

Growing Together



Unique Ways to Display House Plants

I had the opportunity to speak with Kirk "Cedar" Kelly about his hobby for houseplants. Kirk explain "I had been wondering what to do with my saved coffee bags. Companies put a lot of effort into their packaging and it's nice to show them off. I always get coffee as a souvenir when I'm traveling so they're great conversation starters too. Recently I was repotting my houseplants and I had an eureka moment, use coffee bags as containers. Place a rock in the bottom so they don't become top heavy, fill with soil, and transplant! I can't wait to watch these propagations



House Plants Improve your Health & Home

As Fall is upon us, we will slowly prepare to hunker down for the winter. For many hobbies, young and the mature, houseplants bring a decorative flare to our home. While it is nice to improve our environment, there are other benefits house plants bring to us. House plants help with improving your mood, reduces stress, boosts healing and pain tolerance. Bring a plant home for your health and share pictures with us.

Growing Together



Zimart by Ann Hancock

It was a perfect day for the tour and a perfect setting to enjoy the art work. The large pieces were arranged so that there was space to appreciate each one without distraction.

The gallery owner, Fran Fearnley, spoke to a small group of Hort members about the origins and ongoing work of the gallery. This year's artist in residence, Tapiwa Maputanga, then gave a talk on how he began, the inspiration for his designs and a demonstration of his techniques



Editorial

It is remarkable another season has whisked by. I remember thinking I had all the time in the world for the chores. I had flights of fancy about expanding my garden. Yet somehow the lazy days of summer took over to a rainbow of flowers in my gardens. I didn't keep a journal to keep track of the progresses that I made as a novice gardener. Something authentic happened instead. Nature, nurture my property. Mother nature offered a dry summer and a beautiful backdrop to many precious family moments in the side garden. I will remember the summer of 2022 fondly as a summer of gathering under the trees and in the garden of life.

Growing Together



Queen Elizabeth 1926-2022

Flowers Fit for A Queen's Farewell

Blooms of gold, pink and deep burgundy, sitting amid rich green foliage, adorned the Queen's coffin during her funeral service. The colourful flowers and plants, taken from the gardens of royal properties, were chosen for their symbolism.

At King Charles III's request, the wreath for Her Majesty's funeral contained flowers and foliage cut from the gardens of Buckingham Palace and Clarence House in London - and Highgrove House in Gloucestershire.

It included foliage chosen for its symbolism:

- Rosemary for remembrance - rosemary has long been associated with remembrance
- Myrtle, the ancient symbol of a happy marriage, cut from a plant that was grown from a sprig of myrtle in The Queen's wedding bouquet in 1947
- English oak, a national symbol of strength, in a nod to the Queen's constancy and steadfast duty. It also symbolizes strength of love

A beautiful tribute to a beautiful Queen that served Canada for over 70 years.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62954578>

Growing Together

Small Trees Grow Fast

by Trish Whitney

I have been very pleased with the trees and shrubs I bought at the Club's Native Plant Sale in March of 2021. The picture shows how large the \$10 Black Cherry tree (*Prunus Serotina*) has grown in two seasons. I did water it twice weekly in the first year and occasionally in the dry 2022 summer. I fertilized it once in the first year and twice in the second with 15-15-15. An expert advised me that growers fertilized small trees once a month. Good to know.

The serviceberry and the nannyberry shrubs are well established but not as big as the cherry tree. The common elderberry is the the largest and produced berries this year. I'm growing them to feed the birds not me! I repeat the advice of previous newsletters that small trees are easier to grow and far less expensive than large trees. The roots are the most important part of the trees. Large trees take years to regrow the roots that have been lost when moving them and thus grow more slowly. Buy small trees and water well. That means deep watering to encourage the roots to go down. Place hose at the the base of the tree and give it a good soaking. L.E.A.F recommends 2-3 gallons twice a week for a 6 ft. tree in the first year.

In a dry year like this one I also watered my established trees. Still my dogwood has some burned leaves.



