



# Tulip Times

## Niagara-on-the-Lake Horticultural Society

Established 1917

Fall 2011

### President's message by Shirley Madsen

What a great year! Our membership has soared, great committees helping organize various events and our 20th anniversary Garden Tour was a HUGE success!

25 gardens in 6 locations, this was a huge undertaking and thanks to all the volunteers (100 +), sponsors and homeowners... we couldn't have done it without you. What an incredible day and the feedback was nothing but spectacular. Thank you for the seminars put on by Beckie Fox from Garden Making magazine and Robert Weeden from Armstrong & Blackbury.

Our tulip and plant sale were both a roaring success and the trip to Bluemin Acres was very informative.

Our September meeting will be at the NEW Community Centre and we are looking forward to hearing Paul Zammit speak on "**Choice Annuals & Perennials Worth the Hunt**" ...I am sure this will be a full house.

We have also announced the sale of **The 1812 Rose™** (KORcasima) and congratulations to Gerrie Barnim for naming the rose. The rose will be available through our Society and other Societies in District 9. \$20.00 for a potted plant or \$16.00 for a bare root.

### **Reserve Now... The 1812 Rose™** (KORcasima)

Official Rose of the  
2012 OHA Convention

&

*The War of the 1812 Bicentennial Celebration*

*e-mail:*

[notlhortsociety@gmail.com](mailto:notlhortsociety@gmail.com)

or download the order form

### Past Happenings.....

April and May meetings were well attended. April featured a talk by Darrell Bley Curator NP School of Horticulture on shrub pruning, while in May we learned of the magic of worms from by Cathy's Crawly Composter

Also in May the plant sale held at Busy Bee was a huge success Doubling last year's sales.

After the violent windstorm in April your Hort Society was able to contribute \$3,000 to the town tree fund to help in the replanting efforts.



One of the beautiful gardens on the 2011 garden tour

In August we enjoyed a tour of Bluemin Acres blueberry farm.

Our hosts, Dianne and Ed gave a very interesting talk about their fruit farm. They purchased the existing 4 acre farm 15 years ago after she retired from an accounting firm and he from GM. Everything is done by hand from pruning to picking. Dianne is in the field every day the weather permits

## Upcoming Meetings

### At the new community centre

**Tues. Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Choice Annuals & Perennials Worth the Hunt!** \*Join

Paul Zammit, Director of Horticulture at the Toronto Botanical Garden, as he shares both his experience and passion for plants to highlight some of his must have plants for your garden.

**Tues. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Garden Design Demystified**

\*By Beckie Fox – Garden Making Magazine

A pleasing garden design relies on a few basic key elements which easily translate into any size garden or budget. Plant combinations, colour, using small spaces efficiently, vertical gardening, choosing hardscaping (building materials) and good trees for small gardens. 15 easy, effective ideas for home gardeners.

**Tues. Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Time 6:00 pm**

#### **Pot Luck/Annual General Meeting AND**

#### **"Make & Take" fresh Winter Table Arrangement**

\*By Hilary Bellis. Learn how to create your own long lasting winter table arrangement. Bring the fresh aromas of pine and cedar into your home. See how you can turn this arrangement into a holiday centerpiece with the addition of a few pieces of Christmas "Bling". \*Please bring your own pruners. Fee \$40. Or just watch and learn.

### **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

**Tues. Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> – Lene Rasmussen-Growing and Working with Willow**

**Tues. Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> Eveleyn Wolf - Framework Elements of Great Garden Design**

**Tues. March 27<sup>th</sup> Marjorie Mason - Making your garden a feast for the plate as well as the eyes. Edible landscaping.**

**Tues. April 24<sup>th</sup> TBA**

**Tues. May 22 - Frank Kershaw - Recycled gardens**

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**"There's one good thing about snow, it makes your lawn look as nice as your neighbor's."**

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## Other Happenings

from sun up to sun down. Looking after the blueberries begins in February with pruning and goes until winter begins. Berries are picked daily and what is not sold that day is then frozen to be sold out of season.



Ed and Diana DeMarco of Bluemin acres

### **16 Essential Fall Garden Tasks**

From: <http://www.canadiangardening.com/what-to-do-now/jobs-in-the-garden-by-season/16-essential-fall-garden-tasks>

As autumn leaves drift by your window, it may be tempting to look outside and think idle thoughts about nature taking care of itself. But like the rest of us, Mother Nature needs a good kick in the pants once in a while. Here are some fall dos and don'ts, plus tips to help your garden get a jump-start on spring.

**[1]** When available, pop 'Icicle' pansies into spots where summer annuals have been cleared out. They will bloom until December, then lie down for the winter. Cover them with evergreen cuttings until earliest spring, when they'll be ready to sprout new flower buds.

**[2]** Leaves are garden gold. Spread small leaves of trees, such as honeylocust, birch, beech, ginkgo and silver maple (or shredded large Norway maple leaves), under shrubs and over all exposed soil. They will degrade into mineral nutrients; worms will turn them into fertilizer.

**[3]** Take a gamble and throw seeds of hardy annuals where you want them to bloom next year. Larkspur, poppies, cleome and cosmos will frequently take root from seeds sown in autumn and conditioned under winter snow.

