

Growing Together

Building on the success of our Annual Plant Sale we are hoping to overwinter plants provided by members gardens in the fall.



This year we are getting a head start on saving plants for our annual plant sale to be held May 18. Bill Prawecki heard from several members who wished to thin their gardens so he arranged to dig them out and transported them to Sarah Holland's raised

winter beds. Once they are covered with leaves, and perhaps snow, we should have many more plants for sale.

Sarah Holland, Dick Cowling, Corduroy, Anne Parks, Keith Stratton, Carol Farren, Bill Prawecki and Suellen Stratton.

SPRING MEETINGS

February 6

Peggy Howden

Old Barn Perennials

'Cone Flowers'

March 6

Kevin Elchuk

Giboshi Hill Hostas

'Let's talk Hostas'

April 3

Flemming Nielsen

Viking Nurseries

'Planning Containers'

May 1

Spring Mini Flower Show
with Dini Schoemaker

'A judge's tips on entering
shows'

May 18 Annual Plant Sale
at the Columbus Centre

2012 PRESIDENTS AWARDS FOR VOLUNTEERISM

At the Annual general Meeting held on Wednesday November 7 outgoing President Sarah Holland awarded Judy Brown for her long service as club treasurer, as a speaker for Seeds of Diversity, organizing member tours to Oshawa and Peterborough, and three years organizing our flower shows.



Sarah also awarded Suellen Stratton for her steady hand as Treasurer, and Keith Stratton for his work as Secretary and the other activities they both contribute to.

In her report Sarah noted over 1300 volunteer hours by our members and the contributions of retiring Board members Carol Evans, Carol Farren and Dilys Robertson.

In 2012 we were able to award two \$500 scholarships to two deserving Cobourg students. Jesse Miedema of CDCI East enrolled at Kemptville College at the University of Guelph, and Wyatt May who went to Lakehead University.

Wyatt May wrote to us from Thunder Bay

Hey, this is Wyatt May and I just wanted to say again thanks for the scholarship money.

I am writing to let you know how I am doing. Right off the bat university was a shock to the system with all the homework and assignments due on the same day but after a couple weeks, I really learned to cope with this and am able to do my assignments without as much stress as before. If you manage your time well you can do anything.

Thunder Bay is absolutely beautiful. It is such a nice part of the country and I have met tons of people and made a lot of new friends. There are deer absolutely everywhere. One night it snowed 10 inches in 4 hours and as I write this letter there is 8 inches still on the ground with more coming. The weather is cold but as long as you bundle up, you have no worries.

As far as class is concerned I am doing well, even better than I expected. I am really getting used to the whole university life and it's all worth it. I would just like to thank you again and hope you have a Merry Christmas.



CREATE A MONARCH BUTTERFLY WAY STATION THIS YEAR



Monarchs require a safe refuge during their journeys from eastern North America to central Mexico. Monarch Watch, a program based at the University of Kansas has registered 154 certified way stations

in Canada, and over 3,446 in the United States.

For official certification the site must be 12.5 square meters. They require a site that provides rest, drink and food. An appropriate site is sheltered and sunny with between two and ten plants per square meter.

Milkweed is the host plant for monarchs - *Asclepias speciosa*. Other species include butterfly weed, showy, swamp, tropical and common milkweed.

Cultivated and wild perennials are also needed as good nectar sources - aster, monarda, catnip, daisy, coneflower and sedum.

Wild perennials include black-eyed susan, dandelion, Joe Pye weed, bergamot, thistle, and yarrow.

Annuals such as marigolds, verbena, impatiens, cosmos, and sunflowers can be included in the area. Shrubs such as azalea, lilac, spirea and viburnum help shelter the area,

Butterflies also need flat rocks and sand which retain heat so they can bask in the sun. Minerals can be provided by open compost piles of coffee and tea grounds. Small depressions or containers which hold moisture are also needed. For more information and to certify your site visit www.monarchwatch.org



TURN THE PAGE TO SEE WHAT 1300 HOURS CAN ACCOMPLISH

We are so fortunate to have over 130 active members who each contribute in their own way to making our club successful. Visit our website and blog for up to date information throughout the year. www.cobourggardenclub.com

FLOWER SHOWS



Just one example of our members flower displays.

One of our most important activities this year were the flower shows held for the enjoyment of our members and the public.

On May 2 our Spring Mini show was held during our meeting at the Columbus Centre.

On Saturday July 21 our Summer show was held at the Cobourg Library and as always enjoyed by visitors to the library on that day.

A third show was held during our meeting on September 5 with fall flowers and vegetables.

Many thanks to Judy Brown who organized these shows, and who will be mentoring Alexis Fentie in 2013.

Cobourg Arboretum

In January a resident of Frei Street north of Elgin (opposite the "Y") let us know that the wooden bench surrounding a black ash had deteriorated.

This bench on an iron base was constructed in 1992 donated by the society to commemorate Betty-Ann Ugolini and Josie Workman.

Dick Cowling and Bill Prawecki replaced the wooden seat during the summer so it can be enjoyed for another 20 years.

Home and Garden Show

For the second year a team of volunteers met the public at the Cobourg Community Centre and provided information on our society from our booth.

This initiative came from a goal of attracting new members by being more visible in the community when possible.

Cobourg Day Care Centre

We applied to the OHA for a youth grant which allowed us to help the Day Care on Alexandra Drive to create a children's garden.

Raised beds were constructed and filled with this \$150 grant and \$50 from the society.

Thanks to all the volunteers who worked with the coordinators Shirley Ross and Alexis Fentie.

Four Club Tour

On Sunday July 15 Cobourg hosted the garden tour held annually with Port Hope, Grafton and Cramahe clubs.

Over 80 visitors enjoyed our six gardens of Lorrain and Bill Prawecki, Suzanne Anderson, Judy Brown, Joan and George Prlja, Carole and Michael Hutson and Valerie and Dick Cowling.

No One Left Sitting

At the end of her President's Report Sarah Holland asked everyone to stand who had served on the Board or a committee, worked at a community garden or on the tour, helped at a flower show or plant sale, brought refreshments to a meeting, or contributed to any of our many activities - we were all standing!

2013 Executive

Anne Parks, President

aparks2@cogeco.ca

Bill Prawecki, Vice-President

bill.prawecki@sympatico.ca

Sarah Holland, Past president

sarahholland@sympatico.ca

Keith Stratton, Secretary

keithandsuellen@gmail.com

Suellen Stratton, Treasurer

keithandsuellen@gmail.com

Snapshots



Anne Parks thanks Sarah Holland for her

work during the past 4 years as President.



Visitors tour Dick and Valerie

Cowlings garden during the 4 Club Tour.



Joan Prlja and Trish Whitney discuss Joan's garden overlooking Lake Ontario.