



PRINCE · EDWARD · COUNTY  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2015

### SPEAKER – KATHLEEN LANG

Kathleen hails from the Lanark County Master Gardener group, and has been a member for 11 years. She gardens on a tiny lot on the banks of the Rideau River. She is going to talk about Drought Tolerant Gardening. Many of her tricks were learned while gardening in South Africa. She managed to establish a landscape at her new home during a 4 year drought. Today, with many having to pay for water, these same techniques come into play.

#### AGENDA – GENERAL MEETINGS IN 2015

- **7:00** MINI SHOW ENTRIES IN
  - **7:15** SPEAKER INTRODUCED and begins presentation
  - **\*8:15** – BREAK FOR COFFEE & VOTE ON MINI SHOW
  - **\*8:30** BUSINESS PORTION
  - **\*9:00** Announcements & Questions from Members  
\*9:00 MINI SHOW WINNERS ANNOUNCED
- Times are approximate\*

### SPEAKER STARTS@ 7:15

1<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL MEETING OF THE YEAR IS  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2015.

**SPEAKER STARTS AT 7:15 SHARP**

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

**RENEW your 2015**

**Membership**

**\$15** per person.

We are offering a

**\$25** family membership.

Give a Membership as a Gift

We have Gift Cards

Please see Connie and check to see if you have paid your membership for 2015. Membership is crucial!

### Mini Shows – 2015

DATE	THEME	DESIGN CLASS 1	HORTICULTURAL CLASS 2
<b>FEB. 25</b>	From the Heart	A design in a cup	Photo of your garden
<b>MAR. 25</b>	Top of the Morning	A design showing motion	Flowering Bulbs any cultivar – 1 pot
<b>APRIL 29</b>	Spring Ahead	A timely design	3 forced branches any variety
<b>MAY 27</b>	May Day	Woodland magic – a wild flower design	3 blooms Tulips any colour
<b>JUNE 24</b>	The Best Flowers in Garden	A design with a variety of spring flowers	Roses - the best from your garden –
<b>SEPT 30</b>	Fall's Coming	Splendour in the Grass – a design using a variety of ornamental grasses	Collection of mixed garden flowers at least 3 varieties
<b>OCT 28</b>	Autumn Charm	A Design in orange and black	3 blooms any variety – last flowers in the garden
<b>NOV 25</b>	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – POT LUCK and AWARD NIGHT		

### PROGRAMME 2015

PROGRAMME DATES	SPEAKER/EVENT	TOPIC
<b>WED. FEBRUARY 25</b>	KATHLEEN LANG	Drought Tolerant Gardening ( <i>confirmed</i> )
<b>WED. MARCH 25</b>	VICKIE EMLAW	Organic Veggie Gardening ( <i>confirmed</i> )
<b>WED. APRIL 29</b>	SUSAN CHEN, Manager Native Pollinator Program	All About Bees ( <i>confirmed</i> )
<b>SATURDAY MAY 16</b>	PLANT SALE	WELLINGTON MARKET (hoping to do this we need help from all the members) more info to follow
<b>WED. MAY 27</b>	DAWN TACK	Low Maintenance Perennials ( <i>confirmed</i> )
<b>WED. JUNE 13</b>	COUNTY GARDEN SHOW	At the Crystal Palace judging starts at 9:30 – Mayor opens at 11:00
<b>WED. JUNE 24</b>	No Speaker -	Membership Drive Dinner
<b>WED. SEPTEMBER 30</b>	GARY & DIANNE WESTLAKE	GARDEN ART FOR CHEAPSKATES ( <i>confirmed</i> )
<b>WED. OCTOBER 28</b>	TO BE DETERMINED	
<b>WED. NOVEMBER 25</b>	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	POT LUCK CHRISTMAS DINNER

[www.pechorticultural.org](http://www.pechorticultural.org)

**WEB SITE** – PLEASE USE IT FOR INFORMATION about MEETINGS, EVENTS, SPEAKERS, MINI SHOWS – FUN

IF YOU WANT TO BE REMINDED OF THE MEETINGS by telephone please let us know.

