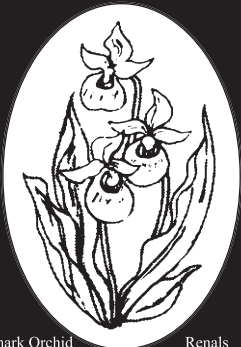


# February 2013 Newsletter



"Really, this is the very worst time of year to be making plans. Winter in these climes keeps a person trapped inside for so long that by the time February comes around one is positively delusional with grandiose plans for the coming year."

-Rundy



Lanark Orchid

Renals

Perth & District  
Horticultural  
Society

P.O. Box 494  
Perth, ON, K7H 3G1  
www.gardenontario.org

District #2 of the  
Ontario Horticultural  
Association

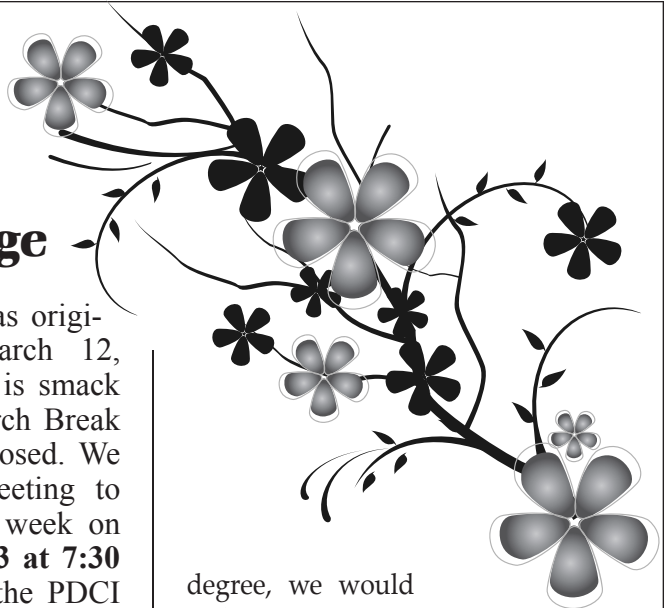
## PDHS March Break Meeting Change

Our March Meeting was originally scheduled for March 12, 2013. Unfortunately, this is smack dab in the middle of March Break and the school will be closed. We have rescheduled the meeting to take place the following week on **Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Library** of the PDCI as usual. Please make a note on your calendars - we don't want you locked out in the cold.

Our speaker for March 19 will be Neill Ritchie with "New seeds and Trends for 2013" - just in time for Spring planting and ordering from the seed catalogues.

## PDHS to Host District 2 AGM in April, 2014

PDHS will be Hosting District 2's AGM on April 5, 2014 at the Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church and we are 'growing' with excitement. We have not hosted an AGM for over 25 years, so our time has come. We will need a variety of volunteers for jobs from involved to less involved, and if you would like to be involved to a lesser or greater



degree, we would welcome you on board. There will be a Friday night setup and monitoring over the day Saturday to make sure all our delegates feel welcome. If you would like to learn more, please connect with Lynda Haddon or David Archer and we will be delighted to discuss with you what you may offer. We will need a little muscle, a little baking, a little decorating, perhaps a little phoning, some stuffing of delegate bags and definitely lots of smiles and camaraderie.

*No experience necessary - we will happily train you!*

Lynda 613-267-6754 or  
David 613-283-1032

## Seedy Sunday

PDHS is participating in Seedy Sunday again this year. We will have a video running, seeds available for a donation to Junior Gardeners (thank you Barb M!), instructions on making your own newspaper seed pots and seed tapes, Junior Gardener information and informational material on soils and amendments for gardens.

Seedy Sunday will take place on Sunday, March 3, 2013

**President:** Madeline Archer

**Secretary:** Peggy Clark • **Newsletter:** Pam Pratt, Irene Hofmann

from 10am - 3pm at the Perth Legion. There should be many displays there and it is a fun day.

If you are interested in participating at the PDHS table for an hour or two, please contact Linda Bartlett or Pam Pratt at the break.

## 2013 District 2 Advisory Council Meeting And AGM

Date: April 6, 2013

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Theme: In Our Backyard

Place: Ma-Te-Way Activity Centre, Community Hall,  
1 Ma-Te-Way Park Drive, Renfrew

Cost: \$15.00 per person (includes traditional valley lunch)

If you have never been to one of our district AGM's why not consider going? It isn't a dry business meeting at all and its a great way to meet new people and see what everyone else in our Region is doing in the garden department. Its a great bargain for \$15, includes lunch and will give you an idea of what the AGM in Perth in 2014 will be like. Last day for registration is March 11, 2013. Contact Margo Fulford for details.

