



May 2015

Manitoba Horticultural Association

Connected & Growing

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Special Interest Article:

A. P. Stevenson Memorial Board

The MHA is pleased to welcome Gerry Aubin of Aubin Nurseries, Carman to the A. P. Stevenson Memorial Board. The Stevenson board reviews nominations and select recipients for the A. P. Stevenson Commemorative Award. This year the award was presented to Lynn Collicutt, (see page 2).



Greetings from your President

Well here it is April 11th and most of the snow is gone and the things that didn't get put away last fall have reappeared just where we left it. As the tame crocus and the spring adonis are showing their fuzzy little heads, so spring might be here.

Talking of spring, you might think the MHA Board is doing some spring cleaning. However not so, after 20 plus years as secretary/treasurer, Dorcas has decided to take a much deserved break and is stepping down. Thank you for being so dedicated for so many years. However, Tracy Theriault will make a fine replacement for Dorcas. We are looking forward to working with Tracy, and thank her for taking on the position. The office will be running the same except under new personnel.

Louise Page, Director for Area 8 has indicated that she needs to step down as Director. Thank you Louise, for your years of dedication to the MHA Board and hope you enjoy being able to spend more time with family. Hopefully you will be able to attend a convention in the future.

Happy Spring & Good Gardening
Brent Hunter



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Manitoba Horticultural Association
118TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

“Back to Basics”

January 28, 29 & 30, 2016
Neepawa United Church
Neepawa, MB

Hosted by the
Beautiful Plains Horticultural Society

“Deadline for articles and
information for the
September newsletter
August 15, 2015”

Lynn Collicutt receives Stevenson Commemorative Award

The Stevenson Commemorative Award is considered the highest recognition that can be given in horticulture in the Prairie Provinces. Presented only 21 times in 83 years, it has come to recognize outstanding horticultural plant breeding work that has positively impacted the prairie region. Named in honour of the Morden area pioneer fruit grower A.P. Stevenson, it was first presented in 1932 to the late Dr. Frank Skinner of Dropmore, Manitoba, and since that time it has recognized 20 other Canadian and American horticulturists. Most interestingly, Stevenson's fruit growing demonstrations provided the impetus for the federal government to start the Morden Research Centre which in 2015 is celebrating its centennial year. Also, most interestingly, in this 2015 Stevenson Award, we are honouring a Morden Centre plant breeder and the first woman to receive the Stevenson Award in its 83 history.

Lynn is a Manitoba trained horticulturist who graduated from the University of Manitoba with both her Bachelor's (1979) and Master (1981) degrees. She started work at Morden working with Henry Marshall in rose and Monarda breeding and with Wilbert Ronald in lily breeding. From the early 1980's until leaving the Morden staff in 1994, she was a major contributor in horticulture at the Morden Centre. When Henry Marshall retired, she carried on the rose breeding work and introduced the Morden Blush, Morden Fireglow, Prairie Joy and Winnipeg Parks roses. Winnipeg Parks was introduced for the 1993 centennial of the Winnipeg Parks system and is perhaps the best known rose from that era. Other roses from a later period, such as Hope For Humanity, Morden Snow Beauty and Morden Sunrise are from the foundation that was developed. She carried on the small project with Coral Bells and released Ruby Mist which continues to be grown. The project with another native Manitoba plant genus Monarda followed up on Marshall's work in developing mildew resistant Monarda of which the Marshalls Delight was the first and still widely grown selection. The dwarf Petite Delight and sister Petite Wonder became very popular in the eastern US states where mildew susceptibility made growing of older Monarda nearly impossible. The Monarda materials were later turned over to a joint industry and government consortium and out of this was introduced the popular Coral Reef, Grand Marshall, Grand Parade and Grand Mum cultivars which have proven very popular and have brought significant recognition to Canadian plant breeding.