**BRING A FRIEND TO THE FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> MEETING FOR FREE – IT WILL BE FUN!**

To get current information on upcoming events and general meeting topics. **Please use the web site!!!** [www.pechorticultural.org](http://www.pechorticultural.org) The newsletters will also be posted on the web site. If you want a hard copy please call Colleen at 613-476-5900 or email us at: [pechorticultural@gmail.com](mailto:pechorticultural@gmail.com)

## Members of the Board 2015

Colleen Green – President  
[colleen.green@sympatico.ca](mailto:colleen.green@sympatico.ca)

Darlene Johnston – Vice President  
[jonstos@kos.net](mailto:jonstos@kos.net)

Liz Bowers  
[liz@halfadot](mailto:liz@halfadot)

Gayla Campney  
[gaylamcampney@aol.com](mailto:gaylamcampney@aol.com)

John Garside  
[galgar@sympatico.ca](mailto:galgar@sympatico.ca)

Connie Graham  
[cgraham@rogers.com](mailto:cgraham@rogers.com)

Howard Hunter – Treasurer  
[howard\\_hunter@hotmail.com](mailto:howard_hunter@hotmail.com)

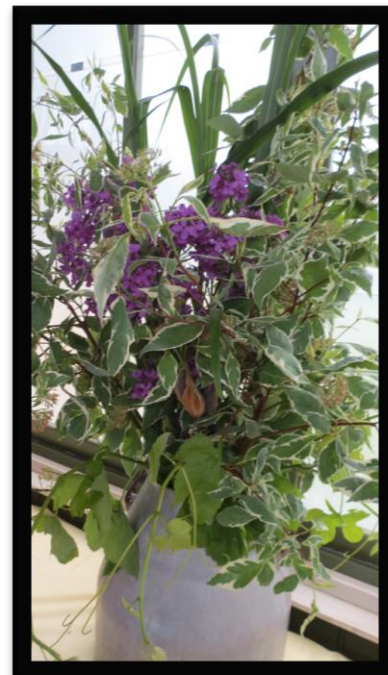
Mary Jenkins  
[jenkins.bertmary@gmail.com](mailto:jenkins.bertmary@gmail.com)

Anne Reeves  
[anne.reeves@hotmail.com](mailto:anne.reeves@hotmail.com)

Sheila Simmons  
[Sogetsu40@kos.net](mailto:Sogetsu40@kos.net)

## DISTRICT 3 REPRESENTATIVES

Howard Hunter  
Gayla Campney  
Director – Penny Stewart



Changes to our Constitution and by-laws will be voted on at the February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please be sure to attend. If you have any questions or comments please email us before the meeting!

### COMMITTEES - PLEASE HELP!

We need you to help us on the following Committees: Marketing, County Garden Show, Flower Show, Civic Gardens, Special Events, Hospital Garden, Programme Committee. Get involved on a Committee! We have a lot of fun! Please email me at [colleen.green@sympatico.ca](mailto:colleen.green@sympatico.ca) to get on a committee. Thank you to Sandra Dowds for sharing a format/categories for the rose and peony section of the flower show.

**SEEDY SATURDAY** – FEBRUARY 21 at Books & Company 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, if you have time to help contact Liz Bowers. We are going to be promoting this event and will have a booth to sell memberships and tell people about the Horticultural Society.

**COUNTY GARDEN SHOW** - Saturday, JUNE 13 – we will need volunteers to help on the day of the show. Please email Anne Reeves and she will put you where we need you most.

**PLANT SALE** – Saturday, MAY 23 – We need your plants, your help and a committee to organize this event. We are thinking the long weekend in May at the Wellington Market would be a great place to have our sale. We need to book a booth and get some of you to volunteer to help not just on the day but in the planning stage as well. Call or email Colleen if you want to help.

**BUS TRIP & GARDEN TOUR** – we need you to sell tickets, bring your friends, sign up to go. Sheila Simmons is arranging the tour - see poster below

## Mail Bag

Received an email from Johanna McCarthy asking if there are any members of the Horticultural Society who would like to have their garden on a tour taking place in Picton. If you are interested please email Johanna at [jcmleewis@kos.net](mailto:jcmleewis@kos.net).

We received a Thank you note from Jenny Andrews, the recipient of the Prince Edward County Horticultural Society Bursary. Jenny is attending the University of Ottawa

We received a thank you note from the Hospital Auxiliary thanking us for our donation to the Festival of Trees. The tree sold for \$80 and helped the Hospital raise approximately \$46,000.



