



# The Peony Post

January 2017

[www.pickeringhorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.pickeringhorticulturalsociety.com)



January – a new year to contemplate new dreams or to finally start acting on some old ones. For some time now, my New Year's resolution was to declutter my home. Having Patricia John at our last meeting explaining the basic concepts of Feng Shui made me realize that getting rid of unnecessary, unloved stuff would be the first step to take. I may not achieve the serene environment Feng Shui is supposed to create, but at least I can find things now. Now I look forward to spring when I can declutter my garden and apply some of the Feng Shui concepts.

## January Meeting Recap

Unfortunately, due to some nasty weather, we had fewer people than usual in attendance. Thank you to all of you who were brave enough to come out.

## Announcements

- Brief introduction of the Board of Directors. Must do this again when more members are present.
- Request for someone to take on duties of the Treasurer. (No luck so far)
- A round of applause for our beautiful, redesigned yearbooks.
- Distributed sign-up sheets for refreshments, clerking and helping with District 17 AGM hosted by us in April.

We have another busy year ahead of us: April – District AGM, May – Plant Sale, June – Public Flower Show, July – Bus Tour. These are just the special events. In addition there will be lots of gardening to be done.

## Feature Speaker – Patricia John

We enjoyed a talk on the unique topic of Feng Shui for our first meeting of the year. Trish John is a Feng Shui Practitioner, Professional Organizer and founder of Your Spiritual Connection. She has been learning and in love with Feng Shui for 25 years.

Unfortunately the weather was not cooperative and we realize that many of you missed her presentation. Below is a copy of a handout that Trish provided to help us improve areas of our

**Next Meeting**  
**February 14, 2017**  
**7:30 pm**

**'Movies  
&  
Munchies'**

It is time for our annual '**Culinary Arts'** Show. We will not have a speaker this month in order to fully appreciate and enjoy tasty morsels prepared by you, while enjoying photos captured during our various adventures.

life by changing areas of our gardens. For more information on Feng Shui and this Bagua, please check out Trish's blog and website at [www.yourspiritualconnection.ca](http://www.yourspiritualconnection.ca)

# Feng Shuí GARDEN BAGUA



Trish specializes in doing workshops for small groups. If there is enough interest in learning more about Feng Shui we could talk to Trish about arranging a workshop for us at a special price.

Your Spiritual Connection is also on Facebook at [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YOURSPIRITUALCONNECTION](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/YOURSPIRITUALCONNECTION)

Or you can email Trish a question at [yourspiritualconnection@hotmail.com](mailto:yourspiritualconnection@hotmail.com)

Submitted by Joanne Shaw

*"Your Environment is a Reflection of your Life"*

### Refreshments

We thank Karen Bardeau, Jane Hiley and Vanita Seth for the lovely snacks provided. I am always amazed at the variety – no two things are ever the same.

### Photography Show

Despite the low attendance number, our photography show again proved very popular and we had 155 photographs to present to our judge. All of them were of excellent quality and some showed great creativity. 'Best in Show' was again won by *Lori Kneschewitsch* for her 'Peony Perfection'.

We also had five entries in the design division. 'Best in Show' went to *Jan Garvey* for her arrangement of dried material. Congratulations, Jan.

### Next Meeting – February 14<sup>th</sup>

#### **"Movies & Munchies"**

Once again, we are looking forward to our Culinary Arts Show. One person told me that cooking is a big mystery and that she would burn Jell-O. Most of us don't have the luxury of avoiding cooking – if we want to eat, we have to discover the joy of cooking. Along the way, most of us have become more adventurous, more creative. We have become more down-to-earth treats turn out And yet, sometimes good old to be favourites. Be brave and allow us to taste one of your favourites.



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In order to have more time for tasting and the socializing that goes along with it, we will not have a speaker this month. Instead we will be entertained by looking at photographs of past adventures.

For those of you who were not able to pick up your new yearbook, the show schedule is attached.

### Trainee Treasurer

As mentioned at the last meeting, we are searching for a person who is willing to take on some of the Treasurer's duties. As a trainee you would be working with the current Treasurer and look after the receipt and disbursement of funds. The actual bookkeeping (that dreaded debit/credit stuff) could still be done by the treasurer. At this point, no special accounting skills are required. Please give it your consideration.

