



Omeme Blooms Garden Club

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Bee Happy! *Bee Welcome!*



“WHERE DO BEES CATCH A BUS?”

So... Have you figured out the topic of our February meeting????
You've got it! Joe and Hazel Cook are going to entertain us with a few facts that they have learned while moving into their latest passion as Bee Keepers!

Join us for the kick off to a new season of gardening - our annual February noon pot luck on Saturday, Feb 25th, 2017. Lunch! Entertainment! and Lots of Laughs! Don't miss this special meeting! PS - Some of our members are dressing in black and/or yellow in honour of our bee theme! Let's see how many will do it!

What's the Buzz???? Bee Amazed! (with Joe & Hazel Cook, speakers)

Our First Meeting of the Year! A February Kick Off!

Date: Sat Feb 25th

Back by popular demand - **a Saturday afternoon meeting and pot luck lunch.** No night time driving. Join us for some fellowship, laughter and lots of good food!

Please bring your cutlery, plates and mug along with a generous portion of your favourite dish. Tea, coffee & water are provided.

Time: Social @ 11:30 and eat at 12:00 Speaker: 1:00 ish

Place: Trinity United Church

Don't forget to renew your membership. Donna and Darlene will be welcoming you. Single:\$20
Family: \$25 Guests are always welcome free of charge

You will also receive your amazing 2017 yearbook and rack card. See you there!



Our March 20th Meeting - Growing Unusual Veggies

Please join us to hear the dynamic Paula Anderson as she shares her love of fresh vegetables, from garden to table. Those of you who were with us when we visited her market garden and then her home garden, as part of our on site visit in 2013 will know that she loves her fresh vegetables. Whether you grow vegetables in the ground, or in raised planter boxes, you will love listening to Paula as she shares her enthusiasm and the vast knowledge that she has at her finger tips.

A Look Back at Christmas 2016:

The Santa Claus Parade Float

This year's inspiration for our Santa Claus parade float came late in September. Last year we kicked around the idea of somehow incorporating the TV show Omemees Still Standing. That crew filmed the show in 2015 but it didn't air on TV until 2016.

I took my idea of somehow showcasing some of Omemees's architecture to Ken Hunter. He was able to figure out how to do the necessary carpentry and even made a sign for the front of the float. Next I took photos of the buildings. Ken got a sheet of plywood and cut out the shapes. Then they came back to me for painting on both sides.

I thought it would be nice to involve some of the great artists in our group by asking them to paint the Christmas decorations on the buildings, Mary Read, Sue Lajeunesse and Barb McGregor did a great job.

Throughout this time our councilor Mary Ann Martin was so supportive. She contacted the Still Standing people to ask if they had a cardboard cut out of Johnny Harris. They didn't, but they sent two sets of 8X10 photos. Her enthusiasm prompted a film crew to attend.

On Friday Dec 2nd, 12 members met at the Hunter's workshop to decorate the float. Joanne brought 2 mini Xmas trees and so did Barb Muscutt. The rest was decorated with greens, dogwood, tinsel and lots of Johnny Harris photos!

Saturday dawned sunny and not too chilly. While assembled, waiting for the parade to start we were filmed by CBC cameramen. Then we found out that we were winners in the "not for profit" group. Ken towed the float while 15 of us walked. Our junior club members gave out chocolate Santa's.

After the parade we dismantled the float in no time. We were messaged to meet the film crew. Heather, Chris and I were interviewed for possible future airing. How cool is that?

Gaynor McMullen, Chair Person

We think it is "Very cool" Gaynor!

The 2016 Christmas Party

On Friday Dec 9th, 2016, 48 of our members and guests met at Chemong Lodge in Bridgenorth for an amazing Christmas buffet. The 15 men in attendance, had their own private dining room which was a "no garden talk" zone. A lot of their talk turned to "cars". In the larger dining room the women didn't care what the topic was... 'cause they covered them all! There were lots of stories, jokes and laughter. The food was amazing and everyone came away very full. It was indeed a marvellous way to celebrate the season and to also end our 2016 Gardening Season! The room is already booked for next year so stay tuned for a 'Save the Date' notice in a future newsletter!



A Message From Our Wonderful Social Director: Please Sign Up For Snacks!