## Notes from the January 19<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

- Howard Hunter was appointed Treasurer for 2015
- Gayla Campney was appointed Secretary
- John Garside will take over the Hospital Garden Committee
- Connie Graham will continue to work on Membership along with the PEC Facebook Page
- Sheila Simmons agreed to look into the organization of a Bus Trip
- Liz Bowers has agreed to help organize a booth for the 2015 Seedy Saturday being held on February 21 above the Book Store on Main Street
- Anne Reeves will chair the County Garden Show again this year.
- Mary Jenkins will organize the Mini Shows at each meeting
- Darlene Johnston, Vice President will help to organize the general meetings.
- It was determined that the Horticultural Society should hold a plant sale this year. We determined that it should be held on a Saturday morning at the Wellington farmer's market. We need someone to head up this project.
- Colleen was reminded that we will be voting on the changes to our Constitution at the February Meeting.
- Budgets were set for the County Garden Show, Advertising, Speakers, Special Events, Awards etc. The speaker prices have gone up and our membership is down so we are not covering the costs of the General Meetings. We need the help of the membership to help us increase membership.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

### **Seedy Saturday**

Saturday February 21st,  
10 AM to 3 PM

Lipson Room above Books and Company.

### **PEC Horticultural Society General Meeting**

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25

Speaker – Kathleen Lang

At the Fire Hall in Picton

### **Lone Pine Marsh Trust Presents**

Creating a Native & Pollinator Garden

With Botanist Marg Fleming

Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

Keeler Centre, 80 Division St.

Colborne

### **2015 County Garden Show**

Saturday, June 13, 2015

Crystal Palace Picton

### **Rideau Woodland Bus Trip**

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

**WEB SITE:** [www.pechorticultural.org](http://www.pechorticultural.org) Web Master Andy Bowers

**FACEBOOK:** PEC Gardener

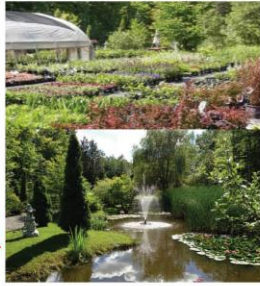
**EMAIL:** [pechorticultural@gmail.com](mailto:pechorticultural@gmail.com)

**IF YOU HAVE ANY GARDEN SHOW SIGNS BRING THEM TO THE FEB. MEETING**

# CATCH THE BUS



TO



## RIDEAU WOODLAND — RAMBLE —

DISPLAY GARDENS AND CENTRE

**TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015**

**COST: OHA Member - \$ 55.00pp**  
**New OHA Member - \$ 65.00pp\***  
• Includes 2015 membership required for insurance purposes.

**DEPART 9:00AM SHARP**

Mary St. Parking Lot at Elizabeth St.  
Off Main St. PICTON

11:30am to 1:00

Enjoy Shops and Restaurants in Merrickville

1:30 – 4:00pm

Tour the sights, scents and gardens of

**RIDEAU WOODLAND RAMBLE**

10% discount on purchases

Relax in a 32 seater Highway Coach  
with washroom facilities

For Ticket info go to

[www.pechorticultural.org](http://www.pechorticultural.org) or  PEC GARDENER



## Drought Resistant Gardening – Some Ideas

So-called drought-resistant plants are, by definition, tolerant of low-water conditions. But while the definition is straightforward enough, we find that it's not so easy to implement a plan that will get our landscapes through periods without rainfall (in the absence of artificial irrigation). That's because, in practice, there are numerous factors that have a say regarding whether or not a plant will receive adequate water.

For example, what type of soil do you have? Something that qualifies as a "drought-resistant plant" in a wonderfully loamy soil may struggle during a dry spell if it's growing in a sandy soil (through which water pours quickly, as through a sieve).

Then there's the issue of competition for resources. The most extreme example is encountered when we plant under trees. Only stubbornly tough plants can compete successfully with massive trees for water. But on a less extreme level, even various types of weeds can pose a challenge to landscaping specimens during dry periods, siphoning off much-needed water.

Thankfully, using garden mulch correctly can mitigate some of the above challenges. Mulch shields the ground from the pounding sun, helping to keep it from drying out. It also suppresses weeds, thereby reducing competition for water. But even after mulch breaks down, it continues to work hard for you. As it decomposes, organic mulch adds humus to the soil, promoting water-retention.

Always pay attention to sunshine requirements and/or tolerance when planting. You may think of full-sun plants when you hear mention of drought-resistant plants, but there are also suitable plants for dry shade. Moreover, not all sun-lovers tolerate excessive dryness (and there are varying degrees of such toleration).

Vegetation that tolerates dry soil includes stalwarts such as cacti and succulents, as well as native plants. The latter have adapted to your local climate over the ages, so they should work well as drought-resistant plants if you can mimic their natural habitat (soil type, amount of sunshine or shade, etc.). Not everyone will like the look of a landscape planted purely with cacti and succulents, although new cultivars such as 'Chocolate Drop' sedum may generate significant excitement. And sometimes natives simply don't offer enough color choices for a particular season of the year