## District 17 Annual General Meeting

It has been fourteen years since we last hosted this District event. Now the time has come for us to take our turn again. Your District AGM committee, chaired by Joanne Shaw, have been working hard to get all 'the ducks in a row'. Meetings with District have been held, the venue has been booked and inspected, the speakers and judges have been booked, and the show schedule has been sent off to all societies in the District. (The show schedule is in your new yearbook.) Now we are hoping for good attendance, especially from our group. We also need your help to make our guests feel comfortable at the event. Please mark your calendar for April 22, 2017.

## Up-coming events – February

**February 11/12, 2017** – Orchid Show & Sale – Southern Ontario Orchid Society at Toronto Botanical Gardens – admission \$12.00. For more information and a \$2.00 off coupon, visit [www.SOOS.ca](http://www.SOOS.ca)

**February 18, 2017** – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm – *Get the Jump on Spring* at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. For more information, visit [www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca)



The Peony Post is published by the Pickering Horticultural Society eight times per year. Comments, suggestions or contributions are always welcome. Please send them to the Editor, Sigrid Squire, at [asquire8347@rogers.com](mailto:asquire8347@rogers.com)

## FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING

**Theme Night**

**'MOVIES & MUNCHIES'**

**Awards:** Favourite in each section receives 10 points. All other participants receive 3 points per entry.

**Note:** Recipes awarded a 'Favourite' award may not be re-entered the next calendar year by the same entrant.

### **CULINARY ARTS**

#### **Section A – Sweet Comfort**

Class

1. Cookies.....minimum 8 on a plate
2. Squares.....minimum 8 on a plate
3. Breads/Cakes .....suitable amount\*
4. Sweet Preserves.....1 jar
5. Other Sweets.....suitable amount\*

#### **Section B – Savoury Snack Attack**

Class

6. Soups.....suitable amount\*
7. Appetizers .....minimum 8 on a plate
8. Dips/Spreads.....one tub
9. Breads/Scones.....suitable amount\*
10. Savoury Preserves .....1 jar
11. Other Savouries.....suitable amount\*

\*suitable amount – enough for 8 to 10 people to have a taste or two

***If at all possible, please provide your recipes with your entries. They may be handwritten, photocopied or typed. We can then create a collection to share with all***



Ontario Horticultural  
Association



**Annual General Meeting  
&  
Flower Show**

*"Still Growing and  
Blooming"*

**HOSTED BY  
PICKERING  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY**

Saturday, April 22, 2017  
4 Seasons Country Club  
1900 Concession 8, Claremont,  
Doors Open: 8:00am  
Hospitality: 8:30am  
Entries Close: 9:00am

**We are looking forward to a  
wonderful demonstration by  
Lizzie Matheson:**

We are not sure whether to call Lizzie a stand-up comedian who does flower arranging or a superb floral artist who keeps you in stitches while creating amazing floral designs. Lizzie lived in England for most of her life. She studied botany at Oxford University, with further studies at Swindon University which enabled her to become a teacher of floral design with the prestigious NAFAS (Nation Association of Flower Arranging Societies). Upon retirement just a few years ago, Lizzie and her husband decided to re-locate to Canada in order to be closer to family. England's loss – Canada's gain!

We look forward to watching Lizzie in action and listening to her amusing banter.

**THERE WILL BE A DRAW TO WIN  
LIZZIE'S CREATIONS**

**After a tasty lunch we will enjoy  
listening to our Speaker,**

**Malcolm Geast:**

Malcolm is well known in the horticultural community. If you have been to any major horticultural events in the GTA such as Canada Blooms, CNE, Get a Jump on Spring - you have probably met Malcolm. He is always there, enthusiastically promoting the joy of gardening and the benefits of belonging to a horticultural society. He has been the archivist and historian of the OHA for years; he is also the current editor of the OHA Trillium newsletter. Malcolm is an engaging speaker and we look forward to hearing about some horticultural history in our part of the world.

**OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:**

- **DISTRICT 17 SILENT AUCTION**
- **FLOWER SHOW -  
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF  
CONFEDERATION**
- **[HTTP://BIT.LY/SHOWSCHED2017](http://bit.ly/showsched2017)**

