



Cuttings



Barrie's Garden Club

<http://www.barriegardenclub.com>

September 2008

Open Meeting September 2

7:30 pm, Southshore Community Centre
Tonight's speaker is Chris Graham who will be speaking about *Flowering Shrubs of Ontario*.

Flower Show – Late Summer Garden

Please see page 3 for details. This is your last chance to participate in the Flower Shows. Many thanks to Krystyna Engel for her efforts in preparing for the shows.

Roll out the Barrel

Carol Dunk, Director of District 16, has written a brochure about conserving water by using a water barrel. Brochures will be available at the meeting, and it is thanks to Carol that we have the water barrel to raffle.

Photo Contest

Mike Dunk and John Clarke will be on hand to give us some tips for the photo contest.

September 2 50/50 Draw and Raffle

We have some exciting prizes for this month's raffle. In addition to the 50/50, there will be a water barrel, a complimentary subscription to Ontario Gardener, and a \$25.00 gift certificate to Garden Import

July Brain Storming Session

At the July open meeting, about thirty members had a brain-storming session on how to improve the Garden Club. While some points need to be discussed further, you will notice some changes soon. **Starting in October**, we will try a new format for the Open Meetings. Refreshments will be available at 7:15, and the announcements will follow at 7:30. The speaker and question period will begin at approximately 7:45.

We also hope to set up a "pick-smart" session at the May Open meeting. Instead of a speaker, we would have several master gardeners at different

stations to discuss a particular topic. Members will be able to go from station to station to ask questions and get information that is pertinent for their gardens.

Another possibility is to replace the July meeting with a bus tour to a garden.

2008 Garden Tour

The gardens were spectacular, the logistics (gardens grouped to cut down on driving time) were efficient, but the weather was unpredictable. The response to the garden tour was down about 50%. As a fundraiser, it was a lot of work for very little money. However, for those who participated it was a treat to see so many different kinds of gardens – it is always so inspiring to see what people have done with different locations, sizes, and soil conditions.

We are still looking for gardens for next year's tour. Please speak to Gail Barr (733-5081) if you would like to have your garden on the tour or if you know someone who would.

City of Barrie to Administer the Arboretum

It is now official. After months of meetings and negotiations, the city of Barrie has agreed to take on the administration of the Arboretum. Barrie's Garden Club, and in particular Peggy Wong and her band of amazing volunteers have every right to be proud of creating and maintaining this jewel in the City of Barrie. Now it is time for us to focus our energies on other projects, but we will always appreciate the work that has been done.

Some details remained to be resolved – for example, we are still negotiating with the city for reimbursement of costs incurred last year. However, the board is confident that this will be settled to the mutual satisfaction of both parties.

District 16 Fall Seminar

Saturday, October 25, at the Leisure Time Club in Collingwood, 9:30 am to 3 pm. \$25.00

There will be raffles and a silent auction. In the morning, John Beaulieu and Brenda Stride will speak about monarch butterflies which they breed in their backyard. They have even visited them in the monarch's winter habitat. The afternoon presentation will be provided by Bill and Dawn Loney from Keppel Croft Farm and Gardens. (Their outhouse is one of those featured in Our Canada magazine). Please speak to Jean Varep (721-7629) if you would like to attend.

Aerating and Overseeding Your Lawn

The summer is ending, but lawn care goes on (and on, on...). A horticulturist once told me that lawns are a waste of time and money in most parts of Canada - they only really thrive in England and other moist places. However, we do cling to our grass.

One of the most effective tools for a healthy lawn is aerating. This loosens the compacted areas of your lawn so that nutrients and moisture can more effectively get at the roots. Aerators can be rented from several places in Barrie - get together with your neighbours to cut down on costs.

Overseeding your lawn in early fall is also important. This is not a total re-seeding, but just an additional boost. Information on how to do this varies widely, from simply sprinkling new seed on your lawn, to mowing very short, dethatching, raking, watering, then seeding. Just google "overseeding" to see what I mean about the variety of advice.

That same horticulturist told me to take out as much lawn as possible and replace it with large sweeps of ground cover and gardens. Good idea!

Speaking of Lawns – Supplies at 50% Off

Jean Varep still has a few bags of garden and lawn supplies from Costco. These are damaged bags which Costco donates to the club. We have made about \$1,000 from this effort. Many thanks to Jean V. And Jane Falls for picking up the supplies. You

can pay for the goods at the Open Meeting then pick them up later.