Home, Garden, and DIY

Companion planting for beginners : pair your plants for a bountiful, chemical-free vegetable garden

by Brian Lowell

"Organic gardeners have known for years that planting the right plants together is the key to minimizing pests, improving soil quality, and increasing the yield of their gardens, and almost any vegetable you can grow likely has a beneficial companion. Companion planting is the ideal way to avoid using chemicals, while still increasing the efficiency of your garden. Expert organic gardener Brian Lowell will teach you how to use plants to create a beautiful, vibrant vegetable garden that will be free of toxic chemicals"

Growing Together

CHC Summer Flower Show AUGUST 13, 2022

The Summer Flower Show at the Cobourg Library was the first one held there since 2019, and for some new Committee members working on it, the response was very good. Using the template and room layout from previous years, the Show and Tea went smoothly, with 15 exhibitors, who brought just under 100 items to exhibit, from a single rose, to a large number and wide assortment of vegetables.

This summer's hot weather produced some surprises – literally no roses in any of the classes for roses, except one lonely one, but also very few dahlias, whereas in other years there would have been quite a few more. The Preserves section also had one entry, a Scotch Marmalade. Perhaps the absence of some of our regular members exhibiting (due to travel and COVID-19) made a difference. The two Photography classes, however, had three exceptional entries in each. In planning next year's Show, the Committee will look at the number of entries to best determine where we might add or drop classes, bearing in mind that this year the Show was a week later than usual, and that each summer presents its own challenges.

Joan Harding was the judge. She stayed for most of the afternoon, chatting to members, giving very helpful feedback, and answering questions. Suzi Gabany and Shelly Fredericks's session demonstrating design in April seemed to have reaped big results, as the four design classes had more entries than in previous years, and the exhibits were all exceptional. A shout out to Martha Baldwin who won the first prize ribbon in two of those classes.



Some Flower Show committee members with the judge, Joan Harding. Photo # 282



Martha Oldham won Best in Show with her Pineapple Lily, "Sparkling Burgundy". Photo of Martha and Jim Oldham with the Pineapple Lily. Photo # 231



First Prize winner of the Design Class #4, The Rain Forest – a design predominantly in green, won by Martha Baldwin.

Growing Together

CHC Summer Flower Show cont.



First Prize in Design Class
African Safari – a design using hot
colours, won by Martha Baldwin



First prize in Design Class #1
Northern Dwellers – a design using
cool colours, won by Dianne Taylor



Photo 14, First prize for Class
8 in Fruits and Vegetables,
"Tomatoes, any other colour",
won by Ron Weisfeld

Martha Oldham's "Sparkling Burgundy" Pineapple Lilly, won the Best in Show, a stunning example. Ron Weisfeld had the highest number of entries, 22 in all, mostly in the fruit and vegetable classes. A big thank you to everyone who took the time and trouble to exhibit, as the Hall looked full and attractive for the members and guests who came.

Ann Slemming and Shelly Fredericks helped exhibitors complete the paperwork involved and assisted in placing exhibits in the right categories. Dawn MacGregor, assisted by Alma Beston, hosted the Tea graciously for about 40 visitors, with goodies kindly provided by some members. It was a nice opportunity for us all to chat and to catch up a bit, after such a long hiatus.

The local radio station, 89.7 did, Pete Fischer an interview about the garden club and the upcoming Show with Sarah Holland and Dianne Taylor a few days ahead, and Pete Fischer of Today's Northumberland came on the day, took photographs and interviewed Dianne. The Show is a great opportunity for our club to reach out to the wider community, to showcase what we do, and we certainly had a number of guests who were not members.

Special thanks to Flower Show Committee members who were there all day, from an early start to set up to the very end: Shelly Fredericks, Judy Harris, Dianne Taylor, Ann Slemming and Alma Beston. There are a large number of bins which have to arrive, be unpacked, and repacked at the end of the day. Thanks to Gail Rayment, Jennifer Darrell and Shelly Fredericks for the loan of much needed wagons, and card tables, and a big thank you to Carol Evans who most expertly produces the signage for each class, a pesky, detailed job!

by Sarah Holland, Convenor Flower Show Committee
August 29, 2022

Growing Together

2022 GARDEN TOUR

4 CLUB

The 2022 4 Club Garden Tour took place on Sunday, July 10th and featured 7 stunning gardens—all within Cobourg. The weather was spectacular and we had a huge turnout of garden lovers from all 4 clubs. Master Gardeners were available at each of the gardens to answer any and all plant related questions—such a helpful resource to have!

