



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

May 2018 - Series 15, Volume 2

In this Newsletter

- 2018 Society Seeds
- Upcoming Events
- Welcome New & Returning Members
- Giveaway Table
- Seed Starting Workshop
- Plant and Bake Sale – May 27th
- Tulips Groups 1 through 4
- 2018 District 17 Annual General Meeting
- Seed Voyage
- Photos

2018 Society Seeds

As a reminder, our Society Seeds for 2018 are:

- Flower: **Marigold Garland Orange**
- Vegetable: **Turnip Purple Prince**
- Herb: **French Tarragon**

Please remember to pick up your French Tarragon plug at this month's meeting, and if you are unable to attend, ask someone to pick it up for you. It is only available this month!

If you missed the April meeting or are a new member as of this month, you can pick up your seeds at the Member Registration Desk.

Dear Fellow Gardeners:

It's no wonder as Canadians, we appear to be weather-obsessed and few discussions go by without reference to our crazy weather. And in this regard, this year has certainly not disappointed us. Ice pellets, snow, heavy rainfall, cold, warm – we have had it all right into April. Hopefully we will be rewarded with better spring, summer and fall weather. Fingers crossed!

Conrad Richter's presentation last meeting was very interesting and gave food for thought regarding what types of plants we would not have gracing our gardens and open spaces if today's invasive species guidelines had been in place over the years.

This month's speaker, **Paul Oliver** of the Urban Nature Store, is always a most entertaining and educational speaker, and a wealthy source of information regarding our feathered friends. We are avid feeders of birds at my house, so I am keen to hear Paul's presentation and have a few questions that he can help me with.

Our annual Plant & Bake Sale is upcoming at the end of this month. We hope you can contribute and on page 2 of this newsletter, we have included details regarding the sale.

We hope that you have had a chance to review our beautiful Yearbook in more detail and that you will consider participating in our various flower and vegetable shows, photo contest, our Garden Tour, and other activities. It's a great Club and we are glad you are here and part of it!

Sandee

Upcoming Events

- **May 9th** : Guest Speaker: **Paul Oliver**, Urban Nature Store Topic: "Birds"
- **May 27th**: **Plant & Bake Sale**, H.H.Goode & Son Parking Lot, Brock Street West
- **June 13th**: Guest Speaker: **Dan Cooper** Topic: "Gardening from a Hammock"

Welcome New & Returning Members

Barbara Bound
James Co
Carol Guinane
Clinton Harper
Linda McNab

Ivan Pedersen
Maja Pedersen
Peggy Sargent
Bev Tooley
Jo Treasure

Returning

Stephanie Davidson
Georgette Morris

Giveaway Table

At each month's meeting, we have a table in the hall known as "the Giveaway Table". If you as a member have any gently used gardening related items you don't use anymore and you think they may be of interest to one of your fellow gardeners, you can bring them in and put them on this table.

At the end of the meeting, please check and see if someone has found use for your item(s), and if not and the item(s) are still there, please remember to take it back home with you.

Seed Starting Workshop

On the 18th of April, we got our seed starting workshop underway. The weather was so bad with the ice storm that we changed the date and the place as well. We met at **Yvonne, Chris and Gerda's** house. It was great because they too had a perfect spot for our demos. **Rose Sharrard** and **I** enjoyed talking with the ten participants. **Rose** even made fantastic snacks for us. We hope everyone learned something useful. Thanks to everyone who helped make it a success.

Sharon Bognar

Plant and Bake Sale

Our **Annual Plant and Bake Sale** is a fun, very well attended event, and a great fundraiser for our Club. This year the Sale is **Sunday, May 27th** and will be held at the **H.H. Goode & Son Parking Lot, at 125 Brock Street West.** Please note that the day and the location are a change from previous years.

The success of this event is dependent on the participation of our members. As you are cleaning up your gardens, splitting plants or discarding plants you no longer want, please pot them up for the Plant Sale. If you can go on-line, find a picture of the plant and include it (and any relevant information, i.e., full sun, moisture, etc.), that would be helpful and much appreciated. Plants will be priced by our Plant Sale volunteers as they are delivered.

