



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

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Yearbook Cover Photo Contest

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos for the 2019 Flower of the Year – the ***Hydrangea***. Please make sure you have a look at all the submissions at our meeting this week and vote on your favorite. The photo with the most votes will grace our 2019 Yearbook Cover. All submissions will be included in other publications – the bookmark, within the Yearbook itself, on our website and/or on social media.

Thank you to ***Yvonne*** for once again organizing this contest (and being the first one to enjoy all these beautiful photographic submissions)!

Dear Fellow Gardeners:

Well, we are all now back to our fall routines after a lovely summer season. Our gardens are as beautiful as any time of year, and our vegetables gardens are no doubt yielding the fruits of our summer labours. My CSA basket overflows each week with beautiful organic produce for which we are very grateful.

We are all in for a particularly superb treat with this month's speaker – Lizzie Matheson. Lizzie is an outstanding designer, as well as an incredibly personable, knowledgeable and entertaining presenter. I urge you not to miss Lizzie's presentation, and of course our always wonderful monthly flower show.

On our August vacation in Western Canada, I was fortunate enough to spend a day in one of Vancouver's amazing botanical gardens – VanDusen B.G. That got me thinking about some of the other beautiful and different gardens I have visited over the years and thought I would compile a list by province in case you were heading to one of the many locales in the near future. I was pleasantly surprised to find that this list is much larger than I originally expected, so instead on page 3, I have suggested how you can check out the many gardens around our beautiful country via the Internet.

Please see Christiana's note on page 2 of this newsletter regarding our November meeting and have a wonderful month!

Sandee

Upcoming Events

- **September 7th- 9th:** ***Uxbridge Fall Fair***, held in Elgin Park
- **September 12th:** Guest Speaker: ***Lizzie Matheson*** Topic: ***"Fall Theme Design"***
- **October 10th:** Guest Speaker: ***Tara Nolan*** Topic: ***"Raised Bed Revolution"***

Welcome New Members

Shelia Disley

August Flower Show Results

Sharon Bognar came in first place with 149 points, **Angie Andruss** in second with 120 points, and **Joyce Brown** came in third with 110 points.

They are followed by **Rose Sharrard** (75), **Pam Roycroft** (28), **Ena Wassenaar** (22), **Yvonne de Ruiter** (20), **Ruth Tong** (8), **Kathleen Ravitch** (6) and **Denise Minn** (4). **Best Design, Best Gladiolus and Best Vegetable** go to **Sharon Bognar**. **Best Daylily** goes to **Angie Andruss**.

Thank you **Heather Bayliss** and **Ann Broughton** for going around with the judge to tally the points. A beautiful show, as always! Thanks everyone!

Yvonne

November Meeting

Members, their spouses/partners and friends are invited to our special November meeting – “**Craft and Sponsor Sale for early Christmas shopping**”.

Our sponsors are all invited to come and inform us of their products and/or services and what they have to offer. And our members are invited to show off their talents and hobbies by selling their crafts.

We will be catering food and dessert so we need to know who is coming!! There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Table at both this month’s meeting and October’s meeting where you can indicate your attendance as well as the number of guests. Please note that for the November meeting there will be no \$2.00 payment, no door prizes and no giveaway table.

The last time we had this type of event was in 2015 and it was a lot of fun! We look forward to seeing you and your friends/family at the November meeting.

Christiana

Local Food Month

September is “Local Food Month” in Uxbridge. This is the inaugural year and our local food - from farms and markets to restaurants and breweries - will be highlighted through a series of events, activities and places to dine.

If you enjoy dining out, then you can pick up a Local Food Passport and try the different Local Food Celebration dishes at local restaurants. You get stamps for each one you try and for each stamp received, you receive a raffle ticket to win prizes donated by local businesses. Other events include a Corn Fest and Shopping Extravaganza on Saturday, September 15th in downtown Uxbridge, a Special Local Food Celebration at the Farmers’ Market on Sunday, September 16th, a Farm to Train event on September 29th, among others.

For more information, check out the Uxbridge local newspapers or visit:

www.discoveruxbridge.ca/localfood

Canada's Botanical Gardens

In addition to the more famous Canadian botanical gardens that we think of such as Butchart Gardens in Victoria, the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington and Montreal Botanical Gardens in Montreal, there are many others in all of our provinces that are most worthy of a visit – certainly way too many to try and list here. There are numerous sources of that information on the internet: enter “botanical gardens in Canada” into Google and you will get many different sources. Also entering “botanical gardens in X” (X being any city or province you are interested in) will produce more specific results. Also simply looking up specific gardens and viewing their websites and photos, is a great way to visually “walk” through gardens we might not otherwise get to visit.

Photo Contest Reminder

Just a reminder to bring your photos to our October meeting for submission to the annual Photo Contest. On page 28 of our current Yearbook, you will find the details of the photo classes for this year's **Photo Contest**, along with the Rules for Submission. A table for the Photo Contest entries will be set up at the October meeting.

We are still looking for someone to take over the coordination role of the **Photo Contest**. It is a once a year event – please speak to **Yvonne** for details if you can help out with managing the **Photo Contest** next year.

Tulip Planting Tips

Now that you have purchased all of those beautiful tulips, kept them dry and well ventilated and selected your planting sites (sunny as tulips do not do very well in shady areas), it is time to select where and how populated you want each site to be, and prepare your soil.

Soil Preparation

- Make sure you have selected sunny sites where the soil drainage is good
- Loosen up the soil about 12 – 14 inches deep
- Add compost or manure as you dig
- Purchase some fertilizer specific to planting bulbs – usually a 5-10-5 mix – and add it in as well
- Mix everything together well

Planting the Bulbs

- The best time to plant is when the temperatures get a bit cooler – planting too early may result in some bulbs springing to life and sending up shoots – I would suggest mid- October to mid-November
- The hole for each bulb should be three times as deep as the bulb is high. So if the bulb is 3” tall, dig your hole 9” deep. Smaller bulb, i.e., 2”, then 6” deep. And so on....
- Pointy side up!!
- Cover with a bit of soil and water thoroughly! Then cover with the rest of the soil and water again.
- Apply a good covering of mulch.

Many are concerned because tulip bulbs can be a favorite of squirrels, chipmunks and voles. One way to address this problem is to lay and stake down, some type of wire mesh, such as chicken wire, over the area where you plant your bulbs. Old window screening laid on top also works but you should remove it after the ground freezes, otherwise the bulbs will have difficulty coming through that screening in the spring. Finally, make sure you clean up all “evidence” of your bulb planting, i.e., bulb casings, etc., that could tip off your friendly garden pests that bulbs were planted in the area.



Left: Garden at the Seniors' Centre
 Below: Flowers and beans from August Show



Below: Vegetables from August Show
 Below right: Design – A Toast (using 2 wine glasses)



Two of the Uxbridge Horticulture Society sponsored awards at the Uxbridge Fall Fair
 Left: 1st place "Farm Gate to Dinner Plate"
 Right: Highest Points Classes 1 – 48
 3rd place overall: **Angie Andruss**



"When I go into the garden, I forget everything. It's uncomplicated in my world of gardening. It's trial and error, really. If something doesn't work, it comes out, and you start all over again."

... Emilia Fox