



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

September 2019 - Series 16, Volume 6

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Butterfly Follow-up

At our July meeting, we had the wonderful and entertaining presentation by **Carol Pasternak** on butterflies. A number of you took on the challenge to take home a chrysalis or two, nurture them and watch these beautiful creatures hatch. In last month's newsletter, we showed you **Angie's** hatched black swallowtail. A number of you have mentioned to me that you have also had successful hatches. Please send me the pictures of your butterflies and I will include them in next month's newsletter. For those of you who have named them, please include their names and who/what you named them after.

Dear Fellow Gardeners:

It's hard to believe that we are already in September of another year. The kids are back to school, farmers' markets and produce departments are starting to display late summer/early fall produce, and garden centres are filling up with mums, ornamental kale, pansies, grasses and many others. How fast the seasons go – all the more important to enjoy each day as it comes.

Our beautiful town (and surrounding hamlets) has received more than its fair share of movie moments this year. In addition to the great success of the show Schmitt's Creek filmed in Goodwood the past number of years, there have been movie shoots held at the Uxbridge Train Station, in Elgin Park and at the Library, and include some of the gardens that we as a Club look after.

Our design for the Children's Garden at the Library has been approved and we will start planting this fall, finalizing the Garden in the spring of 2020. We are very excited about this project and hope that the community and especially the families that go by there are too.

The photos submitted for the 2020 Yearbook Cover will be laid out at this month's meeting. Please go by, enjoy the beautiful submissions and vote for your favourite.

Enjoy Fall's generous bounty and support our local farmers!

Sandee

Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday, September 11th:** Guest Speaker: **Wayne Hingston** Topic: "**Orchids and Hoyas**"; Flower Show; Yearbook Cover Photo Contest
- **Wednesday, October 9th:** Guest Speakers: **Gini Sage & Elaine Davidson** Topic: "**Herbs around the World**"; Flower Show; Photo Contest

August Flower Show Results

Sharon Bognar came in first place with 168 points, **Angie Andruss** in second with 123 points, and **Rose Sharrard** came in third with 93 points. They are followed by **Kathy Van Hezewijk** (65), **Ann Broughton** (49), **Joyce Brown** (46), **Pam Roycroft** (27), **Pauline Slade** (4), and **Denise Minns** and **Ena Wassenaar** (3).

Best Design was won by **Kathy Van Hezewijk**, **Best Gladiolus** and **Best Vegetable** go to **Sharon Bognar** and **Best Daylily** goes to **Ann Broughton**. WOW, what a show!!

Thank you **Agnes Croxford**, for going around with the judge to tally the points!

Yvonne



Uxbridge Fall Fair

The 154th Annual Uxbridge Fall Fair was held this weekend and we hope you had a chance to come out and visit the many events and exhibitions at the Fair. We had a great showing in the Horticultural/Agricultural building by some of our members. Please see next month's newsletter for flower show and design results and photos.

Photo Contest Reminder – Correction

My apologies regarding the incorrect information in last month's newsletter regarding the Photo Contest submission date.

The details regarding Photo Contest entries can be found on page 28 of this year's Yearbook and there are 10 Entry Classes to choose from. One entry per class.

The Photo Contest entries are to be brought to our October 9th Meeting, and submitted to Lyn May.

2021 Flower of the Year

The **LILAC** has been selected as our Flower of the Year for 2021. Photo submissions will be due at the end of August, 2020 – date to be confirmed.

Ontario Judging Standards Book

The new and revised edition of the Ontario Judging Standards Book is now out and available. Please let **Yvonne de Ruiter** know if you would like to purchase a copy.

Climbing Hydrangea

While most of us are familiar with some of the various types of Hydrangea shrubs, the *Hydrangea petiolaris* (**Climbing Hydrangea**) is a little less known than some of the more popular varieties. This species of Hydrangea is native to the woodlands of Japan, China and Korea, and is also found in the Siberian area of Far East Russia.

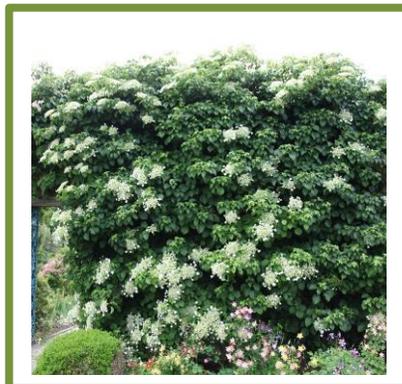
The **Climbing Hydrangea** has large, fairly fragrant clusters of white flowers that bloom in late spring/early summer. These flowers grow on hearty vines that have dark green, heart shaped leaves. The slow growing **Climbing Hydrangea** can grow 30 to 80 feet but tolerates pruning to a reasonable size (I keep mine at about 8 feet.) Their climbing is interesting in that they climb by two methods – the first one is twining vines that wrap around the structure and the second is aerial roots that grow along the main stem and cling to vertical surfaces. (See photos below left)

This hydrangea is happy growing in our gardening zone; preferring a rich, moist soil that drains well and either full sun or partial shade. As with many other plants, a layer of mulch around the base help retain moisture and keeps weeds down.

Pruning follows the same basic rules: prune to remove dead, diseased or damaged branches and remove any crossed branches that rub against each other. Pruning timing is late spring or early summer, **immediately** after flowering.

The one thing to keep in mind is that the **Climbing Hydrangea** usually takes much longer to establish itself than other varieties of hydrangeas, so patience is required if you grow this plant for its flowers.

Climbing Hydrangeas can also be grown as shrubs but with so many gorgeous varieties of hydrangea shrubs to choose from, this one may be best left for locations where you need a climbing plant.



Gardening Tasks – September

Landscape Ontario suggests the following as September gardening tasks:

- Collect seeds and herbs for drying
- Add compost and/or manure to garden beds
- Cover pools and water fountains with netting if you have a substantial amount of falling leaves from nearby trees
- If you have moved any houseplants outside for the summer, check them carefully for pests, clean them and then gradually start to move them indoors.
- Wash and bring in any clay pots
- **Pull weeds before they go to seed to reduce next year's weed problems**
- **Plant new trees and shrubs – they ideally need at least 6 weeks prior to frost to establish themselves**
- Purchase and start planting spring flowering bulbs **keeping notes on where you have planted what**
- Compost any summer flowering pots/flowers that are on their way out
- Start a list of tasks required for late winter/early spring



Top left: **William Grainger with Sharon Bognar**
 Top middle: **Geraniums**
 Top right: **Floral Design**
 Above left: **Agnes Croxford with Children's Garden Design**
 Above right: **Floral Design**

Below left: **Gladiolus**
 Below middle: **Sunflowers**
 Below right: **Vegetables**



"It is a sad moment when the first phlox appears. It is the amber light indicating the end of the great burst of early summer and suggesting that we must now start looking forward to autumn. Not that I have any objection to autumn as a season, full of its own beauty; but I just cannot bear to see another summer go, and I recoil from what the first hint of autumn means."

... Vita Sackville-West