



The Peony Post

September 2018

www.pickeringhorticulturalsociety.com



They say a picture is worth a thousand words and this picture illustrates what we have to look forward to: crisp, cool autumn days with wonderful colours and Thanksgiving and Hallow'een just around the corner. We will be raking leaves soon but at least our snow shovels are still hidden in the garage.

September Meeting Recap

Feature Speaker

For this meeting we changed our usual order of appearance. Our speaker, *Sean James*, was the first item on the agenda as he had a long way to travel. Sean James has built an international reputation for sustainable landscaping. He has created landscapes from coast to coast and has won numerous awards. Sean is a very engaging speaker and his presentation on 'Bullet Proof Plants' was very well received. He highlighted a few perennials for full shade, such as Flowering Raspberry and Big Root Geranium. One of his favourite long blooming plants is catmint (*nepeta mussini*). Turtlehead was one of his favourites for difficult spaces. Thank you, Sean, for a very inspiring presentation.

Flower Show

After announcements by President Joanne, it was time for the flower show results. We had 121 entries of which 26 were fruits/vegetables. We were thrilled to have 15 entries in the tomato class, far exceeding the usual 4 to 6. I guess the hot weather we had this summer was particularly good for tomatoes. We thank all exhibitors for taking the time and making the effort to fill those exhibit tables. We are still hoping that the fun and joy of participating in the flower show is infectious and more members will get the bug to do so.

Next Meeting

**October
9th, 2018
7:30 pm**

Hands-on workshops are always very popular with our members. This month's **FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP** will be a lot of fun, whether you are participating or just observing.

Congratulations to these 'Best in Show' winners

- Vanita Seth** – Best Tomato (collection)
- Joanne Shaw** – Best Other Horticultural Specimen (Hydrangea)
- Ada Mueller** – Best Rose
- Vanita Seth** – Best Fruit/Vegetable (eggplant)
- Vanita Seth** – Judge's Choice (any other fruit/vegetable)
- Vanita Seth** – Judge's Choice (sedum full open)
- Barbara Twiner** – Best Advanced Design
- Ada Mueller** – Best Beginner Design

As you can see from the above, Vanita has a lot of fun exhibiting. Thank you, Vanita, for your enthusiasm. Maybe some of it will rub off on some other members.

Refreshments

We thank Helen Green, Peggy Wilmot and Christine Walsh for the scrumptious snacks brought in for our enjoyment. Well done, ladies.

As mentioned at the meeting, we will soon stop providing paper cups for your drinks. As you know, we have already stopped supplying bottled water and are using a water jug filled with fresh, delicious tap water instead.

Please try to make it a habit to 'lug a mug' or water bottle.

Next Meeting – October 9th

As mentioned above, our next meeting will be a fun event. You will learn how to create a lovely flower arrangement. We have chosen a parallel design to explain the basics of flower arranging. All materials will be supplied but you will have to bring your own cutting tool such as secateurs, flower snips or a sharp knife. Those of you who were not able to sign up for this workshop will have fun watching, critiquing and learn something as well.

**Please note: the flower show for this meeting has been cancelled.
We will be too busy looking forward to the workshop.**



Annual General Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner

It's that time of year again. Our AGM and Pot Luck social evening will be on November 13, 2018, held in our usual meeting rooms at the recreation complex. This year's theme will be

'Hats Off to You'

I don't think it will take too much head scratching to figure out what to wear to complement the theme. From elegant to funky fascinator to very casual – I am sure everybody has a special hat hanging around. If you are really ambitious, you may even add some floral decorations. More details about the meeting will follow; just make sure you mark the date in your calendar now.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart and soul of any organization such as ours. Without some of our members putting in some extra time, we could not exist. Our meetings would be dis-organized, we could not have all the things that draw you to the meetings in the first place. If you feel you have an extra hour or two per month to spare, we have various opportunities to fulfill your desire for more participation in the well-being of our society:

Maintaining local public gardens
Monthly Meeting Set-up
Marketing and Communication
Social Media
Annual Plant Sale

Whatever fits your schedule or your interest, we would love your help! For more information reach out to Joanne Shaw at presidentofphs@gmail.com

Attached is the City of Pickering Aging Well Together newsletter. We are proud to see our logo and name right on the front page.

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