



Volunteer Committee Expo at our November General Meeting

November 5, 2019 - 7 pm to 8 pm

The doors to this evening's General Meeting open 30 minutes earlier than usual, providing for a one hour period to enjoy catered refreshments, socialization, and visiting of booths circling the room promoting the activities of our many volunteer committees. This is a great event for members interested in exploring volunteer opportunities and connecting with committee chairs and members.

Bring your friends as this evening will be free to guests and visitors. Maybe we can entice them to become new members and join a committee. And hopefully, some of our current members will be interested in volunteering as well.

Your Board of Directors is composed of both elected and appointed members of the Society in good standing.

(Continued on page 10)

DON'T FORGET Renew your MEMBERSHIP Now!

- ☒ Renew directly on-line (our preferred method - see page 12 for instructions)
- ☒ Download the form on-line and mail in or bring to the registration table
- ☒ Pick up a form at our next general meeting

Individual Membership:

If renewed on or before December 31, 2019 - \$25.00

If renewed on January 1, 2020 or later - \$30.00

****NEW** - two-year renewal option for \$50.00

Family Membership

(2 adults residing at the same address + children 16 years of age and under):

If renewed on or before December 31, 2019 - \$40.00

If renewed on January 1, 2020 or later - \$50.00

****NEW** - two-year renewal option for \$80.00



November /December 2019

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UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Check the What's Coming Up section on page 3 for all the details.



The Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society is an active member of District 15 of the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA)





Camille's Commentary

An overwhelming sensation of gratitude has enveloped me as I celebrate Thanksgiving, surrounded by loved ones. To quote an excerpt from Wikipedia, "Thanksgiving has been officially celebrated as an annual holiday in Canada since November 6, 1879. On January 31, 1957, the Governor General of Canada, Vincent Massey, issued a proclamation stating: "A Day of General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed – to be observed on the second Monday in October."

We are extremely fortunate here in the City of Richmond Hill to be able to partake in such bountiful harvests. As we celebrate the ancient tradition of Thanksgiving, I would like to express my gratitude to the volunteers of the Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society who selflessly donate their valuable time and resources.

Please take note that the November 5th General Meeting will begin at 7 pm for a special event whereby members can visit the "committee tables" to gain a better understanding of the mandate of each committee. The Board will supplement the goodies supplied by the Refreshment Committee.

In the Algonquin language, "Meegwetch" which means "thank you."

Camille Menon Warner, President



The Garden Post is a bi-monthly newsletter of the Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society

President:

Camille Warner

Newsletter Editor:

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Email Distribution:

Diane Wilmot

Mailing and Meeting Distribution:

Rahe Richards

Photographic Convenor:

Vacant

Location of Meetings:

McConaghy Centre
10100 Yonge Street
Richmond Hill, ON

Annual Membership Dues:

Single \$25

Family \$40 (2 adults residing at the same address + children 16 years of age and under)

General Meetings:

1st Tuesday of the month
Refreshments at 7:30 pm
Meeting starts at 8 pm
(February to November)

Annual General Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of January

Mailing Address:

PO Box 61559 RPO Hillcrest Mall
Richmond Hill ON L4C 0C9

E-mail Address:

RHinfo@gardenontario.org

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Facebook:

www.facebook.com/
RichmondHillGHS



MINI Red Bag Raffle

at the November 5th meeting

Visit our table at the back of the room between 7:00 and 8:00 to buy your tickets and check out the prizes.

Tickets

11 tickets \$5

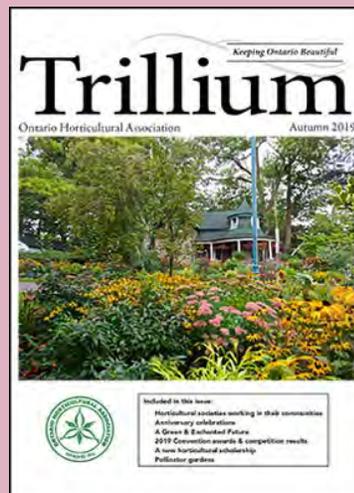
26 tickets \$10

NEW TICKET SYSTEM THIS YEAR!

Insert your tickets into the red bags of the prizes you hope to win.
Good luck!

