



Sudbury Horticultural Society



“The Newsletter”

May 2007

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Visit our web site: <http://groups.msn.com/sudburyhorticulturalsociety>

Dedicated to the beautification of the Sudbury region and the preservation of our environment

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Gilberte Lambert created this wonderful line design, above, for the African Violet Show. Left, is a foliage design by Tina Hansen.

**In May, in May my heart is set
Where daffodil, pansy and violet
And multi-coloured tulips grow
In borders fresh with melted snow
Wakening there from wintery sleep.
With every day, I sunward creep. -Anon**

KEEP COMPOSTING !

Things you may not have thought to throw into your composter :

- Your old jeans and other cotton clothing. You will find the copper rivets and polyester pockets next spring.
- Lint from your dryer.
- Hair from your pets and your own home trims.
- All paper products. Buy an inexpensive shredder from Staples or tear into thin strips.
- Stale bread, cereal, pasta..
- Leather products such as shoes, purses, belts. The eyelets and aglets will rust, adding iron to the mix.
- Make up pads and related products.
- Sea food shells broken up with a hammer.
- Wool products such as carpet or clothes.
- Grandma's fur stole.
- Grandpa's collection of felt hats.
- Silk items of clothing...also a natural fibre.
- Burlap, sisal, wicker, and excelsior.
- Cigarette butts. The filters act as aeration and water retainers in the soil.
- Dead Bar BQ or wood fire ashes contain potassium. Avoid briquettes.

However, do not try :

- Wine bottle corks. They keep wine from leaking out of the bottle **forever**.
- Birch bark. Canoes were made from them to keep the water out.
- Pine or spruce cones that take forever to break down.

- submitted by Richard Toivonen

Normally, anything consisting of "natural" material, not synthetic, will break down sooner than later in your composter. Have at least two on the go...one to which you are adding fresh kitchen waste (even in winter) and one that has been "working" all year and will be ready to add to your garden this spring/summer. Just one method of composting... I'm sure you have your own. Whatever the method...**KEEP COMPOSTING !**



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Sudbury Horticultural Society
Society/Club Name

Heermin Habet
President's Authorization

FULL MOON on May 2 and May 31, making it a BLUE MOON ! According to the Farmer's Almanac, it is safe to plant after the last full moon in May ! (if you can wait.)

Dates to Remember !

- May 13** - Mothers' Day
- May 21** - Victoria Day
- May 30** - John St. Park clean-up
- June 2** - Perennial Plant Sale
- June 5** - Executive Meeting, 7:00 pm
Red Oak Villa
- June 17** - Fathers' Day
- June 21** - First Day of Summer
- June 23** - Bus Trip to North Bay

OPEN GARDEN WEEKEND

Summer means that it is again time to tour some fabulous gardens in the Sudbury region. There are two ways in which you can participate:

- recommend a great garden (could be your own)
- buy a weekend passport for a self-guided tour this July. Passes will be on sale at local Garden Centres early in June. Watch the newsletter and our web site for further details.

The Open Garden Weekend was a huge success last year. If you know of a property that would be of interest this year, contact Linda Hugli (693-2476) or lhugli@hotmail.com.

Perennial Plant Sale

June 2 - Market Square - 8:00 - 3:30pm

A great place to buy hardy and beautiful perennials for your home garden for a bargain basement price !!! Come out and join the value hunters.

Do you have plants that are getting too large ?

Do you want to share them by dividing & donating to your horticultural society ? Do you have house plants, books or other garden stuff you would like to pass on ?

Please bring potted plants (label if possible) to Market Square on Friday, June 1, between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

If you have plants to be divided & potted bring them to Gilberte's house, 2325 Grenoble St. (left turn off Falconbridge Rd. before the overpass) or call Gilberte or Joanne for pick-up before May 30.



Whether you buy or bring plants to the plant sale this is always a popular fund raiser for our society. Please make an effort to take part. Volunteers needed to help with the sale on Saturday.

**S.H.S. Convener - Gilberte Lambert, 524-5779
Master Gardener - Joanne MacLellan, 674-7450**

MEET THE MEMBERS

This month's profile is of Theresa Henderson, one of our African Violet specialists.

What is your earliest garden related memory ?

Weeding the vegetable garden with my mother and grandmother at the age of six

How did you become interested in gardening ?

I grew up on a tobacco farm in southern Ontario. We produced fruit and vegetables and meat that fed the family all year.

