



# Uxbridge Horticultural Society



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



## "Your Local Garden Club News"



*The Year of the Hydrangea - photograph by Sandee Basten-Snell*

April 2019 - Series 16, Volume 1

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### Giveaway Table

Each month at our meetings, we have a "**Giveaway Table**" located in the lobby as you come into the Seniors' Centre. Members are welcome to bring in gardening-related items they no longer use but that may be useful to other members. You are welcome to help yourself to anything on the table that may be of use to you or a friend.

**However, please check the table before your leave and if the items you brought in are still there, please remember to take them back with you.**

### Dear Fellow Gardeners:

Hello everyone! We are very pleased to welcome you back after that nasty, icy winter. And welcome to anyone joining us for the first time.

This year we are celebrating the **Hydrangea**. I am personally excited to bring you all kinds of helpful and interesting information on the Hydrangea as it is my absolutely favorite shrub!

We are starting the season with some very helpful information from our guest speaker, **Dr. Ellen Chin, Chiropractor**. Many gardening related injuries and strains are experienced by gardeners particularly at the start of the season as we eagerly take on our spring gardening chores.

Thank you once again to **Yvonne de Ruiter** for another beautiful yearbook and bookmark!

Your 2019 Executive group has been working diligently to ensure as good an experience as possible for our members through our meetings and activities. We welcome any suggestions, comments and/or feedback you may have. Please feel free to either speak with any member of the Executive or send your comments by e-mail to either **Pam or myself**.

Again, thank you for joining us this year and we look forward to another great gardening season!

*Sandee*

### Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>:

Guest speaker: **Dr. Ellen Chin** Topic: "**Gardening and a Healthy Back & Body**"

Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>:

Guest speakers: **Rose Sharrard, Mirela Lazaroiu & Sharon Bognar**

Topic: **How to Start Plants from Seed**"; Flower Show

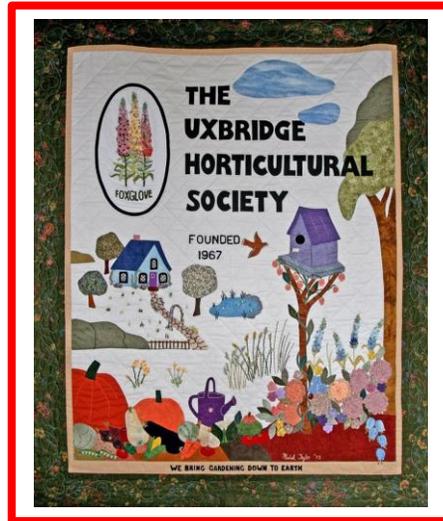
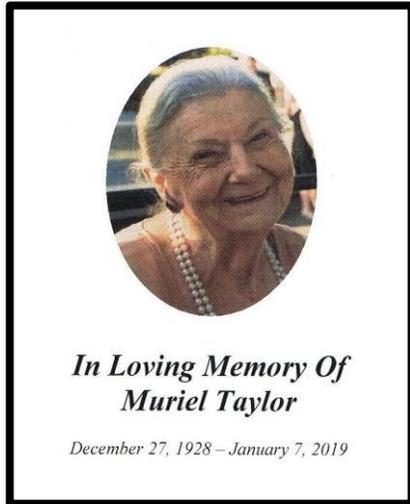
Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>:

**PLANT & BAKE SALE** Location: H.H Goode & Son Parking Lot, Brock Street West

## **In Memorium – Muriel Taylor**

We are sorry to announce that **Muriel Taylor** passed away earlier this year. **Muriel** was a long-time member of the Uxbridge Horticultural Society – an amazing gardener and an exceptional quilter. The beautiful quilt that graces our meetings was made by, and gifted to, our Society by **Muriel**. **Muriel** was pre-deceased by her husband John as well as her daughter, our fellow member and former President of our Society, **Vicki Taylor Scott**.

Muriel is survived by daughters Mary Hunt and Tracy Wilson and their families, as well as extended family in England.



## **2019 Executive**

We warmly welcome back **Pam Kuiper** (President) and **Mirela Larazoiu** to the Executive, new Executive members **Gill Powers** and **Pauline Slade**, and returning Executive members **Rick Causton** (District Director), **Rose Doyle** (Secretary), **Debbie Watson** (Treasurer), **Angie Andruss**, **Joyce Brown**, **Agnes Croxford**, **Bev Latva**, **Christine Page**, and myself (Vice President).

