



The Peony Post

September 2017

www.pickeringhorticulturalsociety.com



Do you think that maybe Mother Nature got her calendar mixed up this year and saved the hottest days for the end of September? Those of us who are not heat lovers were looking forward to September and the cooler days it usually brings. Of course, that made MN giggle and she did the opposite. Just to prove who is in charge here?

September Meeting Recap

It was a pleasure to see so many of you again after our summer break. We welcome new member Helen Green who came to join us.

- We asked all members, not just new members, to please fill out our revised membership form when paying their dues
- For insurance purposes, all members are required to put their initials on the attendance sheet kept at the membership table; guests are asked to sign in on the same sheet
- Once again, we gave a round applause to Barbara for another very successful bus trip in July

After a few other brief announcements, it was time to introduce our

Feature Speaker, Lynette Kirton

Lynette works for Vandermeer Nurseries and came to encourage us to plant lots of spring bulbs this fall. She brought a variety of them, all of them potentially lovely and definitely something to look forward to. Unfortunately, we could not purchase any from her but a trip to Vandermeer's could be a nice outing any time of the year.

One item she brought that really intrigued us was a 'mushroom log'. You can grow your own mushrooms right in your kitchen! It sounds like a fun item to have around or maybe give as a Christmas gift to the person who has everything.

Next Meeting

**October
10, 2017
7:30 pm**

"Gardening for Life"

is the theme for
our feature
speaker

Cathy Kavassalis

Cathy is a Master Gardener and has played many roles in the horticultural world in Halton Region.

Refreshments

The delicious snacks were provided by Diane Anderson, Elizabeth de Verneuil, and Jacqueline Smart. Thank you very much, ladies.

Flower Show

We were thrilled once again to have a total of 134 horticultural and 6 design entries on display. It certainly kept the judge and the clerks very busy. Thank you all for your participation.

Congratulations to the 'Best in Show' winners:

<i>Trish Stephens</i>	-	Best Plant of the Month (Heritage Tomatoes)
<i>Barbara Twiner</i>	-	Best Other Horticultural Specimen (Dahlia under 6")
<i>Ada Mueller</i>	-	Best Rose
<i>John Lowe*</i>	-	Best Fruit/Vegetable (Onion)
<i>Barbara Twiner</i>	-	Collection of Cut Flowers
<i>Barbara Twiner</i>	-	Best Design (Fragrant Fantasy)

*John Lowe seems to be our vegetable growing expert. He has received 'Best in Show' for at least five years in a row and each time for a different vegetable. Congratulations, John!

The judge commented regarding the showing of 'collections'; her main point is to space your material to allow all specimens to be viewed properly. If you can also make it 'pleasing to the eye', so much the better. Of course, cultural perfection is the most important consideration for collections. (see OJES, page 93)

Next Meeting – October 10th

"*Gardening for Life*" will be the topic for our speaker *Cathy Kavassalis*.

Cathy is a passionate gardener and conservationist. A scientist, educator and inspirational speaker, Cathy endeavours to stimulate interest and awe in the living world. She is a Master Gardener, Past President of Oakville Horticultural Society and a former member of the Board of Directors for the Royal Botanical Gardens. As you can tell – she loves to garden! We look forward to meeting Cathy.

Flower Show: Please note that there is no restriction on the number of entries per class per exhibitor, as long as each specimen is a different species or cultivar. This should make the decision making process so much easier. Also included this month are houseplants. Maybe you gave them a vacation outside this summer and now they look wonderful. Why not show them off?



A Fond Farewell

After many years in Pickering, Christine Male and her husband Mike have decided to move to Wilmot Creek, a retirement community in Newcastle. Christine has asked me to let you know where she can be found and would welcome anyone who would like to visit her new paradise. Address: 210 Wilmot Trail, Newcastle, ON L1B 1B2, 905-419-4095

Christine was a member of our society for more than 20 years, served on the Board of Directors and was President in 1997-98. We wish her lots of happiness in her new home and I am sure the garden clubs in Bowmanville, Newcastle or Orono will benefit from her presence.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

and

POT LUCK DINNER

Yes, it's that time of year again. Our AGM will be on
Tuesday, November 14, 2017

in our usual meeting rooms at the Pickering Recreation Complex.
Keeping in step with Canada 150 celebrations, our theme will be

"Proud to be Canadian"

Please mark this date on your calendar and help us celebrate.

Some food for thought: the following poem appeared in summer 2013 issue of the *Trillium* newsletter published by the OHA. Embarking on a new Society membership year, I thought I would share it with you.

Where do you fit?

Some members keep their organization strong

While others join, just to belong.

Some volunteer and do their share

While others lie back and just don't care.

On meeting days, some always show,

While there are those who never go.

Some always pay their dues ahead,
Some get behind for months instead.
Some do their best, some build, some make,
Some never do, just sit and take.
Some lag behind, some let things go,
And never help their organization grow.
Some drag, some pull,
Some don't, some do
Consider – which of these are you?

Happy Thanksgiving!



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