



THE PANSY POST

Pembroke Horticultural Society. Established 1924

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A member of the Ontario Horticultural Association www.gardenontario.org

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100th Anniversary 1924 – 2024

June 2024

Meeting: Monday, June 24, 2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: **Sunset Nursery** – 2177 Greenwood Road, Pembroke

Speaker: **Alastair Hugli** - Topic: **Water Features**

The Ottawa River where our beautiful city was founded and has flourished for over 100 years. We are but a wee speck in the history of this magnificent river. For 8,500 + years, dating back to Algonquin ancestors, we have utilized its natural resources by hunting, gathering and “living along its banks”. The more recent construction of urban estates, resource extraction, area development, wetland destruction, river dams and other manmade factors, have all compromised the sustainability of the river. Maintaining the ecological health of the Ottawa River and learning how our cumulative human impact affects the richness and quality of the river, is crucial to its generational livelihood and system.

The deep lakes and fast-flowing waters of the “Ottawa” are the perfect combination for biotic and abiotic life to thrive and multiply in. It provides habitat for more than 85 fish species, 300 bird species, approximately 53 mammal species and 33 species of amphibians and reptiles. You can also find at least 14 different species of freshwater mussels in this river. The forests surrounding the Ottawa River are home to many other mammals such as squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, racoons, mice, bats, and white-tailed deer. Along more northerly boreal section of the river are wolves, wolverines, lynx, martens and moose. The Ottawa River is simply full of life, richness and beauty and we, in this small part of it, are so fortunate to be able to share it. Let’s keep it healthy!

On May 9th our annual **Spring Flower Show** was held at the Pembroke Mall. I hope you had a chance to see it, because it was just beautiful. Grace R. and Jenny along with their very able assistant, Denise C. did an amazing job of setting up the displays and encouraging passers-by to come in for a look. *Following is an update from the Flower Show Committee (submitted by Jenny B.):*

The flower show held at the Pembroke Mall on May 9th was a big success. Grace and I were very pleased with the number of entries (120) brought in by eight members. The new location, The Spot, turned out to have more traffic with many people dropping by to see the flower show entries and to watch the video of the pictures from the past 100 years of our Society displayed on a screen. We were able to encourage 7 new members to join our society and informed many visitors about our Legacy Fund, planting 100 trees and the 100th Anniversary celebrations taking place this year.



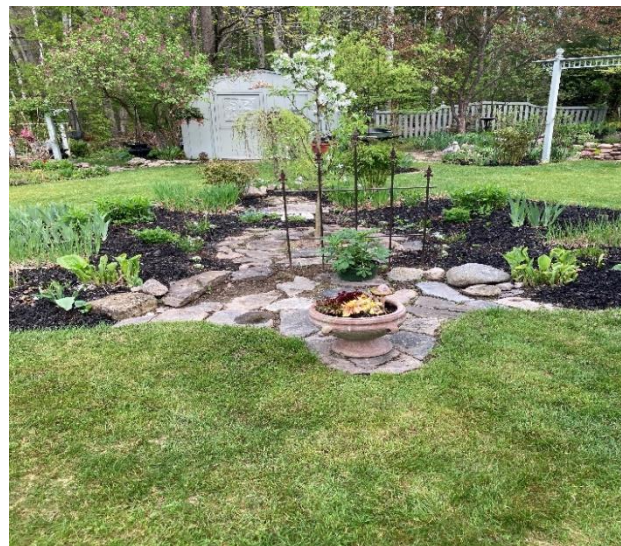
The next flower Show is on June 24th at Sunset Nursery where our general meeting is being held. Please have your entries brought in no later than 6:45 p.m. so the judging can begin on time. We encourage members to try your hand at a couple of entries. The more entries we

have the more we learn from each other about new varieties and methods of growing. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Grace or myself and we will gladly help you out.

