

Omeme & District Horticultural Society

Newsletter



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Editor's Message

I stopped in a T.S.C. store last week and guess what I found! Racks and racks of seeds! Somehow that didn't quite fit with the falling snow/rain and the icy conditions in the parking lot. However, it did lift my spirits immensely! I was very good. I glanced at them but I didn't buy even one... YET!!! So if you want to get rid of your January blahs, leaf through a seed catalogue; visit the new garden sections in the stores; go and visit the Avant-Garden Shop in Peterborough and see all Brenda's new stock; or sit down and plan either a new garden or think about how to renovate an old one. 'Tis the season to start thinking of those spring months that will be here sooner than you think.

Membership Renewals

Your 2012 Membership renewals are now due!

See Page 3 for a new and faster way to register!



Don't forget to Lug -a- Mug to the next meeting.



February 20th Meeting: Growing Veggies in 2012

Our first speaker of the new year is Paula

Anderson from Peterborough Green Up. You may remember Paula's enthusiastic presentation in 2010 - on Growing Veggies. This time, Paula will talk to us about the urban growing of veggies today (in 2012), both on a small and large piece of property, including some tried and true varieties, heritage and new varieties. She will also touch on permaculture in relationship to your property. Paula runs a 2 acre market garden chock-a-block full of organic vegetables. The vegetables are sold at the Peterborough market and to restaurants in Peterborough. She is a member of an organization called Community Supported Agriculture in which people invest in the farm in exchange for a weekly basket of fresh veggies. Paula also teaches food and agriculture in the Environmental Science Dept. at Trent University.

Don't miss this extension to Paul's former talk. Bring a friend or neighbour to share in this "do not miss" evening. See you there!

FYI: For this year's "on site meeting" we will have the opportunity to tour Paula's private gardens and see her theories put into practice.

For a definition of "permaculture" see next page.



What is Permaculture?

When I first heard this term it was unfamiliar so ... what did I ever do before Google?

An encyclopedia definition of **Permaculture** is : “a theory of ecological design which seeks to develop sustainable human settlements and agricultural systems, by attempting to model them on natural ecosystems.” This results in the design and development of productive and sustainable gardens and farms. For more information, go ahead & use Google yourself.

Looking Back to 2010 Events

Election of Officers:

At the November Annual Meeting the executive and Board members for the 2011 season were elected or appointed as follows:

President: Heather Grassie

Past President: Carol Mitchell

1st Vice: Joanne Windrem 2nd Vice: Diane Webber

Secretary: (appointed) Barb Morrison

Treasurer: (appointed) Darlene Hunter

Youth Leader: Linda Jenkins

Directors 2 year: Gaynor McMullen, Barb Muscutt, Germaine Kleiss, Sue Lajeunesse,

Directors 1 year: Christa Marton, Donna Hunter, Mary Read, Chris Miller, Suzanne Seryck

Honorary Directors: Ruth Arndt, Brigitte Losberg, Pat Burrmitt, Norma Evans

Auditors (appointed): Jill Cockerell and John Penny

We thank these members for taking on these positions and we welcome Barb, as a new member to the Executive as Secretary. We also thank Jill for stepping up to help audit our year end books.

Our November 21st, 2011 Meeting

Our last meeting of the 2011 season was a busy one with about 40 people enjoying the festivities! There was something for everyone.

The AGM reports were submitted and adopted as circulated. President Heather, presented her year end report. Assistant Director, Wendy Langham conducted the election and installation of our 2012 Executive and Board of Directors. (see opposite)

The Photography Show was a huge success. Walter Cracknell, the judge spoke about the excellent caliber of the 35 entries. The best in show was awarded to Christa Marton, who received a box of photography “goodies” to make an album. Results are as follows:

Category 1: 1st Diane Webber, 2nd Aron Muscutt, 3rd Norma Evans **Category 2:** 1st Christa Marton, 2nd Aron M, 3rd Diane **Category 3:** 1st Diane W, 2nd Christa M, 3rd Carol Mitchell **Category 4:** 1st Aron M, 2nd Diane W, 3rd Pat Burrmitt **Category 5:** 1st Christa M, 2nd Pat B, 3rd Carol M. There were also many Honorable Mentions awarded.

The Christmas Design Category entitled “A Seasonal Wreath” set the mood for the Speaker of the Evening. Winners were: 1st Donna Hunter and 2nd (a tie) Rose Schulz & Hazel Cook.

Our guest speaker, Rachel Burrows demonstrated ways to decorate for the holiday season using festive greens and natural branches and accessories. As usual, her talent was outstanding and the results were amazing.

Rachel created a large outdoor container suitable for an entryway as well as a beautiful centre piece for a table. She ended the evening by creating a smaller design for a door prize (from what she called her leftovers) Although all members yearned to win it in the lucky draw, Ruth Arndt was the lucky winner. An assortment of other door prizes were presented. Everyone left the meeting eager to try out the new skills they had learned from Rachel!



Santa Claus Parade 2011

Last year Pat began her article: " THIS YEAR OMEMEE, next year the ROSE BOWL ?? " Well we didn't win the Rose Bowl but once again, Pat and her team brought home the trophy!!! Here is Pat's report on the event!