Great prizes to be won!

Be sure to check the Garden Ontario website for the Autumn 2019 edition of the Ontario Horticultural Association's newsletter *The Trillium* which is available now at www.gardenontario.org.



WHAT'S COMING UP

Tuesday, November 5, 2019: General Meeting

McConaghy Seniors Centre, 10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Volunteer Expo & Refreshments: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Meeting commences at 8:00 pm

Guest Speaker: Terry Kennedy

Topic: Amazing Orchids

Orchids are a fascinating plant family, having adapted to diverse climatic conditions and pollinators, resulting in an intriguing variety of size, colour and flower form. Terry, who describes her passion for orchids as a “hobby gone wild,” will provide us with an overview of orchid varieties and care.

Terry Kennedy is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society, vice-chair of the American Orchid Society Toronto Judging Centre; and along with her husband Doug, an avid orchid collector and orchid show competitor. Terry and Doug are reachable through their website, www.OrchidsinOurTropics.com.

As an added bonus, and just in time for the holiday season, Terry and Doug will offer a selection of orchids and orchid-growing products for sale at tonight’s meeting.

Tuesday, December 3: Holiday Celebration

The Summit Golf Club

11901 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill ON

Reception: 5:30 pm Buffet Dinner: 6:30 pm

Tuesday, January 14, 2020: Annual General Meeting and Awards

McConaghy Seniors Centre, 10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Refreshments & Social: 7:30 pm

Meeting commences at 8:00 pm

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) includes the election of our 2020 Officers and Directors and presentation of the 2019 Flower Show Awards. This meeting is a great opportunity to discover the breadth and diversity of our all-volunteer organization. Attendance at our Annual General Meeting is free to both members and non-members.

Tuesday, February 4, 2020: General Meeting

McConaghy Seniors Centre, 10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Refreshments & Social: 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm, Meeting commences at 8:00 pm

Guest Speaker: Stefan Webber

Topic: Adventures in Seed Conservation

Our speaker for the evening, Stefan Webber, will share his passion for collecting wild seed and studying the re-assembly of prairie grasslands. His talk hopes to inspire us to ensure the longevity of native species we’ve come to love and share with us the best way to propagate them.

Stefan Webber is a restoration biologist, co-founder and director of Ontario Plant Restoration Alliance and works at St. Williams Nursery & Ecology Centre.

***The Garden Post* Editor Retires**

After four year's of editing *The Garden Post*, this will be my last issue. Unfortunately, as of now, no one has volunteered to step into this role.

I would like to thank all the Hort members who have contributed articles and photographs over the years. Without your contributions, *The Garden Post* would not be the award-winning publication it has turned out to be. A special thank you to Jennifer Wingate for proofreading and Susan Biensch for posting the newsletter on our website and sending out the emails for me.

Many hours go into putting together the newsletter, but it has been a rewarding experience for me. I look forward to spending more time creating behind the sewing machine now instead of the computer. 😊

Hopefully someone will step up to take on the editor role. I am more than willing to help in training on using Microsoft Publisher as that is what I currently use. However, the editor can use whatever program they are more comfortable with.

Lucia Rostirolla



Another Garden Retailer Closes its Doors to the General Public

In Plant Paradise Country Gardens' last newsletter they announced that they have closed to the general public as of August 1, 2019. They will no longer have retail hours that are open to the general public to shop at the nursery or view the gardens.

Owner Lorraine Roberts will continue to grow perennials and has been busy redesigning the botanical gardens. She is now offering a Gardener's Club membership of \$125 annually of which the benefits include:

- Discounts on gardening supplies that make your garden grow better. Fertilizer, worm castings, Root Rescue, gardening tools and so much more
- Members only - wholesale pricing on healthy, organically grown perennials and plant divisions.
- I grow exclusively for you. Choose from our unique, curated list of perennials and plants that are hardy to our growing region. Make a suggestion or request if you need something not on the list. Place your order early for plants and gardening supplies to ensure availability.
- Member's only monthly newsletter that is filled with pertinent gardening information.
- Ongoing support to answer your gardening questions.