We would also appreciate your baked goods for the Bake Sale. Popular items are loaves, pies, squares and tarts. Items such as squares, tarts and cookies are generally packaged in groups of 6 or 12. Items will be priced by our Bake Sale volunteers as they are delivered.

Your plant and bake sale contributions can be dropped off before 9:00 a.m. (preferably earlier as we always have keen customers before 9:00), the morning of the sale, at H.H. Goode & Son's parking lot. If that is not possible, please see Christiana to make alternate arrangements.

Although we have a good turnout every year, this year we expect a fair bit more traffic and "customers", due to the timing and location. We are right by the Uxbridge Farmers' Market at The Second Wedge, which opens the Sunday of the May long weekend.

We are always appreciative of your time to help with the Sale. If you are able to assist, please contact Christiana.

Tulip Groups 1 through 4

Over the past few centuries, tulip growers (particularly the Dutch) introduced new and different forms of tulips. This led to the development of a classification system of 15 different tulip groups. Tulips are assigned to one of these groups based on their individual characteristics – shape, their “ancestors” and flowering season. Over the next four newsletters, I will cover four (4) groups each month. Hopefully, this will help you in deciding which of these groups will work best for your garden for the next and subsequent spring seasons.

These descriptions are taken directly from The Amsterdam Tulip Museum.

Group 1 – Single Early

Selections in this group have relatively large, round flowers on short (up to 40 cm/16 inches) stems with neat foliage. They are shorter than many other tulips and so, many are ideal for use in pots. Their flowering period starts around the beginning of April. Examples include: ‘Christmas Dream’, ‘Couleur Cardinal. and ‘Princess Irene’.

Group 2 – Double Early

These are double-flowered tulips and a shorter and bloom a bit later than Group 1. The flowers are longer lasting which makes them ideal for container use. Examples include: ‘Peach Blossom’, ‘Monte Carlo’ and ‘Abba’.

Group 3 – Triumph

These are robust tulips, typically flowering in late April. They originate from hybrids of early flowering cultivars (Group 1) and late flowering cultivars (Group 5). They are the groups that varies the most and include compact, rounded flowers to flowers with a longer, semi-flared shape. They all have sturdy stems and reach a height of 40 – 50 cm (16 – 20 inches). Examples include: ‘Don Quichotte’, ‘Gavota’, ‘Negrita’ and ‘Shirley’.

Group 4 – Darwin Hybrid

This group flowers mid-season (later April) and originates from hybrids of Darwin tulips and various other species. They have long-lasting, long-flowering large flowers on tall stems (up to 60 cm/24inches) and do much better in the garden than in pots. Examples include: ‘Ad Rem’, ‘Daydream’ and ‘Parade’.

2018 District 17 Annual General Meeting

The OHA District 17 Annual General Meeting (hosted by the Bowmanville Horticultural Society) was held April 21st, with 11 of our members attending. **Denis Flanagan** was the entertaining and interesting morning session guest speaker, followed by **Fred Archibald** of Archibald Orchards and Estate Winery as the afternoon session speaker.

Lee Valley hosted a bee-nest making workshop which was attended by **Christiana Carter** and **Rose Sharrard**, who really enjoyed the fun and educational workshop.

And our congratulations go out to Rick Causton who was installed as the District 17 Director of the Board of Directors. Congratulations Rick!!

The AGM is an interesting and fun event, and a great chance to meet and mingle with members from other horticultural societies. We will announce next year’s meeting date as soon as we have the information, we will let you know and invite you to consider attending.

Seed Voyage

At last month's meeting, Shawn Sowten introduced us to "Seed Voyage". The goal of Seed Voyage is "to connect local vegetable growers and eaters through a simple online marketplace that gives everyone convenient access to the best homegrown produce in your local community".

With benefits to both growers and eaters, Seed Voyage is an interesting concept that is another take on eating produce grown locally.

To check out this concept and the on-line app, go to: www.seedvoyage.com.



Great turnout for our April meeting



Conrad Richter – "Herbs have rights too"



Bench at Seniors' Centre, donated by the Uxbridge Horticultural Society



Waiting for these beauties to surface

"Long, stormy spring-time, wet contentious April, winter chilling the very lap of May; but at length the season of summer does come."

... Thomas Carlyle