What type of gardening do you do ?

I grow a few vegetables and perennials, but very few annuals and container plants, as they take up too much time and water for my location.

What is your garden philosophy ? If it dies...plant something different !

What is your most remarkable garden success/failure ?

The day my daughter and her boyfriend asked if they could have their wedding in our garden, specially since she had never shown any interest in gardening at any point in time.

What prompted you to join the SHS ?

I was looking for a group of people who shared my interest in gardening, since I have no direct family in Sudbury.

Of what life accomplishment are you most proud ?

Being selected to participate as an adult member of the Girl Guides of Canada in two international Guide camps in Canada

What do you, or did you do in real life ? I manage day programs for the Sudbury Developmental Services.

Other than gardening, what hobbies do you have ? I enjoy bird watching and reading.

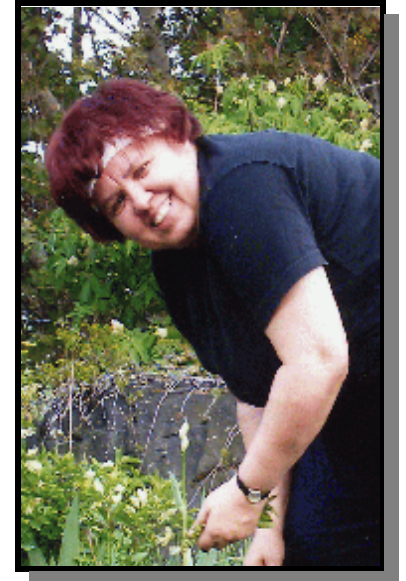
Favourite garden tip ? Work a little...enjoy a lot.

Pet garden peeve ?

I do become annoyed with the rabbits that get into my vegetable garden, but still like to watch them in the yard.

Anything you would like to share that describes the real you ?

I have always enjoyed growing things and find that, as I work with the plants outdoors or my violets indoors, I remember my mother and grandmother more clearly as we shared a common interest.



General Meeting and Pot Luck Supper

The last general meeting for this season began with an audio-visual presentation on the construction of stone walls and concluded with an aromatic & tasty pot luck dinner. The next time we meet at the CNIB will be for the August Show and then the Fall Show meetings begin, in September.

If I had but two loaves of bread, I would sell one and buy hyacinths, for they would feed my soul.

- The Koran



Adopt-a-Plot in John Street Park

If you get this newsletter before Tuesday, May 8, you can join us for spring cleaning at our very own John Street Park.
(4:30 until dusk)

But, don't despair ! You can still help us with the planting Wednesday, May 30 from 4:30 until dusk

Call Gilberte, please to let her know...
524-5779

Adopt an area of the park...care for it by planting, weeding, mulching, & checking the amount of water.

Show your pride !

So many of the public comment and show their appreciation of our work at John Street



NORTH BAY GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, June 23, 2007

Members - \$55.00 Non-Members - \$60.00
Includes lunch & supper

Only a few tickets left...call soon to reserve yours

For further information about this trip please contact Linda or Wayne Hugli at **693-2476**

2008 Calendar Project



We are seeking **high resolution digital photographs**

from our members that can be featured in a special **calendar** of all our upcoming horticultural events in Sudbury for 2008.

If you would like to contribute one or more of your floral photos (in a horizontal / landscape format) for consideration, please e-mail them to Wayne Hugli at whugli@hotmail.com

Pesticide By-Laws

- by Ken Pavely (IPM turf specialist, Landscape ON)

Pesticide bylaws continue to pop up around Ontario. Some cities and municipalities seem to introduce these bylaws with very little notice, while other jurisdictions take a more consultative approach. Here is a snapshot of what is going on around the province. For more information, consult your municipality website, visit www.lawnfacts.ca or contact Ken Pavely at (416) 882-3792.