THANK YOU to the following members who brought refreshment items to our latest meetings:

In September: **Frances Accardi, Isobel Dietrich, Ketty Pierre-Jerome, Donna Smith, Dinah Gibbs, Jennifer Wingate, Mary Sadeghi, Vera Briggs, Jennifer Pyke.**

In October: **Susan Sauro, Peggy Cheng, Santhosh Pillai, Denise Gervasi, Chris Toleck, Jacky Dedlow, Kimberly Chin, Vera Briggs, Anne Myers**

Please let the refreshments team know when you drop something off so that your contribution may be recognized.

Thank you to **Patricia Read, Greta Van den Bossche, Kathryn Tanguay** and **Linda McAree** for setting up the refreshments table and serving the coffee and tea.

**HELP US BE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY
BY BRINGING YOUR OWN COFFEE MUG OR TEACUP
TO USE AT THE NEXT MEETING**

**A REMINDER THAT THE McCONAGHY CENTRE
IS A PEANUT-FREE FACILITY**



2019 Richmond Hill Blooms Gala

On Thursday, September 19, the City of Richmond Hill hosted an evening of celebration and gardening at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. The evening included a reception with light refreshments, the awards ceremony, and a special presentation by Lorraine Johnson who spoke about "Adventures in Urban Food Growing."

The 2019 Richmond Hill Blooms top three gardens per ward were:

Ward 1:

- 1st 82 Sandbanks Drive
- 2nd 1355 North Lake Road
- 3rd 29 Greyfriars Avenue

Ward 2:

- 1st 301 Axminster Drive
- 2nd 9 Mandel Crescent
- 2nd 222 Devonsleigh Blvd
- 3rd 15 Sussex Avenue

Ward 3:

- 1st 178 Shirley Drive
- 2nd 254 Kimono Crescent
- 3rd 16 Ardmore Crescent

Ward 4:

- 1st 161 Oxford Street
- 2nd 8 Guinevere Court
- 3rd 58 Leisure Lane

Ward 5:

- 1st 35 Josie Drive
- 2nd 9 Greenbelt Crescent
- 2nd 2 Rathfon Crescent
- 3rd 138 Pemberton Road

Ward 6:

- 1st 14 Belinda Court
- 2nd 8 Caymus Street
- 3rd 17 Hazelmere Drive



Photos courtesy of the City of Richmond Hill

New Members

Please welcome
our latest new members
who have joined our Society.

Theo Grigoriadis joined our Society in September and is an intermediate gardener. He is willing to volunteer by assisting with Flower Shows, photographing Meetings, Flower Shows, and Events and volunteering as the need arises .

Connie Sacco also joined our Society in September and is an intermediate gardener who also enjoys reading. She is interested in volunteering as the need arises.

George Otoh joined online in September after learning of our Society through a newspaper article. He is willing to assist with Flower Shows, welcoming new members, volunteering as the need arises and participating as a board member.

Nelly Kotlyar joined our Society in October. She is an intermediate gardener. At this time, she is not interested in volunteering.



A green thumbs up to each of you.

The Garden Post

Deadlines for 2019/2020 Issues

Issue	Deadline Date
Jan/Feb 2020	December 15, 2019
Mar/Apr 2020	February 15, 2020
May/June 2020	April 15, 2020
July/Aug 2020	June 15, 2020

Do you have an original article, poem, or a creative writing piece of a horticultural nature to share with your society? Have you been on a trip recently and visited some beautiful gardens? If so, articles and photos for inclusion in the next edition of *The Garden Post* are due by the deadline dates above.

Articles should be in Word format. Photos and other graphics should be sent as separate files (i.e., not as part of a Word file or email) in high resolution with places and names of people identified, as well as the name of the photographer.

Submissions may be used in the upcoming issue of *The Garden Post* or saved for use in a future issue. Submissions may be used at the discretion of the editor.

As this will be my last year as editor of The Garden Post, please let me know if you are interested in stepping into this role and joining the Communications team.

Thank you,

Lucia Rostirolla,
The Garden Post Editor
luciar_764@hotmail.com
905-773-3580

Save Your Seeds

Jennifer Pyke and Valerie Accardi will be accepting donations of seeds again, for our popular seed sale.

