



Omeme Blooms Garden Club

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Coming this Month! : Growing Unusual Vegetables

Nothing tastes better than fresh vegetables right from your garden. Whether you use a plot of earth, raised gardens, or planters and pots on your deck, you can successfully grow your own vegetables. Join us this Monday, March 21st at Trinity United Church to hear Paula Anderson share her tips on growing fresh vegetables, even some of the more unique ones i.e. garlic and sweet potatoes.



Paula has a Master of Science in sustainable systems design. For the past 20 years, she has been incubating innovative sustainable agriculture and food system revitalization projects in the Kawartha Lakes Region of Ontario. She is an avid seed saver, urban maple tree tapper and manoomin harvester. She runs Sun Root Organics an innovative small-scale urban/rural organic vegetable operation and sells at the Peterborough Downtown Farmers Market as well as through By the Bushel Community Food Co-operative. She teaches in Trent

University's Indigenous Environmental Studies/Science Program as well as in the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Program. Presently she is working on her PhD in Indigenous Studies focusing on developing post-secondary educational programming to support the revitalization of traditional food systems within the Mississauga Anishinaabeg territory.

As you can see - Paula is a busy lady with many skills at her finger tips. Still, gardening, food production, and harvesting are very important to her. She is a dynamite speaker and you are guaranteed to love her enthusiasm! She last spoke to us in Feb 2012 and in May we visited her market garden and her home garden. Please help us welcome back, Paula Anderson!

This is a don't miss talk. Please invite as many friends and guests as you like. Come join in the fun, the door prizes, and the friendship. See you on Monday!

Let's help celebrate St Paddy's Day! Think Spring!!! Try to wear something green. There just might be a little spirit prize for those best reflecting the Irish sprit. Join in the fun!
Don't forget to LUG A MUG. Let's keep our earth green as well.



Our February 25, Luncheon Pot Luck Meeting Report

What's the Buzz? Bee Amazed!

Our kick off meeting was all about the 'buzzzzz' and from the minute you walked into the Trinity Church hall, you could hear it. Members and guests were met with laughter, hugs, and the wonderful aroma of great food. The tables were full of breads, casseroles and salads but this year there was an extra abundance of yummy desserts. Now what could be better than that! As for changes for next year - it was decided that the men's table should be moved to the very back of the hall and not allowed to go to the desserts first!

As for the report: there were 41 members present (a new high for our February meeting). The hall was decorated in yellow and black and "bee" decorations and riddles were scattered around the room. Special attention should be given to the cute Bee Headbands, and the cheery table decorations created by Joan Harding! Barb McGregor ran a "guess the number of honeycombs in the bottle". The guesses were varied but surprise, surprise! Heather won with her guess of 500, just a few off the actual answer. A solar butterfly garden decoration, pots of cheery mini daffodils, bees wax candles and a jar of honey (the latter two donated by the Cooks) were also given out.

The after dinner talk was wonderful! Joe and Hazel's enthusiasm, their photos and the amazing factual information kept the group spell bound and laughing. You have another 'Dynamite Talk', Hazel and Joe! Be prepared for many requests from our fellow garden groups! You promised that we would "Bee Amazed" and we were! The highlight was certainly the video of Joe knocking the swarm of bees out of the tree.

A huge thank you to the organizing committee, headed up by Joan Harding. It was a great day!

Just For Fun : ...and now for the answers to last month's riddles....

What do bees use to style their hair? **Honey Combs**

Where do bees go on a holiday? Sting a pore and Bee-jing

What should you say to a nosy, interfering bee? Mind your own buzz-i-ness!

Why did the bees go on strike? They wanted more honey & shorter working flowers

Why was the bee told off and made to stand in the corner? It was mis-bee-having itself.

What do bees use to build roads. Nec-tar

Where do bees catch a bus? At a buzz stop of course!!!

More riddles will be answered at the March meeting



Gardening is a kind of disease. It infects you, you cannot escape it. When you go visiting, your eyes rove about the garden; you interrupt the serious wine drinking because of an irresistible impulse to get up and pull a weed.

- Lewis Gannit



Don't Miss This Year's

Peterborough Garden Show !



The annual Peterborough Garden Show is back April 7th to 9th for its 17th year. With over 130 vendors, we are the largest garden show in Ontario after Canada Blooms.

A great list of Speakers is offered again this year, 4 per day both Saturday and Sunday, including Darren Heinbecker of Whistling Gardens on Saturday and Paul Zammit on "Planning and Planting for All Seasons of Interest" on Sunday. Topics range from pollinators, invasive species, shade gardening, vegetable gardening and planter transitions. Check our website for times and more details at www.peterboroughgardenshow.com

New this year is a Canada 150 Display Garden, a joint venture between JM Smith Landscaping and Keene on Gardens. This will be a lockstone and granite setting landscaped with dogwood, birches and masses of red and white tulips.

Our décor theme also reflects this special year for Canada with red and white tulips at the entrance foyer with a centre "island" with canoe.

Also new is a Garden Centre Container Competition with creations by our local greenhouses. Voting will be by people's choice.

Our ever-popular "Little Green Thumbs" Children's Garden will again be buzzing with activity. The Canada theme will be reflected in crafts and learning activities. Children can create a small take-home arrangement, dress up, play in the sand or fairy garden or one of the many play centres. Little painted faces can be spotted everywhere at the Show.

