



Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com

Issue 50, April, 2019

How fair is a garden
amid the trials and
passions of existence.

--Benjamin Disraeli
(1804-1881)

SPEAKER TONIGHT

Tania Pacini, on
Essential Oils for your
Garden

FYI

TORONTO ISLAND GARDEN TOUR 2019

Saturday June 1st^{and} Sunday
June 2nd - 12 to 5 pm.

Garden tour tickets and
maps are available in the
white gazebo at arrival on
Ward's Island. Ticket
prices are \$10 cash
only for adults. All funds
are used for community
landscaping projects.

Volunteers are responsible
for the event.

For more information
please contact:

www.torontoisland.org ,
annekotyk@yahoo.ca or
bjsimmons@sympatico.ca

Remember, it's cooler by
the Lake!

WINNERS OF LAST MONTH'S PHOTO CONTEST

Spring Scene - Helen
Peacock

Fall Scene - Mary
Cicchirillo
Winter Scene - John
Mazzella
Colour explosion & Best
in Show, John Mazzella
Close Up - Grace Mc
Kinley.

NEAT THINGS ABOUT YELLOW

The colour of sunlight and
gold, yellow is often
associated with warmth,
cheer and intelligence. A
room painted yellow feels
warmer than a room
painted white. In China, it
is the colour of nobility.
Yellow in living things is
caused by pigments called
carotenoid, which provide
colour to yellow flowers,
bananas and leaves. They
serve two purposes in
plants: they absorb light
energy for use in
photosynthesis and protect
chlorophyll from light
damage. In the fall, when
trees slow down their
chlorophyll production in
preparation for winter, the
carotenoids become visible
as yellow leaves.

In Europe, until the 18th
century, roses only came in
shades of red, white and
pink. Yellow roses were
discovered in Asia and
Afghanistan, and soon
gained popularity.

Daffodils, the pretty
harbingers of spring,
emerge from bulbs.
Beautiful yellow
Sunflowers display
heliotropism before the
flowers have bloomed.
Heliotropism occurs when
a plant faces the sun and
moves as the sun moves.
Through the night, they
turn to face east, waiting
for the sun to rise again.
Once they've bloomed,
they generally face east all
the time.

Pseudacorus, is a stunning
yellow *Iris* cultivar that
won the Royal
Horticultural Society's
Award of Garden Merit. A
beautiful aquatic plant, it
is best avoided in Canada,
as it is on the invasive
species list and very
difficult to eradicate.
Goldenrod (*Solidago*), seen
in the fall along highways,
is very high in latex.
Thomas Edison was asked
by Henry Ford to find an
American-growing plant
that could produce enough
latex to make rubber.
Edison determined that a
species of goldenrod could
fill the bill. He bred a 12-
foot tall goldenrod that was
12 per cent latex.



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*Walking in the garden
after the benediction
of the rain, my poor,
big devil of a nose
inhales April.*

--Edmond Rostand,
Cyrano De Bergerac
(1897)

FLEXING GARDENING MUSCLES

It is safe to plant frost hardy shrubs, trees and perennials.

Add worm castings, Triple Mix and finished compost to the soil. Simply spread around evenly, no need to dig it in.

Prune winter kill from rose bushes.

Remove weeds.

To prevent an infestation of soft fleshed bugs, spray dormant oil on fruiting trees before buds open.

Try this organic recipe: mix 2 tbsp. baking soda, 5 tbsp. peroxide and 2 tbsp. Castile soap to 1 gallon of water in a sprayer. Shake well and thoroughly douse entire tree, including the trunk.

Sow grass seed to thinning patches of the lawn.

Set up a compost area.

Compost and manures are very important as you will be able to use them to

organically nourish your plants and soil without the need for synthetic fertilizers.

Dig a sizeable hole and build a crate like structure, or buy a simple compost bin.

Read Mark and Ben Cullen's new book, *Escape to Reality, how the world is changing gardening and gardening is changing the world.*

THANKS!

To Gail, Sally and Chris, Mace, John and brother-in-law Raymond, Mary and Maria for decorating the Wallace House, library and the Big Canoli for Easter. The bridge was decorated by Gail, Liz and Mace, John, Gilda, Chris and Sally and Maria.

CONGRATULATIONS!

To Mace Blundell for receiving the Volunteer Recognition Award at a ceremony held at Vaughan city Hall, Tuesday, April 9th.

PLANT SALE

Kleinburg Old Boys' Plant Sale, BBQ & Bake Sale will be held on Saturday May 11, 9am - 1pm, at the Kline House (north-west corner of Islington

Avenue/Nashville Road). Any perennials you wish to donate would be welcome early Saturday morning. All proceeds will go to the Kleinburg Old Boys in support of the Kline House, open Victoria Day weekend through Thanksgiving.

IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened by the passing of Janet MacKerrow. Janet was an active member of WHS for many years. We will miss her warmth, quick wit and dry sense of humour.



SUBMISSIONS

If you have anything you'd like added to the newsletter, please call or email Mary no later than one week before the next meeting.