They will not be accepting bulk donations of seeds. Please package them in small envelopes or plastic seed packets available for purchase at Dollarama. A limited supply of these seed packets will be given out at meetings if needed. Please label each envelope or packet clearly with the name, variety and colour if applicable. They will be sold for 40 cents each or 3 for a dollar.

If you have any questions please contact Jennifer Pyke at jenniferpyke@rogers.com.



September 2019

FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

Late Summer Show

Section A:

Cut Specimens

1st	Kevin Dark	103 pts.
2nd	Rahe Richards	55 pts.
3rd	Linda Lynott	54 pts.

Judge's Choice - not awarded

Court of Honour - Linda Lynott - Class 31a

Section B:

Potted Plants

1st	Rahe Richards	28 pts.
2nd	Cathy Nikolaidis	15 pts.
3rd	Linda Lynott	6 pts.

Judge's Choice - Cathy Nikolaidis - Class 36

Court of Honour - Rahe Richards - Class 36

Section C:

Fruits & Vegetables

1st	Joe Celebre	77 pts.
2nd	Joan Bly	15 pts.
3rd	Rahe Richards	10 pts.

Judge's Choice - Joe Celebre - Class 46

Court of Honour - Joe Celebre - Class 46

Court of Honour - Joe Celebre - Class 37

Section D:

Design

1st	Linda Lynott	40 pts.
2nd	Kevin Dark	21 pts.
3rd	Cathy Nikolaidis	16 pts.

Judge's Choice - Kevin Dark - Class 49

Court of Honour - Linda Lynott - Class 53

Section E:

Special Exhibits

1st	Linda Lynott	27 pts.
2nd	Rahe Richards	10 pts.
3rd	Cathy Nikolaidis	8 pts.

Judge's Choice - Linda Lynott - Class 56

Court of Honour - Linda Lynott - Class 55

October 2019

FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

Harvest Show

Section A:

Cut Specimens

1st	Kevin Dark	56 pts.
2nd	Linda Lynott	27 pts.
3rd	Lyne Webb	24 pts.

Judge's Choice - Linda Lynott - Class 6

Court of Honour - Joe Celebre - Class 17

Section B:

Potted Plants

1st	Cathy Nikolaidis	18 pts.
2nd	Linda Lynott	10 pts.

Judge's Choice - not awarded

Court of Honour - Cathy Nikolaidis - Class 29

Section C:

Fruits & Vegetables

1st	Joe Celebre	51 pts.
2nd	Linda Lynott	22.
3rd	Margaret Main	4 pts.

Judge's Choice - not awarded

Court of Honour - Linda Lynott - Class 34

Section D:

Design

1st	Cathy Nikolaidis	18 pts.
2nd	Lyne Webb	14 pts.
3rd	Kevin Dark	2 pts.

Judge's Choice - not awarded

Court of Honour - not awarded

Section E:

Special Exhibits

1st	Cathy Nikolaidis	10 pts.
2nd	Linda Lynott	6 pts.
3rd	Margaret Main	2 pts.

Judge's Choice - not awarded

Court of Honour - not awarded

Richmond Hill Ward 4 EnviroFest 2019

On September 8th, Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society was invited by Councillor David West to participate in his first annual EnviroFest on October 5th by having a booth at the event to engage with the community by answering questions about gardening. Unfortunately, due to the late notice, the Hort was not able to participate. Perhaps next year. Two of our Hort members who are also part of other organizations in our community, and who participated in EnviroFest have written articles about their experience.

Richmond Hill's EnviroFest 2019 and Harmony Garden

By Caterina Liberatore, Artist and Gardener

As gardeners, we are already making a positive impact towards greening our environment. As well as enjoyment for ourselves, we are providing food to wildlife and then there are concerns about climate changes.

On a sunny, crisp, autumn Saturday, October 5th, Richmond Hill had its first EnviroFest event hosted by Councillor David West of Ward 4 and Richmond Hill Environmental Education and Engagement Staff. This event was held at the Mill Pond Park focusing on local environmental issues, as well as profiling the inclusion of the approved Bee City and Mayor's Monarch Pledge for Richmond Hill. EnviroFest had presentations on environmental issues for all residents with fun-themed family activities to create a greener environment.

