



# Uxbridge Horticultural Society



"We Bring Gardening Down to Earth"  
www.uxbridgehorticulturalsociety.com



## "Your Local Garden Club News"



*The Year of the Tulip - photograph by Karen Vanderlee*

June 2018 - Series 15, Volume 3

### **In this Newsletter**

- July Garden Tour for Members
- Upcoming Events
- Welcome New & Returning Members
- Garden Maintenance – Volunteers Needed
- Plant & Bake Sale
- May Flower Show Results
- Tulips Groups 5 through 9
- Photos

### **July Garden Tour for Members**

Our annual **Garden Tour for Members Only** is scheduled for Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, followed by a potluck get-together.

We will meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Seniors' Centre and start from there. The tour usually takes about 3 hours and this year our potluck will be held at **Christiana, Yvonne & Gerda's** house, which is the last house on the tour.

This is always a fun (and delicious) event, and another great chance to socialize with your fellow members. Plus, it seems we always walk away with new and interesting ideas! We hope you will join us.

### **Dear Fellow Gardeners:**

After a somewhat disappointing spring, what beautiful days we are finally having!

This past winter brought some nasty surprises in my garden – plants that are normally very hardy and have survived many winters, were hit hard this year. I had three beautiful (normally very hardy) 'Gold Mop Cypress' plants that were hit so hard that they now appear unsalvageable and will have to be replaced. Both my neighbour and I have a couple of different varieties of Weigela, some of which did very well and others, such as Weigela 'Wine and Roses', which had a lot of winter kill. And other much less hardy plants came through with no problems whatsoever. I guess that's part of the fun of gardening – it constantly reminds us that Mother Nature, not us, is in charge.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who joined in the clean up and planting of the Uxbridge gardens that our Society looks after. You did a great job and the gardens look fabulous! To maintain these gardens, we would really appreciate a few hours of your time – please see Agnes' note on page 2 of this newsletter.

We appreciate the positive feedback on last month's presentation by Paul Oliver of the Urban Nature Store. We always welcome and appreciate your comments, suggestions and feedback which can be passed on to any member of the Executive.

Have a great month!

*Sandee*

### **Upcoming Events**

- **June 13<sup>th</sup>:** Guest Speaker: **Dan Cooper** Topic: "Gardening from a Hammock"
- **July 11<sup>th</sup>:** Guest Speakers: **Gini Sage & Elaine Davidson** Topic: "Square Foot Gardening"
- **July 15<sup>th</sup>:** Garden Tour – For Members Only

## **Welcome New & Returning Members**

Susan Fumerton  
Jean Hutchison  
Denise Minns

Diane Spencer  
Pat Thomas

## **Garden Maintenance – Volunteers Needed**

The Horticultural Society plants and maintains Uxbridge public gardens at the Train Station, Library (2), Cenotaph and Seniors' Centre. After the initial planting is done, we need volunteers to weed and maintain the gardens throughout the summer.

These volunteers work in groups of 3 – 4 for two-week periods in which they make the rounds of the gardens 2 or 3 times to ensure the gardens are looking their best.

I'm looking for people that can help out from mid-summer through September for a few hours.

If you are a person who likes to get your hands dirty and meet/enjoy the company of like-minded people, please give me a call or e-mail me. Your help would be much appreciated.

*Agnes Croxford*

(416) 300-5788  
acroxford@gmail.com

## **Plant and Bake Sale**

Our **Annual Plant and Bake Sale** on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> was a tremendous success and a lot of fun! This year we changed the location of this event to the H.H. Goode & Son Parking Lot and the day from Saturday to Sunday. This proved to be a far superior location to our previous one by the parkette, both in terms of room and amount of traffic. As it was held on Sunday, we also benefited from being close to the Farmers' Market at the Second Wedge Brewery. The big bonus was the incredibly good early summer weather!

Many of our members contributed a large variety of plants and baked goods, and we would sincerely like to thank you for your contributions and assistance. We completely sold out of baked goods and also sold most of the plants. From personally helping at the baked goods table, I was amazed at how quickly everything sold, in particular pies and tarts.

The final tally on the Plant Sale was \$1,164.00 and the Bake Sale \$169.30, for a total of **\$1,333.30**.

## **May Flower Show Results**

**Angie Andruss** came in first with 116 points; she also won **Best Spring Flowering Bulb** and **Best Tulip**. Second place goes to **Karen Vanderlee** with 62 points, and in third place we have **Joyce Brown** with 53 points.

They were followed by **Ena Wassenaar** (25), **Ruth Tong** and **Debbie Watson** (18), **Heather Bayliss** (16), **Cathy Van Hezewijk** (10), **Stella Zellen** (11), **Chris Page** (7), and **Louise Sanders** (2).

Thanks to **Agnes Croxford** and **Ruth Tong** for helping with the judge. What a great show in spite of the weather! Thank you everyone!

*Yvonne*

## **Tulips Groups 5 through 9**

We started out describing the 15 different tulip groups in last month's newsletter. Tulips are assigned to one of the 15 groups based on their individual characteristics – shape, their “ancestors” and flowering season. This month, Tulip groups 5 – 9 are described below. (These descriptions are taken directly from The Amsterdam Tulip Museum.)

### **Group 5 – Single Late Group**

This is a large tulip group. The flowers are on the smaller side and rounded. The stems grow to approximately 60 cm (24 inches) tall and flower in mid-to-late May. The famous black tulip ‘Queen of the Night’ belongs to this group, as do ‘Maureen’, ‘Menton’ and ‘Sorbet’.

### **Group 6 – Lily Flowered**

These are slender, beautiful flowers with pointed tips that flare outwards; generally thought of as one of the most beautiful and recognizable group of tulips. Heights vary but many are generally in the 50 – 60 cm (20 – 24 inches) tall range. They are mid-to-late season flowering, ranging from late April well into May. Examples of well known group 6 tulips include ‘Ballade’, ‘Ballerina’ and ‘White Triumphator’.

### **Group 7 – Fringed**

Fringed tulips are one of the newer developments in tulip breeding, with many being a variation on well-known cultivars. Their flowering time is late April to mid-May, and are characterized by petal edges that appear crimped. They vary in height from 40 – 60 cm (16 – 24 inches). Examples include ‘Blue Heron’, ‘Maja’ and ‘Red Hat’.

### **Group 8 – Viridiflora**

The unique aspect about Viridiflora tulips is that when they first open, they are almost entirely green and then gradually a second colour appears. They vary in height between 30 – 50 cm (12 – 20 inches), flowering quite late in the spring season – usually late May. This group of tulips is also said to be long-lasting compared to a lot of the other groups. Examples include ‘China Town’, ‘Artist’ and ‘Spring Green’.

### **Group 9 – Rembrandt**

The Rembrandt group is known as the flamed or “broken” tulip group. However, the intricate patterns on this group of tulips are due to infection by a virus known as the “Tulip breaking virus”. Because this virus spreads to other tulips very easily, tulips in this group are mainly grown in historic collections or by specialist societies. ‘Zomerschoon’ is the best-known variety in this group.

### **A Poem to June**

*“Far up in the deep blue sky,  
Great White Clouds are Floating By;  
All the World is Dressed in Green;  
Many Happy Birds are Seen,  
Roses Bright and Sunshine Clear  
Show that lovely June is here.”*

F.G. Sanders



*A few pictures from our 2018 Plant & Bake Sale, above*



*Above left: Flower show entries for "Houseplant in Bloom" & "Houseplant Grown for Foliage"*

*Above right: Flower show entries for "Just Make Me Happy" & "Little Things"*



*Left: Paul Oliver's Wild Birding Display of Products*