Potting Mix - \$8.00 per bag

Turf builder with weed control- \$23

Turf Builder \$20

Grass Seed - \$20

Doors Open Barrie

On Saturday September 28th from 10 to 4, The Arboretum and the Garden Club will participate in Open Doors Barrie. There will be long and short tours or the Arboretum and Beth Fryer will be leading 3 labyrinth walks. Garden Club members will be giving out information about the club activities and membership. If you would like to help, please speak to Peggy Wong.

Guerrilla Gardening

Guerrilla gardening is when people go out and plant gardens or flowers where no one intended them to be. Contact Carol Dunk or Peggy Wong if you are aware of anyone doing this as a magazine will be putting together an article on it.

New Board Members Needed

The current board has done a tremendous job this year (as always) but they cannot go on forever without new ideas and fresh enthusiasm. The new board is elected in November. Please think about it now and speak to Jean Varep if you are interested.

Cuttings Editor Needed

My last issue will be in November, so if you would like to write the Cuttings, now is your chance! Please speak to Jill Coghlan or Jean Varep.

Coming Events

September 28 Open Doors Barrie at the Arboretum 10 am – 4 pm

October 7 Open Meeting **NEW Format:**
7:15 Refreshments
7:30 Announcements
7:45 Speaker: **Frank Kershaw** will wow us with a travelogue:
Florida and other Southern States

Thanks to Cheryl MacDonnell for proof-reading. Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Please call Jill at 812-3325.

**Barrie's Garden Club
LATE SUMMER Flower Show
September 2, 2008**

DIVISION I – Horticulture

Section A – Annuals and Bulbs

- Class 1 – Cosmos B any variety - 2 stems
- Class 2 – Zinnia – 3 - 5 blooms
- Class 3 – Gladiolus B 1 spike
- Class 5 – Salvia – 3 spikes
- Class 6 – Snapdragon – 2 stems
- Class 7 – Annual collection – 3 to 5 stems

Section B – Perennials and Biennials

- Class 8 – Herb collection 3 to 5 different species in a pot or as cut specimens
- Class 9 – Foxglove – 1 spike
- Class 10 – Pink Echinacea – 1 bloom
- Class 11 – Echinacea – any colour – 3 blooms
- Class 12 – Sunflower – 1 bloom
- Class 13 – Late summer perennial group different species – 3 stems
- Class 14 – Ornamental grasses – 1 cultivar - 3 stems

Section C – Roses and Shrubs

- Class 15 – Late summer rose – 1 bloom/spray
- Class 16 – Late blooming shrub – 1 branch

DIVISION II – Produce

- Class 17 – Cherry tomato – 1 bunch
- Class 18 – Early tomato – 1 specimen
- Class 19 – Peppers – 2 specimens
- Class 20 – Zucchini – 1 specimen

DIVISION III – Floral Design

Size restrictions for designs: Large Designs – not less than 12” and not to exceed 24” in width and depth (no height restriction). Small Designs – not less than 6” and not to exceed 10” in width, depth and height.

- Class 21 – **“Bon Appetit”** – Large, Line-Mass - Horizontal style
- Class 22 – **“Pleasures with Herbs”** – Large, Line-Mass - Country style (use only herbs)
- Class 23 – **“Summer Bliss”** – Large, Line-Mass - Inverted Crescent style
- Class 24 – **“So Glad You Are Here”** – Small - Informal style

Use Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticulture and Floral Design, published by the Ontario Horticultural Association and The Garden Clubs of Ontario (Publication 34 B 2003) as your authority. The booklet is \$6. If copies are not on sale at the sale table, you may order the publication through the flower show Co-ordinator - Krystyna Engel.

Flower Show con't

Show Points

Every show you enter will win you showing points. At the end of the year Barrie's Garden Club awards prizes to the top 3 point earners. Points are given as follows:

Best In Show	10 points
First Place	7 points
Second Place	5 points
Third place	4 points
Honourable Mention	2 points
Non-Placing Entry	1 point

As you can see, all entries earn you at least one point, so the more you enter, the better chance you have of winning a prize at the end of the year.

Flower Show Rules

1. Exhibitors must be current members of the Barrie's Garden Club.
2. An exhibitor may enter any class twice but each entry must be a different cultivar. An exhibitor may enter as many classes as desired.
3. In all Horticulture classes, all competing plants must be owned and must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least three months prior to exhibiting. All cut flowers must be grown by the exhibitors.
4. In all Design classes, materials may be from any source. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor.
5. Each exhibitor is responsible for a container for specimens, for the correctness and the placement of his/her entry tag, and for removal of the exhibit after the meeting.
6. The show committee has the right to add a class in any section of any show if the number of entries warrants such an addition.
7. Judges' decisions are final.