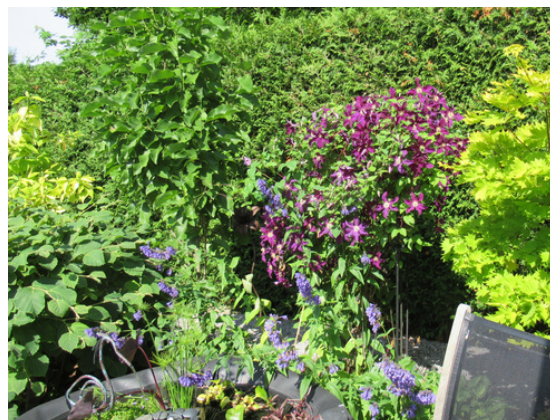


NEWSLETTER

Newsletter articles/photos
submissions due 8th of the month
the newsletter is published.

Publication dates: 15 December
2022. Note: submissions may be
held for following editions.

Contact: Tonya Davis
bunnytdavis@sympatico.ca



Growing Together

TOMATO JAM

from Bonnie Young

It's September and our local Farmer's Markets are absolutely loaded with an absolute bonanza of beautiful produce for us to enjoy. It's my favourite time of the year—the tomatoes, the peaches, the squash, the cabbages...all of our garden's bounty at the ready to be enjoyed in our kitchens.

But what to do with all this bounty? Each year, I find myself absolutely drowning in tomatoes at this time of year—and as much as I love a good BLT, I have found it necessary to preserve the bounty of my tomato harvest in more creative ways.

One of the simplest ways I've found is by making Tomato Jam. This is an old Toronto Star recipe that I've been using for years. Once made and cooled, I freeze the mixture in small snack sized Zip-locks for use all through the year. There is nothing better than defrosting a bag in the middle of winter and either spreading it on fresh bread and goat cheese, or tossing it into freshly boiled pasta. I've even used it as a spread on pizza—just add some mozzarella and bake for a wonderful spin on a margarita pizza in the middle of our bleak and cold winters.



Here's what you'll need to make your own batch:

INGREDIENTS

- 10 ripe tomatoes (about 4 lbs) cored and halved
- 10 ripe peaches (about 2 lbs) unpeeled, pitted and chopped
- 1 medium sized sweet onion (I like to use Vidalia, but any onion will do)
- 4 cloves of garlic (peeled and smashed)
- ¼ C olive oil
- 2 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons fresh oregano leaves

DIRECTIONS: Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Place tomatoes cut-side up, without overlapping, on one side of a very large rimmed baking sheet. Pile peaches and onions on the other side of the baking sheet. Nestle garlic between the tomatoes. Drizzle the oil, and sprinkle the salt and oregano over everything.

Roast in your pre-heated oven for 40 minutes. The onions and peaches will start to brown on the edges—that's a good thing! Smash the tomatoes gently with the back of a wooden spoon to release their juices. At this point, you can mix the two sides of the baking sheet together. Bake, stirring every 15 minutes until the tomatoes are very dark, and the moisture has evaporated and the mixture is the consistency of thick jam. This should take about an hour. Taste and adjust the seasoning (salt and pepper) to your taste.

Once cooled, you can freeze for use at a later date, or serve over fresh bread topped with goat cheese.

Growing Together



Congrats!

HEATHER BIRNEY

2022

Cobourg Garden Club Scholarship

Congratulations to Ms. Heather Birney of Cobourg, Ontario – our 2022 scholarship award winner.

Heather graduated from Cobourg Collegiate Institute and is now enrolled in environmental science at Fleming College.

Her interest in the environment was prompted by her dad planting a large, thriving garden and her participation in CCI's Environmental Club. Among her several activities include working with the Northumberland Land Trust and attending the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (Town of Cobourg) focused on creating a sustainable 'greener' community.

Ms. Birney looks forward to moving into the Environmental Technology Program at Fleming with an eye toward several Ontario university programs in environmental sciences and ecosystem and natural resource management.

Best wishes to Ms. Heather Birney, a young woman moving forward on rough terrain in hip waders!!



Upcoming Events

OCT 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

5

Dr. David Burton (Dalhousie) Regenerative Farming and Canada Award Presentation

NOV 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

2

Gord DeVries-Landscaping with Rocks & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DEC 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm

7

Seasonal Urns, Tables, and Wreath Decor Demonstration + Greenery Exchange and Social