## Library News

by Kevin Long (Librarian)

This month we are highlighting two Canadian books, brand new to our library. Well-known gardener Marjorie Harris has written *Thrifty Gardening From the Ground Up* (635 Har), in which she shows how you can create a lovely garden without breaking the bank. This is an excellent book for gardeners at any stage of life, and is particularly helpful if you are making big changes to your garden or making a move to a new home.

Bugs can be both good and bad for your garden. Lone Pine has published *Garden Bugs of Ontario: Gardening to Attract, Repel and Control* (595.709713 Fos) by Leslie Foster. The large detailed drawings should help you to identify bugs, and the page of information on each bug will tell you what it does in your garden and how to invite it to stay or chase it away, as needed.

## Canadian Tire Money

Don't know what to do with all that funny munny? Do we want it for Junior Gardeners? **Yes we do.** Please donate your money at the membership desk at the

next two meetings. It will always find a good home with us!

## We Need Your Green Thumbs ... And Your Trash!

Under the expert guidance of Janet Cain, our preparations for our extremely popular Junior Gardener Program, which starts in April, are underway.

We ask all members to save their yogurt containers, tuna cans and styrofoam meat trays and bring them in to the March and April meetings.

No matter if you have a green thumb or black thumb, we are asking as many members as possible to root some of their houseplants for our plant library for the children. If you are unable to pot them once rooted, bring them into the March meeting or contact Janet Cain, Kathy Allen or Linda Bartlett who will arrange to have them potted up for you.

Of course our program relies completely on our volunteer teachers. If you have heard about the program and are interested in participating for the first time or are a seasoned volunteer, be sure to let Janet Cain know of your interest.

So far we have 5 schools and 8 classes of children participating.

## OHA District 2 LOGO Competition 2013

District 2 will be holding a competition for a hand drawn/hand painted logo for District 2 using the Bloodroot flower which we elected two years ago to be the emblem to represent the district. At this time we do not have an official logo using the emblem.

This competition will conclude at the 2013 District 2 Annual General Meeting on April 6, 2013 in Renfrew.

### Rules:

- One submission per society
- Artist has to be a current member of a District 2 society.
- Submitted artwork must be an original creation! No tracing of other's artwork.
- Artwork does not need to be large, about 8.5" x 11" (22cm x 28cm) in size on the medium of artist's choice.
- Bloodroot flower (white flower) needs to be incorporated in design (artist to choose Bloodroot flower type.)
- "Ontario Horticultural Association" or "OHA"

and "District 2: Grenville, Lanark, Ottawa, Renfrew" need to be included in design

- Style and colours are artist's choice

We will display all entries at the AGM and everyone attending will have a chance to vote on their favourite top-three submissions. The one with the highest point aggregate will become the D2 Logo to be used on our banner, letterhead, emails, publications, website, etc. There will be a monetary prize for the first place winner as well as our D2 Bloodroot Trophy for the Society. For more information please see the D2 website.

## D2 Photo Competition

The District 2 competition will take place at the 2013 District 2 Annual General Meeting on April 6, 2013 in Renfrew. Deadline for entry is March 11, 2013. A major change for this year's competition is that entries will be accepted only in digital format.

### Classes 2013

**Class 1** - "Filling in the Crack"- Rock Garden Crevasse

**Class 2** - "Bless My Bloomers" - Flowering Shrub in Bloom - Single blossom or cluster

**Class 3** - "All Hyper About the Container" - a Trough Garden

**Class 4** - "Out We Come" - First Spring Blooms- Grouping

**Class 5** - "Surviving the Drought" - Xeriscaping- Dry garden

**Class 6** - "Up, Up and Away" - Vertical Gardening- Trellis, fence, obelisk or container with support

**Class 7** - "A Rose is a Rose" - Rose bush in bloom

**Class 8** - "Hosta La Vista" - a Hosta bed

**Class 9** - "Green Inside" - Favourite Foliage House Plant

**Class 10** - "What I Did Last Summer" - Photo of a perennial in bloom planted last summer

Co-ordinator: Linda Bartlett, 1060 Ford Road, RR 1, Perth, ON K7H 3C3

Email: [imbartlett@ripnet.com](mailto:imbartlett@ripnet.com) Phone: 613-283-8027

Please see D2 website for Rules and complete details.

## 2013 Christmas Tree

Don't be shocked by the mention of Christmas in 2013. As you know PDHS always participates in Perth's Festival of Lights celebration by decorating a tree for the Crystal Palace. The last several years have featured handmade,

natural decorations made by our intrepid PDHS volunteers. Since these decorations have now seen better days, we are planning to decorate our tree celebrating our Junior Gardeners and the PDHS program.

