



[www.oshawagardenclub.ca](http://www.oshawagardenclub.ca)



all OGC meetings take place  
on a MONDAY at LVIV Hall at  
7:30

### Save the Date

Oct. 28

Board Meeting

7:00pm Northview CC

Nov. 11

Meet Your New Board

Speaker's topic: FESTIVE

HOLIDAY DECORATING

OGC Annual Craft Sale

Dec. 2

Christmas Potluck

Sign-up early

Don't miss it!

May 24, 2014

OGC PLANT SALE

## President's Message

The fall weather has been just glorious and perfect for gardening. My problem is that I can't bear to start cleaning things up just yet. I want to savour every last blossom and petal that I can. I haven't been as diligent about dead heading as I should have been so productivity is a tad on the low side. My Rudbeckia is now pretty much done, whereas the clumps at the Clarke Museum garden at Kirby this weekend were stellar.

Garry Lucas, Linda Wylie and I recently visited an 1876 wood frame school house that is now the Clarke Museum. We were there to attend the District 17 presidents' meeting hosted by the Orono Horticultural Society and see one of their two recent projects. In partnership with the museum and the town, they applied for a Trillium grant to create a berm style living wall to act as a physical and sound barrier from Hwy. 35/115. The school board had been concerned about the access to the highway and was no longer allowing school programs to be held at the museum, thereby removing their only source of income and the museum was suffering. The living wall provides an environmentally friendly solution to the problem.

In addition to the living wall, the club had planted hostas, peonies and straw flowers at the front of the building and 3 gardens along the south side of the school house. One plot contains herbs and medicinal plants found in a pioneer garden, the second showed perennials of the era and the last was an annual cutting garden. The students harvest herbs from the garden and help cook a soup or stew with them. What a wonderful way to learn so many things!

As part of the meeting, each club gives a summary of their activities over the year. I am always amazed by the wide range of projects that the clubs have completed. I am looking forward to having the opportunity to help develop and complete a community garden that will recognize former Oshawa Garden Club member Lisa Jewtuscka and be funded through her generosity. When the time comes, I hope that I will see many of you there as well.

Debi Foster

## Did you RENEW your MEMBERSHIP for 2013-2014?

Our membership year starts in September and ends in August.

Linda is the friendly face at the membership desk and she will accept your fees and answer any questions about the garden club.

*For new and renewing members, the membership fees are \$20.00 (single) and \$30.00 (family, 2 adults at the same address.) Membership forms are available at our monthly meetings, on the website, or from Linda Wylie 905-723-5557. Visitors pay \$5.00 at the door to attend a meeting. If they join that night or at the next meeting, the \$5.00 will be applied to the membership fee.*

## A WARM WELCOME is extended to our New Members

Valerie Belshaw, Deborah Cameron, Susan Crase, Carla Daniell and Denise Sangiorgio, Judy Jaeger, Autumn Langis, Anna Lapinska, Bob & Robin Martin, Sylvia Miller, Judy Pavloff, Phyllis Pires, Linda Riesberry, Jocelyn Sarty and David Wyllie, Carol Steenburgh, Wendy Stevens, Linda Tullock and Mark Wigglesworth.

## IMAGINATION STATION:

The imagination station was created to encourage interest and improvement in horticulture

The September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting's theme was "How Uncanny!" this design incorporated Mason Jars. This month we had nine entries!

- 1<sup>st</sup> place was Nadia Bilyk with her lemons in mason jars display.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Val Foster with her stone jars and votives.
- Judy Lambert came in 3<sup>rd</sup> with her beets and peppers display.
- Honourable mentions went to Joanne Thow, Debi Foster, Ann Couch, Gail Berry and Vida Ycas-Abell.

October will be well into the fall season and the theme is "It's A'maize'ing".

The design is to incorporate Indian Corn and use accent colours to compliment the corn colour.

November is the lucky month, tucked between Halloween and Christmas.

This is the time to recycle your Halloween pumpkins. Design MUST include a pumpkin.

Good luck and keep on designing. Val Foster



## Editor's Report

I love garden club! I love the speakers! ...and I depend on the greenleaf to know what is happening "with all things gardening." I print my copy at home and then organize my calendar, and I bring it to the meeting to keep my notes, and I refer back to remember names and contact information and more...

This fall the garden club was looking for a greenleaf volunteer and I decided to step forward...BUT, I have no experience in creating a newsletter. Your next few newsletters will be a "work in progress."