The end of November brought the preparation for the Omemee Santa Claus Parade. Germaine, Sue, Donna, Audrey, Christa & Heather got together at the Burritt's house to create another 'flower tree'. We expanded part of last year's theme to create a forest of trees, a horse drawn wagon and of course Santa. The next Friday, eleven people had the fun of putting it all together, in Ken and Darlene's heated garage. Thanks to all who contributed flowers, trimmings, dolls, the wagon and Sue for painting the beautiful horse. Darlene provided delicious goodies while Ken solved any construction problems. Parade day was beautiful. We enjoyed the walk, giving out sweets, and "HOE, HOE HOEING" our way along. Thanks to all who took my ideas without complaint, and made them a reality. Your work once again resulted in a FIRST PRIZE!! CONGRATULATIONS!! The result of all this fun was- *(....drum roll for a 2nd year.....)*

OMEMEE LIONS CLUB SANTA CLAUS PARADE 2011



FIRST PRIZE !!!!
in the
NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
Category

Submitted by Pat Burritt
Chairperson

Thanks to Pat for 4 years of great floats. Next year Gaynor is taking over as Chairperson.

Our 2011 Christmas Party

The night was cold and we finally had our white Christmas - almost too late. About 20 members gathered together at the home of Carol & Jim Mitchell for excellent food and some holiday cheer. Thanks to Ken Hunter for ploughing out the make shift "parking lot" so that no one got stuck. Everyone had a nice visit!

Membership Renewal is now due!

It is that time of year again. Please come to the meeting prepared to purchase your 2012 membership. Cost is \$12 or \$15 for a family. Where can you get as much fun for \$12 ??? Spread the word. Bring a friend. Guests are free!

Express Registration

For those of you who hate to stand in a line, this may work for you.

This year we are trying something new. We are offering EXPRESS REGISTRATION.

Attached to the same email as this newsletter, you will find a blank registration form.

1. Print it off and fill it in.
2. Seal it into an envelope with your registration money.
3. When you come to the meeting in February, there will be a box marked Express Registration at the Greeter Table where you sign in. Just drop your registration envelope in the box and someone will hand you your new 2012 yearbook. Now how easy is that! Cash is great or a cheque payable to: Omemee & District Horticultural Society. If you would like to register the regular way, go into the hall and Donna & Darlene will be happy to take your money and answer any questions.
4. New members can use the Express Registration to join or go to the table and sign up with Donna.

The form is attached to this email.

*An optimist stays up until
midnight to see the New Year in.*

*A pessimist stays up to make sure
it leaves.*



Speakers for 2012

The following is our 2012 Program

Feb 20	Growing Veggies in 2012 <i>Paula Anderson, (Green Up)</i>
Mar 19	The Garden as a Therapeutic Space <i>Brian Nichols</i>
Apr. 16	Hydrangea 101 <i>Terry Hotner (Hotners Garden Centre)</i>
May 12	Spring Plant Sale 9:00 a.m. Omeme Curling Club
May 21	Growing Dahlias With Success <i>Malcolm McDonald</i> <u>Location: Coronation Hall</u> <u>Also Spring Show 7:00 p.m.</u>
Jun 18	Permaculture on Your Property <i>** on site tour at the home of Paula Anderson (Green Up)</i>
July 16	Tour of Members' Gardens
Aug 20	August Flower Show <i>Omeme Curling Club: 6:30 p.m.</i> Speaker: Growing Grasses <i>John Strathon, (John's Garden)</i>
Sept 17	Taking Care of Your Trees <i>Matt Logan, (Logan Tree Experts)</i>
Oct. 15	Pot Luck Supper <u>At Christ Church</u> -Followed by Slide Show of 2012 Omeme Hort Activities
Nov. 19	Attracting & Feeding Birds <i>Brenda Ibey (Avant Garden Shop)</i>

IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER

It is difficult to foresee bad weather and because we cover such a wide area, driving conditions vary greatly. In the event we are forced to cancel a meeting, an email will be sent to all members who have email and we will try to use a phone tree for those who don't. Please check your email before venturing out in bad weather to be sure that the meeting was not cancelled. Please contact one of the executive members if you are unsure.

Thoughts for a New Year:

Resolutions for 2012

If you didn't make any resolutions for 2012, or if you have already given up on the ones you did make :) here are a few resolutions that were printed in a San Francisco paper a few years ago. I was going through an old file and found them. We might all want to consider them. Thank you to Norma Evans for passing them on several years ago.

RESOLVE not to feel guilty about discarding an unsatisfactory plant. It's not murder, it's mercy killing.

RESOLVE to deadhead the roses and annuals after blooming this year to keep those flowers coming.

RESOLVE to divide the cymbidiums (orchids) after blooming, before they break their pots in an escape effort.

RESOLVE to grow plants beloved by wildlife, particularly butterflies and hummingbirds.

Resolve to be considerate of honey bees. Encourage earthworms. Fill the birdbath every day.

RESOLVE to visit more gardens this year, particularly my own.

RESOLVE to ignore garden rules. Gardening is an affair of the heart. Remember that many discoveries are made by younger people because they have not yet learned the rules. Go for it.

Happy New Year Everyone !!

