



# The Peony Post

January 2019

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



Winter has finally arrived – with a vengeance no less. If the bitter cold of the last few days has you worried about the plants in your garden surviving – relax. Along with the cold we also got a good snowfall which acts as a ‘cozy’ blanket for our gardens. After all, snow is nothing more than just very cold water.

## January Meeting Recap

In President Joanne’s absence, Sigrid greeted the forty members in attendance. As this was the first meeting since our Annual General Meeting, Sigrid introduced all members of your elected Board of Directors. She gave a brief description of their areas of responsibilities as well as some personal touches.

## Feature Speaker, Barbara Twiner

Barbara is a certified horticulturist and an accredited RBG judge for horticulture and design. As such she is more than qualified for her topic of “Flower Shows through the Eyes of a Judge.” She gave us lots of tips on how to prepare our houseplants and cut flowers for exhibiting. We hope that now you have the confidence to take the jump and participate more fully in our flower shows. Just ask yourself: what is the worst thing that can happen?

After Barbara’s presentation Susan introduced us to the new 2019 Yearbooks and explained some of the changes that have been made. A new cover photograph and a simpler font give the book a more modern look. The cover photograph was taken by Elizabeth deVerneuil. We thank Elizabeth for allowing us to use it as this year’s floral emblem. Thank you, Joanne, for the new design of the Yearbook as well as the bookmark.

Next Meeting

**February  
12<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
7:30 pm**

**Annual Food  
Show**

Feature Speaker

**Richard Schwarz**

**‘Trail and Garden  
Spiders’**

## February 'Foodie Celebration'

The main difference in this year's yearbook is the show schedule for our 'Foodie Celebration' at our February meeting. We have revamped the schedule to give you more choices of what to prepare and also for you to have more opportunities to have your creation voted as a section favourite. Instead of the previous two sections, we now have six of them. Have fun! (See show schedule below)

You may remember that at our AGM in November you were asked if you wanted to continue having a food show. You voted overwhelmingly in favour of it. Now we look to you for lots of enthusiastic participation.

### A Foodie Celebration

#### Special Section 1– Flavour of the Month

- 'Will You be my Valentine?' - heart- shaped cookies
- 'It's all About Chocolate' - any food featuring chocolate



#### Section A – Sweet Comfort

- 'Grab and Run' - cookies and squares
- 'Coffee Time Essentials' - breads, cakes, muffins
- 'The Finishing Touch' - any other sweets

#### Section B – The Pieman Cometh

- 'Tutti Fruity' - fruit pies/tarts
- 'Delectable Smoothies' - cream pies/tarts



#### Section C – Savoury Snack Attack

- 'The Soup Tureen' - any kind of soup
- 'Great Beginnings' - appetizers, dips, spreads
- 'Some more, please?' - any other savouries

#### Section D – Flour Power

- 'The Staff of Life' - a loaf of bread
- 'A Baker's Dozen' - buns, scones
- 'Staying Healthy' - any gluten free or yeast free baked goods

#### Section E – Grandma's Pantry

- 'Fruits of Summer' - sweet preserves
- 'Peter Piper picked....' - any kind of pickles
- 'Spice up your Life' - chutney, chili sauce



### Refreshments

We really appreciate the thought and effort you put in to provide us with delicious snacks. At the last meeting it was such a wonderful assortment thanks to Rosemary Aiken, Diane Anderson and Karen Bardeau, it was difficult to make a selection or, worst of all, to stop snacking. As always, we also thank Mary for providing liquid refreshments. We also thank you for the donations you leave in the little blue duck. It helps to defray the cost of coffee, cream, sugar, plates, etc.

### Photography Show

We had plenty of time to admire your photographic skills. These are the results as chosen by our judge:



First Place – Mary Dawson – Class 1 – Springtime in Ontario



Second Place – Elizabeth deVerneuil – Class 7 – Small Packages



Third Place – Elizabeth deVerneuil – Class 4 – Winter Wonderland

By the way, our photography judge has a very kind heart and always donates his honorarium to the food bank.

### Next Meeting – February 12<sup>th</sup>

Our feature speaker will be *Richard Schwarz*. We hope his topic of ‘*Trail and Garden Spiders*’ does not cause you any heart palpitations.

After his presentation we will taste and judge your food creations.

### Up-coming Events

**Southern Ontario Orchid Society Show** - February 9 & 10, 2019 – 11:00 am – 5:00 pm – Toronto Botanical Garden – [www.soos.ca](http://www.soos.ca)

**Get the Jump on Spring & Seedy Saturday** – February 23, 2019 – 10:00 am – 3:00 pm – Toronto Botanical Garden – [www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca)

**Paint a Flower Pot** – Pickering Recreation Complex – see flyer attached to your email.

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)