Any ideas you may have with respect to this project would be welcome. So far, we would like to ask you to save your seed packages when you plant your gardens this Spring - flowers or vegetables - all are welcome. Try to keep the package intact and bring them all to our June Social meeting. Kathy Allen has a great craft idea for them for decorating the tree. We are also planning other paper craft decorations made by the Junior Gardeners themselves along with some photographs.

If you are struck by a brilliant idea for this venture at any time up to October 2013, do let us know or bring it in for the tree. PDHS members always have great ideas.

## Calling All Photographers

### - NEW OR EXPERIENCED

Our speaker tonight, Simon Lunn, has offered PDHS members a great deal. He is offering two garden photography workshops - one in May and one later on in the summer.

Using a garden as your palette, Simon Lunn will introduce or re-acquaint participants with tips and important principles and techniques to use in photographing gardens, flora and fauna included. His approach will include group sessions and one-on-one guidance, and will be designed primarily for beginner to intermediate or enthusiast level photographers. Bring your camera (equipment) along for the ride - it should be fun!

Both workshops will be spread over two days with each days' class being three hours in length. The cost is \$75 per 2-class workshop. If you can only attend one class then the cost will be \$50. There is a limit of six students per class which would enable Simon to give individual attention.

Dates: May 1st or 4th for the start of the first workshop class. Date for the second class and 2nd workshop to be decided by the group. Location could be in members gardens but will be decided when we have sufficient interest in these courses. Registration will be taken at the February Meeting.

## Monthly Financial Statement

JANUARY 1 - 31, 2013

Ledger Balance – December 30, 2012	\$ 1,519.71
<b>RECEIPTS –</b>	
Donations – General Fund	\$ 51.00
Youth Activities	75.00
Membership	279.00
Yearbook	200.00
	+ 605.00
<b>EXPENSES –</b>	
Yearbook	\$ 584.01
Social	152.92
Advertising	50.85
Misc. Donations	50.00
Miscellaneous	65.79
	– <u>873.94</u>
Balance January 31, 2013	\$ 1,250.77

\*\*\*\*\*

Reserve Fund – GIC due July 4, 2013	\$ 2,500.00
	\$ 3,750.77

## Gardening Tips for the Older Gardener

A few warm-up exercises get you going.

**Keep it small and simple:** grow fewer plants, those you like and which require less maintenance.

**Choose plants that fit the conditions of your garden:** full-sun, sun/shade, clay, sandy. Plant those requiring more water near a downspout.

**Keep garden near house:** easier to water, weed and easily use spare moments of time

‘Easy’ Plants include: hosta, hydrangea, lamb’s ear, Solomon’s seal, lilyturf, catmint, boxwood, siberian iris, coral bells, sedum

Branches and weeds are easier to pull on a tarp than push in a wheelbarrow. A two-handed kneeler makes it easier to get up and down without losing your balance. Some raised beds and/or planting in containers makes it unnecessary to have to crouch so much. Pace yourself. Better to do a little at a time, than pushing through.

*Adapted from Garden Gate magazine, February 2013, Issue 109*

## Little Gnome Facts

So you think you know about Gnomes and Garden Gnomes? Well did you know that The Gnomes Cricket Club of Australia is famous for playing the game of cricket while dressed like gnomes and consuming ale?

Well, here are some other Little Gnome Facts:

- Gnomes and children under five are banned from the Chelsea Flower Show.

- Male gnomes can be easily identified by their red caps

- There are three categories of manufactured gnomes:

- 1) Worker gnomes, characterized by their possession of tools such as fishing rods, shovels, or hammers

- 2) Leisure gnomes, characterized by a design that emphasizes the gnome relaxing in its natural environment or most popularly by a gnome smoking a pipe.

- 3) Culture Gnomes, characterized by possession of a musical instrument

- Gnomes have a life expectancy of 400 years

*Reprinted from [www.littlegnomefacts.com](http://www.littlegnomefacts.com)*

## It's a Snap!

*A series of tips on garden photography.*

### Learn To See What's Really There

Look carefully through the viewfinder before you shoot. Learn to see what the camera sees. Don't just see what you want to see; look at what's really there. Instead of focusing on the part of the picture you like, consciously look for anything that you wouldn't want to be in the scene. Are there telephone wires in the top of the frame? Do the elements of the picture collide in confusing ways? (Tree branches growing out of a person's head in a careless portrait is a classic example.)

Many of these composition problems are easy to fix. Stepping a few inches to the left or right, tilting the camera up or down, or lowering your point of view closer to the ground can eliminate unwanted elements. Once you've made adjustments, examine the frame again, from edge to edge and corner to corner. You can crop distracting details out of the print later, but you should rely on cropping only as a last resort.