

GROWING

P.O.Box 312 Cobourg,
ON K9A 4K8

www.cobourggardenclub.org



A member of the Ontario Horticultural Association

TOGETHER

Editor: Carol Evans

Winter 2012

President's Awards for 2011



Bob Clement and Shirley Ross were presented with awards for their special volunteer contributions to our Cobourg Branch by **Sarah Holland**. Congratulations to the award winners and thank you for your many hours of dedication!

Perennial Plant of the Year 2012 Brunnera m. 'Jack Frost'

First introduced in 2000, this brunnera was originally a sport (or mutation) growing as part of Brunnera Langtrees. It's deep green leaves have a heavy frosted metallic silver overlay which allows only the veining to show through. Forget-me-not type, blue blossoms appear from mid to late spring. Brunnera 'Jack Frost' adds light to the shade or woodland garden. Be sure to keep the soil around it moist especially when getting it established.



Events & Reminders

- Feb 1 - Douglas Kennedy - DIRT
- Mar 7 - Joyce Higgs - Square Foot Gardening
- SEED EXCHANGE
- Mar 16 - 25 - Canada Blooms - at the Direct Energy Centre Toronto
- Apr 4 - David Rollins - French Hybrid Lilacs
- Apr 5 - 7 - Peterborough Garden Show

From Your District to Goderich

On August 21 this year Goderich experienced a devastating tornado. An estimated 40% of the town's tree canopy disappeared.

When the District 4 Fall Seminar was held on Oct 22, 2011 a motion was passed to support the Goderich Horticultural Society with a \$500.00 donation toward tree restoration. A collection that day also raised a further \$211.80 for this cause.

★ Our Own Blog ★

The Cobourg Horticultural Society now has a blog (web log) linked to its website.

Use the link on the site or go directly to <http://cobourggardenclub.org/blog>.

Please check this out and feel free to post short articles and photos of interest to other gardeners or to comment on existing articles.

AGM Brought Changes to the Board

Special thanks are again extended to retiring directors **Shirley Ross, Alexis Fentie** and **Faye Haddow** for the many hours spent on the organizing and running of club activities and events.

At the November executive meeting, **Sarah Holland** welcomed **Anne Parks** to the position of Vice President, **Keith Stratton** as secretary and new directors **Dick Cowling, Bill Prawecki** and **Trish Whitney**.

Three Flower Shows for 2012

The spring flower show will continue as in previous years. Flowers and vegetables can be exhibited in July and September. Watch for details in your 2012 yearbook and start planning now for your beautiful entries.

President: Sarah Holland Vice President: Anne Parks Secretary: Keith Stratton Treasurer: Suellen Stratton

Caring for Holiday Plants

Poinsettias can brighten any room. Keeping them away from drafts of outside doors and furnace vents and watering only when they appear dry will keep them happiest.

Cyclamen prefer a cool room, at least overnight. Christmas Cactus like it warm and humid. Amaryllis would choose a warm room so its growth can be slowed by placing it in a cool not freezing room.

Poppy

Symbol of Hope and Remembrance

During this season poppies are dormant in this part of the world. Right now is a good time to plant seed. Annual papavers require a cold period to germinate. As the seeds are so tiny no digging is required. Simply sprinkle them on top of the bare ground or the snow. Poppies like full day sun and well-drained soil but don't mind poor dry locations. They do not, however, like competition with other grasses or closely planted vegetation. As annuals they will keep popping up each year in clear areas.

Papaver orientale is a different type - perennial, taller and bigger. Their seed needs to be started indoors in February or starter plants purchased from garden centres in spring.

A recent radio announcement suggested that there will be plantings of poppies along the Highway of Heroes. This idea is the brainchild of former District 4 President, **Beryl Harris**, who suggests that any red flowers, not just poppies could be planted. The Ministry of Transportation has hired a landscape architect to design gardens. **Beryl** says "*Perhaps by the spring, we will have more information as to when we can get busy spreading seeds etc.*"

Stay tuned for further developments.

Magazine Subscription

Ontario Gardener Living now comes to our society and is available at our lending library.

Orchid Lovers' Website

<http://orchidophilesmontreal.ca/Sites-personnels.php>

SEEDS for Spring - Seeds for Saving

It's that season when we're starting to peruse the seed catalogues and plan for next year's garden. Have you heard about the Global Seed Vault in Svalbard, Norway? About 1300 miles from the North Pole, an underground cavern is the repository for duplicate seed, "copies" of those held in genebanks worldwide. The vault is insurance in case of large scale regional or global crises. This vault cost about 9 million dollars to build but houses 2000 cultivars of 300 different species - or about 10,000 seed samples.

Check it out at :

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Svalbard_Global_Seed_Vault

Local Beauty in Our Care



Hoselton Sculpture at Five Corners
Submitted by **Ann Hancock**

Welcome to new members:

Nadia Bock
Lisa Irving
Susan Copland
Sherri Duncan

Dorothy MacLeod
John Simkins
Tara Archambault