If you have any questions, suggestions, or articles for the newsletter, please send them to me at [dshrives@rogers.com](mailto:dshrives@rogers.com). Sherry Shrives

## Tonight's Meeting and the Volunteers that make it happen.      October 21, 2013

### The Speaker

#### Garden Art For Cheapskates

Diane and Gary Westlake will speak to us tonight about gardens and de-cluttering. They are both Master gardeners and editors of the Master Gardeners of Ontario Newsletter. They care for an acre of property near Peterborough.

### Winter Basket

Please support your club and see Barb to buy a ticket on the Winter Basket.

Tickets are available at the Oct and Nov meetings at a cost of \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00.

### Plant Table

Stop by and speak to Faye and Maria. Don't be afraid to ask them questions, they have a wealth of information and some interesting plants for sale at very little cost.

### Environmental Table keeping members informed on the environmental aspects of gardening

Tonight Karl Springett will be at the table with information on worm castings composting.

### Christmas Social

Monday December 2, 2013

Cathy and Nadia will have the sign-up sheet near the membership table. Sign up to bring a salad, a main dish or a dessert to our annual Christmas potluck. There are prizes, possibly some games, and light entertainment. This is a social night to catch up with friends and meet new people and relax before the Christmas rush.

You are welcome to bring a guest for a small cost of \$5.00.

Please be considerate of the planning team and sign up early.

We love to see our new members come out.

More information? Please see Linda at the membership table.



THANK YOU to tonight's greeter, Heather

THANK YOU to our October bakers: Lynda Mackie, Beth Sheyan, Robin Burns, Mary Ellen Cole, Leni Cotnam

**\*\***Don't forget to lug-a-mug.

## What is happening at Our Next Meeting?      November 11, 2013

### Festive Holiday Decorating from Field and Garden

Our speaker Scott Turner from Branching Out flower shops in Port Perry and Cannington will use materials found in nature to demonstrate indoor and outdoor holiday decorating

The Annual Report will be handed out at the November meeting. Meet your new board members!

### Craft table

Get started on your Christmas shopping at this month's meeting. Several of our members will be selling "one of kind" items, decorations, note cards, nature in art, and much much more.

Remember that at the OGC meetings you are surrounded by a wealth of knowledge. You can chat up your neighbor, you can ask questions at the Plant Table, and you can also submit a question and someone from the club will give you advice.



Goldenrod takes the blame for ragweed-pollen allergies, because these plants grow near one another and they flower around the same time. Ragweed is a common annual weed that grows vigorously, most everywhere. There are many varieties of ragweed and one plant releases up to a billion grains of pollen. Climate change is extending the ragweed season and most people suffer from early August until the first freeze-up. Learn to identify this weed and pull-it-up.

## THINGS TO DO IN THE AUTUMN GARDEN

- The weeds are so green and vigorous just now, but continue WEEDING, as it will reduce hiding places for garden pests and benefit your garden in the spring. Also, remove the spent annuals for the same reason...no place for diseases and pests to overwinter.
- Plants still need WATER to look good in the fall and to overwinter successfully. If Mother Nature doesn't cooperate, then add some water and doing it earlier in the day is best.
- This is the time of year to PLANT new perennials, to DIVIDE older perennials and to plant trees and shrubs. The cooler temperatures and usually sufficient rain helps the plants to settle in with less stress.
- The other planting job to be done now is SPRING BULBS. You can't go wrong with daffodils, the squirrels won't eat them, but if you plant some other varieties, ie tulips, then maybe research a few tips to keep the squirrels away.
- Every garden tip you read says, get those fallen leaves into your garden. They are excellent MULCH. Run over them a few times with the mower, as shredded are better, and the earth worms will pull those shredded leaves down into your garden amending the soil. This mulch helps with the freeze-thaw cycle also.
- Composted animal manures in bags at the garden centre will also improve your soil and this is a good time to apply it to your garden.
- Don't forget to deal with those plants that can't take the freeze-up, but can be overwintered in a warmer place, ie houseplants, or canna lily or dahlia bulbs, or a rosemary plant...and more. Some folks take cuttings from their annuals and grow them over the winter, but this requires a little experience.
- PRUNING is another fall garden task that requires some knowledge. Annabelle hydrangeas can be pruned spring or fall and no matter what, always look great. But, not all plants / shrubs are so forgiving. Also, there is debate among gardeners whether everything should be cut back or some left for "winter interest." The general rule is leave the autumn blooming plants and grasses for interest and prune back the spring flowering shrubs right after they bloom, as this gives the plant lots of time to set up buds for the next year.

*Next month: Storing Pots and Tools for the winter*