

# GARDEN CLUB OF NIAGARA NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 2015

### *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

As you see this message was written more or less in the midst of one snow storm after another. We had hopes that last winter's severe cold was an anomaly. Having braved the winds and cold of this winter the latter theory doesn't seem as credible. Hopefully however the winter will have calmed down when you are reading this message. At least it will for me as I finally escaped for a trip into the Mexican sunshine in Ajijic.

Our community said good-bye to Millie LeGrow who passed away suddenly on January 18th. Millie was the catalyst that brought together various garden clubs in the Niagara area to form The Garden Club of Niagara. Millie was originally a member of Milne House and her move from Toronto to Niagara initiated the formation of our Niagara Club. In order to be a member of The Garden Clubs of Ontario our club was required to operate for a full year which it did. This is therefore the 20th anniversary of the original membership with 2016 being the official celebration of the recognition of our membership in The Garden Clubs of Ontario.

As has been mentioned Millie was a strong force but stayed more behind the scenes than in the spotlight. However, her accomplishments certainly put her at the head of her class. She became a Horticultural Judge in 1968, a Design Judge in 1996, author of the GCN Newsletter in 1996 & 97 and from 1996 to 2000 she was the CGN correspondent to Campanula, a note worthy newsletter that has since been disbanded. In addition her family added that she was a Master Gardener and a Canadian Rose Judge. It goes without saying that she loved her garden and had a passion for flower arranging which included a 2nd place for her miniature arrangement at the World Flower Show in 1993.

At our flower shows The Best in Show for Horticulture is the Millie LeGrow award, a coveted win at each show. In keeping with the family's wishes it was suggested that we each plant a tree, shrub or perennial in our gardens in memory of Millie. In looking to the future it is important to know about our past - Millie certainly was a driving force in the history of The Garden Club of Niagara.

Thank you Lindy Fedchun for taking up the gavel and so ably leading the group.

**An invitation** is extended to club members to join the LeGrow family in  
**“Sharing Memories of Mildred (Millie)”**  
Saturday April 25, 2015 from 1.00 pm to 4:30 pm  
Pillar & Post Inn, 48 John St. W, Niagara-on-the-Lake  
In the Olde Library

### ***UPCOMING MEETINGS***

Monday, **March 23**, 1:00 pm

**Programme:** Nancy Lee-Colibaba from the Royal Botanical Garden  
**“Plants and People Connection: Horticulture Therapy”**

**10:45 Workshop :** Planting Dahlia tubers - Upstairs, at back of our meeting room

**Social:** Sharon Belfry, Mary Onaczyszyn, Esme Johns, Ruth LeGrow, Margaret Ludberg, Jennifer Stephenson

**REMEMBER TO:** Bring your mug, parking pass, name-tag and sign in at the Membership table.

Monday, **April 27**, 1:00pm

**Programme:** Simon Taylor, Historic Garden Co-ordinator from Dundurn National Historic Site **“Historic Gardening”**

**Social:** Rosalie Tansey, Diane Dalgliesch, Brigitte Bouchard, Linda Ashmore, Norma deMeel, jacquie MacInnes, Joan Coyne, Betina Mulcaster, Kathy Humphries

### ***Ways and Means***

Thanks to every one who bought raffle tickets at the February meeting. We made \$103 and have a number of people to thank for prizes. Melissa Achal, from NEOB Lavender once again donated the popular tickets for Canada Blooms. Members of the Garden Club are encouraged to volunteer at the Niagara Lavender Festival on July 11 & 12. It is a fun event and with the many vendors attending there is always something of interest for gardeners and designers as well. Thanks also to Peggy and Ken Bell who offered personally conducted back

stage tours of the Shaw Festival for a lucky winner and five friends. There will be no raffle at the March meeting.

## ***Workshops***

**March 23rd - 10:30 am Fee - \$10.00**

**Ralph Suttell, a well known dahlia grower and gardener will talk about planting seeds and then demonstrate planting dahlia tubers.** He will supply a tuber for everyone. Pots and soil will be supplied also... but if you have a 6 inch diameter pot or pots, please bring along top help out.

15 members signed up at the last meeting. There are 5 spaces left. If you wish to attend, please contact Barbara Bedell, (905) 468-3528 or [barbbedell@cogeco.ca](mailto:barbbedell@cogeco.ca) Please bring a plastic covering for your work area and as usual, a brown bag lunch. You may want to bring garden gloves.

NOTE... due to Graduation downstairs, we will be upstairs at the back of our regular meeting room.

**April 27th** - The workshop will be on **'Propagating Houseplants for your Summer Planters'** If you are interested let Barbara Bedell know or sign up at the next meeting.

## ***McFarland House Christmas 2015***

**Victoriana** will be the theme this year as we decorate McFarland House for the Rotary House Tour. Please remember to save anything from your garden that might be useful in some way.

## ***Garden Club of Niagara Flower Show***

There will be an in-house Flower Show at the May 25th meeting. The schedule will be ready soon. It will be emailed out to those who are able to receive emails and copies will be available at the general meetings for those who do not.