One of the key highlights was Kate Goodale of the Toronto Region Conservation Authority www.trca.ca who led a guided Nature Walk around the Mill Pond. The other highlight event was a Water Talk by Georgie Horton-Baptiste from Manitou Rapids Rainy River First Nations Community. We had sage smudging and a closure with an Indigenous Water Song.

The Natural Environment Division of the City planted a canoe-garden with pollinator native plants. This canoe is part of the David Suzuki Foundation's 'Butterflyway Project' to protect our pollinators. The canoe-garden is on view just south of the parking lot at Mill and Trench Streets close to the Millennial Garden.

As I came to the event, I saw many exhibitors such as Miller Waste Systems, Healthy Planet, Cobs Bread, Blue Dot, Drawdown Richmond Hill and many other local businesses which were readily available to answer any questions about how residents can make a positive difference with the greening of the environment.

It was good to see Miller Waste Systems which had a good display of the blue box. Many people according to the representative are still confused as to what goes into the blue boxes. It is always important to reiterate the 3 R's: reduce, re-use, recycle. On-going activities are coming up and it is not too late to get involved with the greening of our city.

Drawdown Richmond Hill has a website that offers information and training. See drawdown.org which has a list of solutions to help the environment. We also must take note of upcoming events by [Blue Dot](http://BlueDot.org).



One booth that sparked my interest as a gardener was Native Plants in Claremont from Pickering. Please visit their website at www.nativeplants.ca. Many of our members may know of this place already. I was excited to see many fresh seedlings that the owner Rob Messervey had on display. If I could, I would have bought one of each plant variety, but I was limited to 8 plants.



Photo by Chris Robart courtesy of Councillor David West

They had a variety of asters which has me wanting to know more about this wildflower. As an artist, I see the dominant blue purple ones by the side of the highways accompanied by

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goldenrods. What a contrast of colour in our landscape. I also have a wood aster at home, with tiny white flowers that the bees just love.

The plants I chose were Cardinal Flower, Spotted Joe Pye Weed, Sweet Oxeeye, Obedient Plant, Swamp Weed, Upland White Goldenrod and an aster without a name. I lost the label. All of these were planted in my community garden which I began last year in 2018 for Richmond Hill. I call it Harmony Garden, which is located at the back of the Mill Pond Art Gallery, 314 Mill Street.

Harmony Garden was mainly started with rescue plants from places that would be developed and some donated plants. At this stage, the garden is still young, but the Bee Balm and Veronica this year provided much nectar for many different pollinators. I am still learning about pollinators and I can say that it was a joy to see the bee visitors come in all shapes and sizes. It will be exciting to see this garden next spring.

Photo by Caterina Liberatore



Photo by Caterina Liberatore

Here I conclude by saying that Richmond Hill's EnviroFest had a good turn out and that people do want to get involved. Such a pleasure to see youngsters of all ages participating and enjoying the many activities. Thank you to David West of Ward 4 and the Richmond Hill Environmental Education and Engagement Staff for bringing our community together with EnviroFest 2019. There are plans on making this an annual event. As a gardener, I cannot imagine Richmond Hill without one. Looking forward to 2020's EnviroFest.

Happy Gardening!

Bluedot at the Ward 4 EnviroFest

I was at the Ward 4 EnviroFest at a booth for Bluedot Richmond Hill. Bluedot is a grassroots movement that supports the legal right to a healthy environment at all levels of government for everyone in Canada. The right to a healthy environment includes the right to clean air, clean water, safe food, and healthy ecosystems.

If you are attending the free screening of Anthropocene which will be shown by the City of Richmond Hill on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, please drop by our booth and say hello. You can reserve tickets for the screening online at rhcentre.ca.

I really enjoyed the wide variety of activities and the positive tone of the Ward 4 EnviroFest. Kudos to Councillor David West for initiating this event. A favourite booth for me was Claremont Native Plants. At the Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society I learned about the importance of growing native plants to provide habitat for wildlife and to support pollinators. I was helped to select a couple of new native plants which can tolerate my partially shady garden. The planting of the pollinator garden in the red canoe was also a delightful event.

There was a beautiful moment when we all faced the Mill Pond, singing the water song (Nibi Nagamowin) expressing love, thanks, and respect for the water. Then a plastic water bottle floated by, reminding me that there is still much work to be done.