The Executive Group is responsible for planning, organizing and carrying out the activities and events of the Uxbridge Horticultural Society, along with the support of our many member volunteers. If you are interested in joining the Executive, please speak with Pam, Rick or myself. Humbly speaking, we are rather a nice, fun bunch of people and would love for you to join us.

### **Pictured Left to Right:**

**Mirela Larazoiu, Rick Causton, Pauline Slade, Gill Powers, Bev Latva, Debbie Watson, Agnes Croxford, Christine Page and Angie Andruss.**

**Absent in photo:** **Pam Kuiper, Rose Doyle, Joyce Brown and Sandee Basten-Snell.**



## **2019 Society Seeds**

Thank you to **Angie Andruss** for once again coordinating the Society Seeds and plug for 2019. We have some great plants to look forward to growing this year. The seeds will be available at the first meeting in April and the plug at the May meeting.

### **Annual Flower: Sunflower – Autumn Beauty Mix – Heirloom**

Tall plants are literally covered with 5” blooms, 20 or more per plant. A very showy mixture of colours – golden yellow, bronze, brown and burgundy. Height – 5 feet.



### **Vegetable: Tomato – Chef’s Choice Orange**

75 Days. F1 Hybrid. Bright orange. 10 oz. Mild, sweet and firm – flat globe-shaped fruit. Orange interior.



### **Herb: Garden Sage – Salvia officinalis**

Perennial in Zones 4 – 9. Fragrant greyish leaves are used fresh and dried to flavour meats, dressings and sauces. Pale blue flower. 18” high.



## **Plant and Bake Sale**

Our **Annual Plant and Bake Sale** is scheduled for **Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**. We will be holding the sale in the **H.H. Goode & Son parking lot** again this year. Many thanks to H.H. Goode for allowing us to use their property – it is an ideal location for this sale.

As you are tidying up your gardens this spring and/or dividing plants, please pot up those you no longer want for the plant sale. Please ensure that you mark them (to the best of your ability) as to what the plant is, a picture if possible, and any brief information that would be useful to a buyer, i.e., sun/shade, moist/dry soil, etc.

Your baking contributions would also be much appreciated – pies, tarts, loaves and cookies are very popular and go quickly, especially perennial favorites like butter tarts, lemon and other fruit squares, fruit pies, brownies, etc. We will provide packaging details and drop-off information in the May newsletter, closer to the sale date.

***“Real Gardeners buy at least ten thousand plants in the course of a lifetime without having the least idea of where they will put any of them when they get home.”***

*Courtesy of gardencrossings.com*

***Anyone recognize themselves ???***

## *The Hydrangea*

The Hydrangea is an extremely beautiful, hardy and long lasting shrub with varieties and sizes for every garden – small to large, shady to sunny. It is a genus (meaning class or group) of approximately 75 species of hydrangeas, native to Asia and the Americas. There are 5 main categories in North America:

- **Bigleaf hydrangea – *Hydrangea macrophylla***

- Mophead
- Lacecap
- Mountain

- Native to Japan; Large Blue, Pink, Purple and White Flowers; Hardiness Zones 4 – 8

- **Panicle Hydrangea – *Hydrangea paniculata***

- Native to China and Japan; Large Cone-shaped blooms typically White and Pink, Hardiness Zones 4 – 7

- **Smooth Hydrangea – *Hydrangea arborescens***

- Native to the United States; usually White and Green blooms; Hardiness Zones 4 – 9

- **Oakleaf Hydrangea – *Hydrangea quercifolia***

- Native to the United States; Oak-shaped leaves; turning orange and red in the fall; Hardiness Zones 4 – 7

- **Climbing Hydrangea – *Hydrangea petiolaris***

- Native to Asia; Large fragrant flowers; Climbing vine; Hardiness Zones 4 – 8

Each category has its own specific varieties, preferred positioning in the garden, specific uses (i.e., hedges, accent plants, medicinal), pruning requirements and timing. However, the beauty of hydrangeas is that, despite their versatility and showmanship, they are not overly picky about where they are planted. Newer varieties, which we will explore in subsequent newsletters, bring even longer blooming, disease-resistant, sun and cold tolerant, plants – all the while maintaining the ageless beauty of this plant.



**Christmas Potluck  
December 2018**