Did you enjoy those wonderful snacks at each of the meetings last year? Well those snacks were donated by our own members and a huge thank you goes out to them. So, in preparation for this year's treats, Barb will be circulating a clip board asking for volunteers again this year. If you have a favourite month, you can sign up now. If you would like to help out but don't know which month, sign the sheet on the back and if Barb needs someone for a certain month, she will call volunteers from that list. She also phones to remind you! Thank you in advance for helping to make our meetings very special and welcoming!

Thank you also from Barb Muscutt (Chair of Social)



Lug A Mug: Don't forget to bring your mug to each meeting. Get a ticket and possibly win a prize! Help us help the environment!

Membership: Needed: New Members: Our number one goal for 2017 continues to be a membership drive. We are doing our best to shake things up and to encourage new gardeners to join our group. So be prepared to give us a helping hand. More to follow on this topic.

A Special Thank you: to our speaker committee: Joanne Windrem, Christa Marton, Jenn Routledge, and Carol Mitchell. And we can't forget our Webmaster Kim Gunn and her helper Barb Morrison for updating our website so that our meeting information is up to date for all who log in. Our slider photos will be updated within the next month.

Rack Cards:

The new rack cards, listing the information for our meetings as well as all the 2017 speakers will be available at the Feb. pot luck as well as at every meeting after. Please take one for yourself and also a couple to give to friends. The best way to get new members is by word of mouth so please spread the word: "Gardening Fun Happens with the Omeme Blooms Garden Group"!

Yearbook :

Our 2017 Yearbooks are ready for distribution at our Feb. pot luck. Be sure you get yours along with your paid or pre-paid 2017 membership. This year's cover has an immediate "WOW!" factor. Well done Diane Webber. This book is a lot of work and I'd like to thank Diane, and her many helpers, who have set up flower shows, edited photos and proof read for errors. It is a real keep sake.



**Be sure to
get your
2017
Yearbook
with your
paid
membership.**



Out and About in Surrounding Communities:

A Day for Gardeners - March 4th

Choose 3 of 6 courses: Caring for Orchids; Container Gardening: Thinking Outside the Box; The Rain Garden; Edible Landscape; Integrated Pest Management; Gardening Trivia. \$30.00 includes lunch - Hosted by Peterborough Master Gardeners. Registration Forms available at peterboroughgardens.ca
REGISTER ASAP if interested.

Peterborough Seedy Sunday - March 12th -12 noon

George St. United Church, 534 George St N. Peterborough. Drop by to trade or buy seeds & to get inspired for spring! FREE admission!

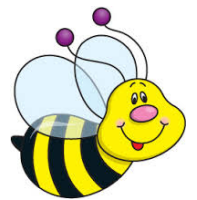
March into the Garden Lecture Series - Northumberland Master Gardeners - \$15 per night or \$40 for all four. March 6th,13, 20, 27 in Port Hope

Speakers are Kevin Elchuk, Giboshihill Hostas; Darren Heimbecker, Whistling Gardens; Marion Jarvie, & Paul Zammit . More information available at the Feb meeting.

There is at least one car load from Omeme going. We carpool and share for gas. If you would like to join us, see Carol or Heather.

April 7 to 9th: Peterborough Garden Show

"The biggest and best local garden show in Ontario, Canada."



The Peterborough Horticultural Society, and the Peterborough and Area Master Gardeners invite you to the 2017 Peterborough Garden Show. The 2016 show was a great success with several thousand visitors and 175 booths of vendors and exhibitors all with gardening-related products and services spread over two arenas. Proceeds from the show are used for scholarships and beautification projects.

Advance tickets are available from Joan Harding or Heather Grassie at the next 3 meetings. You'll breeze through a separate "advance tickets door" if you have your pre-purchased ticket! The Peterborough Garden Show is always a wonderful way to start the growing season. Tickets for this show are \$8. Buying ahead of time avoids long line-ups on the day of the show. New last year and quite successful - weekend passes for \$12.00. They will only be available at the "advance tickets door."

Just For Fun :

What do bees use to style their hair?

Where do bees go on a holiday?

What should you say to a nosy, interfering bee?

Why did the bees go on strike?

Why was the bee told off and made to stand in the corner?

What do bees use to build roads.

Where do bees catch a bus?

Answers will be posted at the pot luck meeting!
How many can you answer?

BEE Smart!
BEE at the next meeting for lots of Omeme Bloom laughter and fun!