Kathleen Wong



Pictured from left: Anne (Kathleen's sister), Kathleen Wong, Terry Knight
Photo courtesy of Joanne Witt of Snapd Richmond Hill

(Continued from page 1)

The Officers of the Society serve for a period of two years and include:

President	Camille Warner (elected 2019/2020 term)
Vice President	Doreen Coyne (elected 2019/2020 term)
Secretary	Doreen Coyne (appointed annually by the Board) has agreed to continue for 2020
Treasurer	David Biensch (appointed annually by the Board) has agreed to continue for 2020
Immediate Past President	Wolfgang Dall (ex-officio member of the Board)

The Board is also comprised of at least seven Directors and serve for a period of two years, with some of their numbers being elected each year.

Rahe Richards and Gary Burke (elected 2019/2020 term)

Diane Wilmot and Sally Hossain (elected in 2019 for a one-year term and have agreed to stand for another one year term)

Completing their two-year term of 2018/2019 is Susan Biensch, David Biensch and Santhosh Pillai. Of these, David Biensch and Santhosh Pillai have agreed to stand for another two-year term.

The current Board would like to see another two Directors elected for a two-year term.

Two Account Verifiers are elected annually. Jane Maher and Sylvie Makkreel have agreed to stand for another year.

If you would like to stand for nomination to these positions, please contact Wolfgang Dall (Chair of the Nominating Committee) so that your name can be added to the nominations report.

Committees:

Archivist/Historian: **OPEN**

Audio/Staging: Gary Burke

Awards: Chair and committee members: **OPEN**

Bring & Buy: Kevin Dark

Bus Trips: Chair and committee members: **ALL POSITIONS OPEN**

Communications:

Website: Susan Biensch

Facebook: Lucia Rostirolla

Publicity: Ingrid Sunar

Policies & Procedures, Outings: Doreen Coyne

Newsletter Editor: **OPEN**

Community Events: Chair and committee members: **ALL POSITIONS OPEN**

Community Gardens Coordinators:

Gladys McLatchy Memorial Garden: Nancy Andrews

Heritage Centre Herb Garden: Wendy Thomson

Millennium Garden: Jenny Rogers

Hill House Hospice: Sally Hossain

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Flower Show: Director, Chairs, Clerks, Statistics Verifier: **ALL POSITIONS OPEN**

Fundraising: David Biensch

Garden Tours: Members Garden Visits/Open Gates (held in alternating years)

Chair: Rahe Richards

Committee Members **OPEN**

Goodwill Ambassador: Kevin Dark

Greenhouse:

Chair & Friday Team Lead: Sally Hossain

Monday Team Lead: Evelyn Gray

Wednesday Team Lead: Cathy Nikolaidis

Committee Members: many volunteers per day

Holiday Celebration:

Chair: Ingrid Sunar

Past Chair: Nancy Andrews

Committee Members: Heather Auld, Elisabet France, Barb Panturescu, Jean Roberts, Lucia Rostirolla, Judy Simon

Membership:

Chair: Diane Wilmot

Co-Chair: **OPEN**

Committee Member: Donna Smith

Photography: Co-ordinator and photographers: **ALL POSITIONS OPEN**

Photo Contest: Chair and committee members: **ALL POSITIONS OPEN**

Plant Sale:

Chair: Sally Hossain

Committee Members: many volunteers needed for set-up, transporting plants and the day of the sale

Program:

Chair: Wolfgang Dall

Co-Chair: **OPEN**

Refreshments:

Co-Chairs: Linda McAree and Greta Van den Bossche

Members: Patricia Read, Kathryn Tanguay

Richmond Hill Blooms:

Chair: Santhosh Pillai

Committee Members: **OPEN (2-3 needed)**

Judges: **OPEN (need 18)**

Willem Schurman Scholarship: **OPEN**

Yearbook: Doreen Coyne, Lucia Rostirolla

How to Renew Your Membership Online

Step 1: Login

Login to www.RichmondHillGardenSociety.org. Check the **How to Login to our Members-Only Website** flyer if you need help with this step.