Toronto: In effect (does not include surrounding 905 areas)

- Prohibits control of dandelions and most other broadleaf weeds
- Allows control of provincially designated noxious weeds
- Allows curative control of insect infestations on lawns
- No thresholds, guidelines for insect problems other than turf
- OMAFRA thresholds used for turf insects
- Homeowners allowed to treat without fines until September, 2007
- Exemption for sports fields, cemeteries
- Infestation means imminent or potential risk of substantial loss or damage

Peterborough: In effect

- Total ban on pesticide use other than for human health issues, pools, water treatment, structural, agriculture, and golf courses

London: In effect, September 2008

- Similar to Toronto but with a golf exemption

Orangeville: In effect

- Allows spot treatment on turf except in July and August, where there must be an undefined infestation
- Pre-posting for summer month infestation treatments
- Uses a notification registry
- Requires IPM Accreditation for lawn care and golf

Caledon, Cobourg, and Windsor:

- Similar to Orangeville but Windsor with a full ban in 2009

Thorold and Perth: - Similar to Toronto

North Bay and Region of Waterloo: In effect

- Can treat for an infestation
- Must notify city within 24 hours
- Must prepost

Montreal and Halifax (not in ON) and other areas in Canada by now, have also banned the use of "lawn enhancers /poisons", It's a start ! HH

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local food bank, thus giving them
fresh produce to work with, not just
canned.



Master Gardener Clinic

Saturday, May 12

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

at Azilda Botanix Greenhouses



Herbs & other useful plants

- Hermina Hubert



The Toronto African Violet Show

April 22 was the day of another African Violet Show...this time in Toronto. Gilberte Lambert volunteered to help set up on Saturday and was asked to help judge, with four other judges, on Sunday. She was very impressed with the entries and with the knowledge she gained about judging and gesneriad.

To see the world-class photographs of the violets and floral designs, taken by Jack Cooper that weekend, click on to this website: <http://www.bluejasper.com/tavs/2007-tavs-show/index.html>

Enjoy the picture show !

- Hermina Hubert

A Truly Beautiful 'Site' to Behold !! The Rare Parrot Flower of Thailand

Helen Toivonen introduced me to this wonderful plant. We could not do justice to these stunning photos in black and white, so explore this site to see them in living colour.

According to the gentleman who took the photos it is *Impatiens psittacina*. He happens to have a botanical background and is an excellent plant grower in Thailand. The plant was discovered in 1899 in the Shaw States of Burma, and was identified at the Royal Botanical Garden Kew in 1901. It is only found in portions of Burma and northern Thailand and as such is quite rare. According to the grower it is very difficult to cultivate and requires a local natural pollinator to produce seeds. It also requires very specific soil pH in order to prosper and produce the "blue" colouration.

If you care to read about the species you can find more information on this website, The Exotic Rainforest at www.ExoticRainforest.com. Look for the plant on the Plants Collection page under its botanical name, [Impatiens psittacina](http://www.ExoticRainforest.com).

This plant bears a striking resemblance to our own native Impatiens, Himalaya. Who knows, maybe we could grow them here!


- Claire

Beautiful to behold as one of the first flowers of spring, and wonderfully aromatic, the Lily-of-the-Valley is an unusual plant.

In many countries, it is the custom to exchange bouquets of lilies-of-the-valley on May Day. Ironically, the entire plant is so poisonous that a child, who drank the water from a vase holding the cut flowers, died. It contains an active substance, convallamarine, that is similar to the glycosides in foxgloves (*Digitalis*) used to stimulate the heart.

Its creeping roots allow it to spread rapidly throughout woodlands and gardens of Europe and North America. The fragrance is popular in soaps and other cosmetic products and the leaves create a green fabric dye. As with other poisonous plants, and there are many, be careful around children and pets.

(Information gleaned from "The Complete Encyclopaedia of Herbs" by Nico Vermeulen)



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Articles for the Yearbook 2008

Our Theme for next year is "My Favourite Things". We would like to involve our membership and are therefore asking for your favourite gardening tips, techniques, tools, etc. that we could add to the yearbook. Bring them to one of our meetings or events, or email them to herminahubert@yahoo.com



An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream.

"I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house."

The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them.

SO, to all of my crackpot friends, have a great day and remember to smell the flowers on your side of the path!

- anonymous email,
submitted by Richard Toivonen



A great show of potted violets, (photo above)

This Creative Design "Spring Through the Eyes of a Child" by Lisa Robinson won a first place ribbon.



(Photo below) Nicole Richer brought her cement and glass art



THE AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW

I would like to thank all of the participants who helped to make this years show a great success and the judges and clerks for their work and dedication to judge the entries. Special thanks to Tina Hansen, Colombe Charest, Camilla Yahnke, Cathy Carr, Mary Wells , Nancy Ley and the Master Gardeners

There were a total of 117 entries by 15 members:

Section A - 84 entries

Section B - 8 entries

Section C - 18 entries

Section D - 7 entries

Thank you, Gilberte Lambert