**[4]** Plant bulbous Asiatic and Oriental lilies in late fall to ensure flower bud set. When planting is delayed until spring

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## September 24<sup>th</sup> District 9 Fall Forum

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Coronation 50 Plus Recreation Centre

5925 Summer Street

Niagara Falls, Ontario

Theme – ‘Fall Splendour’

**Also note that the 2012 OHA convention will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake:**

106th Annual Convention  
“Gardening Then and Now.”  
1812-2012

**August 17th-19th, 2012**  
Niagara College  
**Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON**  
Hosted by District 9 Societies  
[www.d9.gardenontario.org](http://www.d9.gardenontario.org)

We trust our Society will help in ensuring this convention is a total success as it will be held in Niagara on the Lake. We need many volunteers to help in various capacities. We urge you to get involved and sign up in the coming months.

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## 2010 Executive

### President:

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they may not get enough chilling and come up blind, with no flowers.

**[5]** Wait until the soil has frozen before mulching autumn-installed plants. After freeze-up, a thick mulch of leaves and evergreen cuttings will keep their root balls safe from the heaving action of frost.

**[6]** Lift big, fibrous clumps of summer phlox, hostas and Siberian irises and divide with a sharp spade or knife; tease apart fleshy roots of daylilies. Late-blooming perennials such as Michaelmas daisies and obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*), purchased in bloom, can go directly into garden beds (see #5).

**[7]** Plant garlic in October, in a sunny spot with lots of manure dug in. Set individual cloves eight centimetres deep and 15 centimetres apart, and mulch with five to eight centimetres of leaves. Hard-neck Rocamboles such as ‘Music’ are the hardiest strains, and, when planted in October, can be harvested in July, just as the first cherry tomatoes turn red.

**[8]** Autumn is a good time for planting evergreen trees and shrubs. The evergreens’ root systems pump water all winter, so be sure to water them well before the ground freezes. And don’t hesitate to purchase deciduous flowering shrubs at discounted prices. Even after a summer in containers, they’ll adapt and make strong root growth in cool autumn soil.



Here are some more of fall dos and don'ts, plus tips to help your garden get a jump-start on spring.

**[9]** Autumn is the only time to move clematis or honeysuckle vine to prevent shock to growth: both vines begin extending leaves and shoots while frost is still in the spring ground. If the vines are large, cut them back by half, and they’ll leap forward next spring.

**[10]** Use generous amounts of anti-transpirant sprays (available at garden centres) on needle evergreens and broadleaf evergreens, such as euonymus, Japanese pieris



## Board members needed for 2012

Elections are coming up in November. Many of the current Board has agreed to stay on in 2012. We also look forward to Alice Rance, Gail Santsche, Kathryn Durand and Anne Solomatenko who have decided to join our board.

We are looking to fill four positions:

**President**

**Vice President**

**Two Directors at large**

Please contact one of the Board members to let us know if you are interested to stand in the upcoming November elections. I personally would like to thank all the 2011 Board members for helping us direct the Society and making 2011 an outstanding year!

## Web links to check out:

[www.notlhortsociety.com](http://www.notlhortsociety.com)

**Canadian Gardening**  
[www.canadiangardening.com](http://www.canadiangardening.com)

**Ontario Horticultural Association**  
[www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org)

## HARVEST BOUNTY RECIPE:

### Shirley's Fresh Mint & Basil Mayonnaise

1 cup fresh mint

1 cup fresh basil

2 medium eggs

Juice and zest 1 large lemon or more to taste

½ cup olive oil

½ cup vegetable oil

Salt/pepper/Tabasco to taste

Blanch in boiling water mint and basil for 6 seconds.

Drain.

Plunge in cold ice water, drain and squeeze.

In processor or blender mix well the mint, basil, eggs and lemon juice and zest.

With motor running stream in olive oil and vegetable oil. Season to taste and refrigerate and Enjoy!

and rhododendrons. The waxy coating helps to preserve tissue moisture and prevent winter windburn and sunscald. And lavish it on your Christmas tree to help keep it fresh through the holidays.

**[11]** Root vegetables such as carrots and parsnips are sweeter after hard frost and can be harvested all winter. Remove top foliage from the plants and cover them with a 15-centimetre-thick mulch of leaves or straw (available from garden centres) spread to similar thickness. Throw an old piece of carpeting on top and let it snow. Lift the coverings to dig out veggies as needed.

**[12]** Tender hybrid teas, floribunda and grandiflora roses need hilling up about 25 centimetres above their crowns with fresh soil or triple mix. A simple trick that reaps armloads of rose blooms is to tie the flexible new canes of climbing roses in a horizontal arc along fences or trellises. This will trigger the breaking and blooming of many more buds next summer.

**[13]** As for garden hygiene, pick up or rake diseased leaves from under roses (blackspot) and crabapples (scab) and dispose of them in the garbage, not the compost pile. Left on the soil all winter, they'll reinoculate the plants with disease spores the following spring.

**[14]** Squirrels "read" the disturbed soil and marks you leave when planting their favourite tulips and crocuses. Outwit them by concentrating spring bulb plantings in large groups and disguising your marks by flooding the soil surface with water. Then cover them with five centimetres of leaves topped with some shrubby branches.

**[15]** Remove the debris of summer annuals, then be honest with yourself: will you really go out in early spring to remove remaining perennials? Clean up as much as possible now, leaving strategic clumps for attractive winter display and food for birds. Sedums, hostas, astilbes and ornamental grasses are beautiful in snow.

**[16]** Unless you really are Snow White, try not to create a garden of little winter dwarfs all wrapped up in burlap coats. Tightly wrapped burlap does plants more harm than good by potentially holding ice against their tissues. To protect them from wind or household dryer vent emissions, set up stake-and-burlap barriers, fastened with diaper pins, to break air currents.