Step 2: Navigate to your Profile

After logging into our site, click on your name, which appears on the left side of every page, below the navigation panel. This is a shortcut to **My Membership Profile**, which can also be accessed from the Member Resources page.



Step 3: Review Renewal Options



Check your current Membership level and select from one of several renewal options.

In the example to the left, Ima Webtester has a one-year Individual Membership, which is due for renewal on January 1, 2020.

She could renew for another year by clicking the button **Renew to January 1, 2021**, but instead clicks the word **Change** to review her renewal options.



From the list of membership level options available to Ima Webtester, she selects **Individual Membership (2 years)** and clicks the **Next** button to continue the renewal process.

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Step 4: Review Your Profile

Review and update details of your membership profile, including your email and mailing addresses, phone number, current volunteer interests, etc. and then click the **Update and next** button to continue.

Step 5: Confirm Renewal

Review membership renewal details one more time. Click the **Pay online** button when you are ready to proceed.

Note: Our Membership Director is monitoring online renewals and will change **New renewal date** to be January 1, 2022 for members who renew for two years. [Our Wild Apricot Membership Management System does not yet offer sophisticated changes to New Renewal Date as a self-service feature, but an enhancement request has been logged and supported by many subscribers, including our society.](#)

Step 6: Select Payment Method

In the example to the right, Ima Webtester selects **Pay with a credit or Visa Debit card**, as she does not have an account with PayPal, who is our society's eCommerce service provider.

Step 7: Pay Membership Dues

Pay your membership dues, following the prompts of the secure online payment method you selected.

What happens next: You will receive an email confirmation of the financial transaction, which places the funds directly into our society's bank account. You will also receive a second email confirming completion of the membership renewal process.

Our Membership System is automatically updated to reflect the details of your Profile changes and our Membership Director is notified of your renewal.

Thank you for helping our society to be more efficient!

Change membership level

New level: Individual Membership (2 years) - \$50.00 (CAD)
Subscription period: 2 years, on: January 1st
No automatically recurring payments

Buttons: Cancel, Back, Update and next (circled in red)

Your profile * Mandatory fields

First name: Ima
Last name: Webtester

Change membership level

Review and confirm

New level	Individual Membership (2 years) - \$50.00 (CAD)
	Subscription period: 2 years, on: January 1st
	No automatically recurring payments
New renewal date	January 01, 2021
Old level	Individual Membership (1 year)
Total amount	\$50.00 (CAD)

Buttons: Cancel, Back, Invoice me, Pay online (circled in red)

PayPal \$50.00 CAD

Pay with PayPal

With a PayPal account, you're eligible for free return shipping, Purchase Protection, and more.

Email: _____
Password: _____

Stay logged in for faster purchases ?

Log In

Having trouble logging in?
or

Pay with a credit or Visa Debit card (circled in red)

Cancel and return to Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society

Breaking News

December 2019/ January 2020

Linda Lynott ©, Master Gardener, Garden.com

Here is a list of tasks for now:

- * Rake your leaves and put them onto your garden. I collect 40 bags and my friend Joe Mauro Celebre 300.
- * Sharpen your tools, if you have the energy.
- * Water your trees. This is key in a drought year. They need to be well-hydrated before the ground freezes.
- * I like to finish my re-potting in January, especially the orchids. Terry Kennedy suggests repotting annually and as soon as the blooms fade and as soon as you see new roots.
- * Tulips can be still planted, even in the snow and as long as you can dig the earth and they will bloom next year.
- * Make a list of what you did not accomplish this year; plants to buy, projects to complete which may include sharpening your tools.
- * Enjoy a good book or magazine, especially if it is on gardening/horticulture.
- * Enjoy a lecture series on horticulture.
- * Attend the Toronto Master Gardeners' Technical Update; probably on January 16, 2020 at the Toronto Botanical Garden; registration is mandatory.



You may have seen the article in the September 5th edition of *The Liberal* newspaper about weeds. Jennifer Wingate and I both responded to the reporter's request to the Hort to speak to someone.

This was precipitated by a reader complaining about thistles in Willow Hollow Park, which in the article was mistakenly attributed to me.

When I read the article, I was dismayed, to say the least, by the way the reporter misused my communications.