Jenny & Grace

For new members who may wish to place an entry in one of the flower shows, please see the detailed attachment by Jenny B. on “Conditioning Flowers for Floral Arrangements” or call Jenny at 613-732-7544.

On Monday, May 13th a group of society members went on a wonderful **Garden Tour** around the city and area. We visited six beautiful gardens followed by lunch at Irving’s Big Stop Restaurant. What a wonderful day! Each garden we visited was unique, eye popping and obviously full of love. There is so much work required to get ready for a garden tour and all six participants are to be commended – Carole Trepanier, Stewart Norman, Hugh Schooley, Barb McGaw, Ellen Vandersleen and Sharon Watt. Congratulations and thank you to all!





At an executive meeting this month, the terms of the **Harvey Fraser Memorial Bursary** were discussed and amended. *If any of the Pembroke Horticultural Society members* know of a student who in September, 2024 will be studying in any of the following areas, we would like to consider that person for our **\$500.00 bursary**. The fields of study are all related to our interests and concerns: horticulture, agriculture, forestry, environmental studies, etc. Please inform any member of the executive if you know of a qualifying student.

As you may be aware, a very zealous group of society members (and perhaps some spouses and friends) attempted to improve the appearance of Paul Martin Drive, which of course is the main entrance to our city. However it was a very daunting and overwhelming task, so thanks to another enthusiastic member a letter was sent to The Honourable Paul Martin himself asking for help with this project. In response a beautiful letter was received from Mr Martin and we have subsequently been approved for a grant from the Paul Martin Foundation to aid in our endeavour. We will keep you apprised of the plans.

The Pembroke Horticultural Society Legacy Fund is progressing very smoothly. If you know of anyone who may be interested in donating, information about the Fund and a donation form can be seen as an attachment,. You may also contact Larry TerMarsch by phone for further information: 613-732-5377.

The Giant Plant Sale: many thanks to Grace McL. and her volunteers for another wonderful success. A new record was set!

A ceremony was held recently for the presentation of the **Ontario Volunteer Awards**. Five members of our society were recipients this year: Elaine Metzger – 35 years, Grace McLaughlin – 20 years, Pamela Duplessis – 10 years, Catherine Arends – 5 years and Peter Wegner – 5 years. Congratulations to everyone!



Upcoming Events:

- **OHA Convention** is being held in Guelph July 12th-14th.
- **Sunday, July 21st – 1920's Theme Picnic at the Pembroke Waterfront.** This is the “grand summer event” celebrating our **100 years**, so come and join us! Wear period costumes if you can and bring your own lunch. Sweets will be provided. There will be fun for the whole family!
- **Saturday, August 17th – The District 2 Flower & Edibles Show** is being hosted by the Almonte, Carleton Place and Pakenham Horticultural Societies at the Civitan Hall in Almonte. See attachment for further information.
- **Friday, August 23rd – Flower & Vegetable Show at the Waterfront Park from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Entries to be tabled by 9:30 a.m. This is a judged show. See attached August Flower Show criteria.
- **Thursday, November 14th – Centennial Gala Dinner and Flower Show at the Pembroke Legion.** There will be entertainment and warm comraderie. Bring a friend! More information will be forthcoming closer to the date.
- **The Christmas Tea** – date and time to be arranged.

Volunteers for the June 24th General Meeting:

Greeters: Charlotte H. and Rosalie L.

Social: Sean R. and Renelle C.

Door Prizes: Rosalie L., Renelle C., Charlotte H. If you have an item that is new or gently used, bring it along for a door prize. Anyone can donate at any time!

- * **The next Executive Meeting: August 19th at the Waterfront.** Bring your own lunch and lawn chair. Tour of gardens to follow. If raining, meeting will be at the home of Ellen V. on Sawmill Road.

- * The next newsletter will be coming your way in September. Happy and safe summer to everyone! May your gardens flourish!

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A heartfelt thank you to all our corporate sponsors. You help us to keep Pembroke beautiful!