A Master Gardeners table will be set up to offer information, advice and answer any gardening questions.

BE Catering is back providing delicious, local quality lunches at two Show locations to keep the line-ups shorter. Kyoto Coffee, a local favourite, is also on site with their range of fair trade, organic coffees and teas.

Hours are Friday, April 7th 5 – 9 pm, Saturday, April 8th 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, April 9th 10 am to 4 pm.

Admission is \$8 per day or \$12 for a Weekend Pass. Advance tickets are available from several local retailers or on line. Check our website for details.

The Peterborough Garden Show is a non-profit event organized as a joint venture by both the Peterborough Horticultural Society and the Peterborough Master Gardeners with well over a hundred friendly, enthusiastic volunteers. All our profits go back to the Community. Since the year 2000, the Peterborough Horticultural Society has given over \$180,000 in the form of local Beautification Grants, support for Fleming Park, a downtown park we maintain for the City and post-secondary scholarships for students studying in a horticulture-related field. The Peterborough Master Gardeners support the horticultural studies for their members and

For a welcome breath of Spring and to kick start your garden season, come check us out!

www.peterboroughgardenshow.com

Joan Harding, Committee Member



A Report From Our Sunshine Lady:

For the Month of March, Sympathy cards were sent to the Burke Family for the loss of husband & father Robert, one of our former members; to the Muscutt family for the loss of Barb's brother David; and to Sue and John Lajeunesse for the loss of Sue's mother, Margaret. Our thoughts and prayers are with these families at this difficult time.

Mary Read

Our Youth Group is back in action! Sign up now. We welcome, children, grandchildren, neighbours and friends.

The Junior Garden Club meets 3 times a year.

The **first meeting** will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2017, **from 1:30 to 3:30 pm at Trinity United Church by the Town Clock on King Street**. At this first meeting the Juniors receive seeds to plant, seedlings to transplant and do some nature related craft activities.

The Juniors (along with their parent's guidance and support) plant and tend their gardens throughout the summer growing season. They harvest their vegetables and gather some flowers from their hard work and bring them in to display them at the **second meeting at August 21, 2017 Show**.

The **third meeting** is usually a craft activity centred event held in October.

Our Junior Gardeners are divided into 4 classes. **Sprouts** are Pre-K, JK and SK children. Next comes the Grade 1's and 2's called the **Sprouts**, followed by the Grade 3's and 4's who answer to the **Buds**. Lastly are the Grade 5's and up and they are called the **Bloomers**. Each group has different tasks to accomplish according to their age and ability.

Our Aim and Goal: *"To give the children of the Junior Garden Club the opportunity to learn, to enjoy, and to appreciate the skills of gardening for life through hands-on-experiences."*

Contact the Leaders for the Junior Garden Club for information.

Linda Jenkins 705-749-0019

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

The registration forms and contact information will be posted on the website www.omemeeblooms.ca and in Lady Eaton School, Scott Young School and St. Luke's School offices.

New for 2017 forms at the Omeme Coronation Hall Service Centre

*Heather Grassie & Linda Jenkins,
Youth Leaders*



In Case you were wondering....

Our Website:

Check out our Omeme Blooms website. Between Barb, Carol and Kim, there have been a few changes. Thanks to Kim for keeping this site up to date.

Facebook:

Thanks to Jenn Rutledge for adding interesting articles to our page. If you are a Facebook follower, please check us out and be sure to LIKE us.

New at our meetings: We are attempting to create a more welcoming entrance. Registration will be held upstairs in the area in front of the entrance doors for a few meetings. Please give us your input. We will also have greeters at each meeting, one from the Board and one from our membership. If you would be willing to do this job for half an hour at one meeting, please see Carol. Otherwise, she will be looking for you!!! This is not a hard job. You just greet members as they come in and be your usual friendly self. Even if you aren't a greeter - talk to your neighbour and be especially welcoming to any new members.

A Day For Gardeners: this was a day long event run by the Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners. Participants had a chance to hear 3 Master Gardeners speak on favourite topics. All were very interesting! Lunch was included in the price and you could choose from nine different kinds of homemade soup. Veggies, fruit, cheese, crackers and yummy cookie desserts were also included. Good speakers. Good food. All in all, it was a wonderful day. Think about attending next year.

Rack Cards: We have lots of rack cards telling about our 2017 program. Please take some and give them to friends, neighbours and anyone that you notice with a lovely garden. Talk up our club! Word of mouth is the best way to spread the secret of our wonderful Omeme Blooms Garden Club.

District 4's AGM - April 1st in Fenelon. This is usually a wonderful day. (Last year we were the co-hosts with Ennismore.) This year the speaker is Gary Edwards, Meadowview Gardens - Tales From a Victorian Kitchen, Germination to Vegetation
Cost is \$25 which includes meal, speaker and rental of the building. See Heather if you wish to attend.

The Garden Ontario Convention is being held this year from July 21st to 23rd. If you are interested in finding out more, see Carol or Heather or go to the gardenontarion.org website - 2017 convention.

Save the Date: Our 2017 Christmas Party will once again be a Christmas buffet at Chemong Lodge. So save the date of Dec 8, at 11:30 a.m.

Plant Sale: Please see poster attached to this email.