I had sent a picture my husband Roger took of me standing beside an 8-foot-high thistle growing in an old dog run on our property, and a picture of a thistle flower with a large bee on it. I told the reporter I let it grow as it attracts birds and bees. I also sent her a picture of an orange sunflower with a butterfly on it to emphasize the pollinator components of my garden. In the article the reporter referred to my growing thistles, and also inferred the orange sunflower was a thistle flower.

By the way, the old dog run, which also contains goldenrod and other flowering wildflowers, has been upgraded to a pollinator garden!

Jennifer Pyke

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Members of The Richmond Hill Garden & Horticultural Society

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Place: McConaghy Seniors' Centre,
10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill ON

Doors open at 7:30 pm

Agenda:

- Awards
- Motions
- Treasurer's Report
- Year-End Report
- Election and Installation of Officers and Directors
- Photographic Recap of 2019

Guests are welcome to attend this meeting free-of-charge, however, only paid-up members are eligible to vote.

2019 Roundup

This Year's Diary

Linda Lynott ©, Master Gardener, GWA

We start the garden season with anticipation, hope, renewal, growth and change and then the unpredictable happens. It's all the joy of gardening.

"You've come to accept that no two years are exactly same...As well, we come to see that gardening is, by its nature, a perpetually unfinished business. To garden is not to complete. It is always changing into something else." (Des Kennedy, Canadian Gardening 2000).

Following are my top ten horticultural things I learned in 2019.

- ☼ January is a great time to cut up your unused garlic and immerse it in olive oil. Then put it in a cool dark place. January is also the time to replace your tropicals that have failed because they need some sun and there has not been much this fall or winter. Remember to 'water' your potted plants, in the garage every month with a handful of ice cubes.
- ☼ February and March are a time to visit Get the Jump on Spring, The Orchid Show and Canada Blooms. This is also a great time to do your mail orders of plants, seeds, bulbs corms and tubers.
- ☼ I have always started my dahlia tubers in mid-April. Otherwise they get too leggy and lose vigour before hardening off and then planting. The exception is if you want to have good looking potted plants for early May, for the local Horticultural sales. Mid-April is the ideal time to start tomatoes from seed. This year I will start in March. If the weather is like the last two summers, they need the head start.
- ☼ May is busy; plant sale month; time to overseed your lawn; cut down last year's growth with several passes of the weed-wacker; start putting out tropicals; planting your garden.
- ☼ June - Plant out your dahlias; plant tender vegetables; place other tropicals; add more ground cover; harvest early fruit, vegetables and herbs. Last year we renovated a large dry-laid flagstone area with woolly thyme. Only about one metre needs to be filled in this year. Last year, I really concentrated on weeding in May and June. I mean every morning for ten minutes. I am glad to say that I have pretty much eradicated the clover and Feverfew. So it can be done.
- ☼ July - Tie dahlias to sturdy supports; stop or pinch dahlias; keep harvesting fruit and vegetables.
- ☼ August - Harvest and then plant garlic.
- ☼ September - Bring in tropicals after spraying with Endall or other insecticidal soap, start lifting tropicals, such as dahlias; keep harvesting. Time to overseed the lawn. Do not prune after September
- ☼ October - My Pawpaw tree suckers turn yellow so that 'my helper' Joe Mauro Celebre can dig them out. Pawpaws love to colonize. What am I going to do with fifty trees on my front lawn?
- ☼ November - Time to rake and collect leaves. Finish clean up and place leaves on the garden and relax.

What's going on?

Interested in what's going on with the Board and the decisions being made on your behalf? The minutes of the Board meetings are now posted on our website under the Member Resources tab. You must login to access the minutes. If you have never logged in before, please ask at the Membership table on how to do this or check your yearbook for the instructions.

Congratulations...

to Linda Lynott on winning rosettes at the 2019 CNE garden competition for the following entries:



Staged August 15th: Best in Show for "The Line Up"



Staged August 19th: Most Creative Design for "The Little Tattoo Shop" - a fresh miniature design



Staged on August 23rd: Most Creative Design for "Portobello Road Market, London, England" - a design to incorporate fabric



Staged on August 27th: Runner up to Best in Show for "Symphony" - a large design

Photos by Linda Lynott