Williams (Lifetime member of the Omeme & District Horticultural Society) passed away peacefully on November 13th, 2011. Vera was in her 97th year. Vera was an active member within our society and served on the Board of Directors as well the Executive. Even in her late eighties, Vera continued to attend meetings in her position as Honorary Director. She actively served on phone committees right up to the year she sold her Omeme home and moved into a Peterborough Residence at the age of 90. For many years Vera served on the Nominating committee and as a result, she was instrumental in "**convincing**" many of today's executive members and Directors that they would "**really enjoy**" filling some of the vacant positions. While in her new home in Peterborough, she continued to pass on her love of gardening and kept up with what was happening in her home garden society. In 2007 Vera was awarded the honour of being the first winner of our new OHA 100th Anniversary trophy for Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Horticulture. Vera will be long remembered for her part in making our society what it is today.



Holiday Drop In

Each year we try to host a holiday social evening when members are invited to “drop in” for snacks and a social visit. The days leading up to Christmas are very busy for everyone so this year we decided to host a “tween holiday” get together - between Christmas and New Year’s.

On Thursday December 29th

You are invited to a

“Kick Back & Relax” party

at Carol Mitchell’s residence

6:00 p.m. until ?

Punch and juice will be provided but please BYOB (of your choice) as well as some type of Hors D’oeuvre to munch on.

Hope to see you there.

Something to think about:

Counting

When we start to count flowers,
We cease to count weeds;
When we start to count blessings,
We cease to count needs;
When we start to count laughter,
We cease to count tears;
When we count happy memories,
We cease to count years.

Donations to our Society

The following donations have been recently received by our Society. They are meant to help further our work in Education and Beautification. We thank the following for their generous donations.

- The Farmers Organization
- Lori & Emma Windrem - a donation in memory of Hazel Wilson, in lieu of flowers
- Milburn & Ella Jones - a donation in memory of Hazel Wilson, in lieu of flowers
- Hazel Wilson's estate – we received \$500.00 for tree planting or special project at the time of her death and \$200.00 for the continuance of the Wesley Wilson Memorial Trophy for junior gardeners.

We extend our thanks to the above for their thoughtful assistance.



*Have a safe and happy holiday season!
All the best in new year!*