It was the Morden work with lilies that has widened the plant material for prairie gardeners in this valuable genus. Expanding on the first generation hybrids of interdivisional interspecific crosses, Lynn's lily breeding work at Morden moved the trumpet Aurelian x Oriental hybrids into the backcross generation as seen in Northern Carillon, the trumpet Aurelian x Easter lily hybrids into the backcross generation seen in Easter Morn, and trumpet Aurelian x Asiatic into the backcross generation seen in Firey Belles. These named second generation hybrids restored a measure of fertility to these wide crosses. These lilies are local and international award winners and in the 2014 North America show the Easter Morn lily won the Isabella Preston Best in Show Award and three other major awards. Northern Carillon and its related crosses have likewise been best in show winners at other events and it has been used around the world in lily hybridization. In the early 1990's the lily research was turned over to a joint consortium of the government, Manitoba Regional Lily Society and Jeffries Nurseries who have since introduced over a dozen cultivars and have promoted these lilies and continued breeding development. We in northern zones now take for granted that we can grow beautiful fragrant hybrid lilies that compete with the best in the world. The vision to develop these lilies and then turn them over to see them carried on in further breeding is a legacy that will be appreciated for years to come. Lynn received the 2014 E.H.Wilson Award, North American Lily Society's highest Award, for contributions to the genus Liliun.

Lynn supported the formation of the Manitoba Regional Lily Society and supported other plant groups and horticultural societies including the MHA. She has written numerous horticulture articles and edited the 1990 Prairie Garden annual. It is indeed a privilege to honour Lynn Collicutt with the 2015 Stevenson Commemorative Award.

Wilbert Ronald

2016 MHA Annual Convention

The Beautiful Plains Horticultural Society has very kindly offered to host the 2016 MHA Convention. Plans are well underway and the Christian Education Centre Building which is part of the United Church has been booked. At the MHA spring board meeting a tentative program was discussed and includes a wide variety of topics and speakers.

The dates are January 28, 29 & 30, 2016 – mark your calendar for your winter get-a-way to Neepawa.

As many of you are aware we have a Sweet Pea Auction at the convention and the host committee has asked if societies and clubs could help by donating a basket of items. This could be brought to the convention by your voting delegates along with your donation for the Great Gardeners' Auction. We will include a gentle reminder in upcoming newsletters.

New MHA Director

MHA Past President, Louise Page has found it necessary to resign from the board leaving a vacancy for a regional director for Area 8. The Board would like to thank Louise for all of her contributions to the MHA, and wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavours.

Lorene Schipper whom many of you may know, a long-time member and past president of Transcona Garden Club and a regular attendee at MHA conventions, has kindly agreed to join the MHA board and we welcome Lorene as the new director for Area 8.

Unfortunately Morden has decided not to renew their membership with the MHA, leaving Area 6 with three societies/clubs. To distribute clubs evenly among MHA directors the board revised the boundaries moving South Interlake Garden Club from Area 8 to Area 6.

Meet Lorene Schipper, New MHA Director - Area 8 including Agassiz Garden Club, Selkirk & District Horticultural Society, Transcona Garden Club, and West Kildonan Horticultural Society

I have been a member at the TGC since 2000, a director, along with president, vice-president and acting secretary as some of my roles. Every year I have learned more about gardening and try to work on new ideas.

I presently, am the Show Convener for TGC and the Vice-president. I am ready to meet the clubs in this new position for myself, to get to know each group. In previous years, I ran the Junior Garden Club with Co-member Lisa for 8 years. We had from 12 members up to 50+ members over the years, and a lot of fun activities with them.

My 3 children are grown up and all through the years of school, I was secretary, vice-president, and president for Harold Hatcher, ADMS and MMCI. We had many activities and fundraising events over those years, which I volunteered to run with the help of many other volunteers.

I look forward to learning new ideas and helping out with projects that come up. Thank you for the opportunity to work with Area 8 and MHA.

Please contact me at lorene_schipper@yahoo.ca

Around and About



**Transcona Garden Club
Plant and Bake Sale**

Saturday May 23rd, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Transcona Retired Citizens' Centre
328 Whittier Ave West

You are invited to come out to Transcona to check out our plant and bake sale, and enjoy a delicious lunch or snack at the centre.

Hope to see you there!

Brandon Garden Club

Plant Sale

May 30, 9 am
2020 McGregor Avenue

Westman Gardeners

Plant & Garage Sale

May 22 -23
25 Grant Blvd, Brandon
4 to 8 pm – May 22.
9 am to noon – May 23

**Carman's Garden Celebration
Tour**

A self guided tour of 6 gardens in our beautiful town and area Sponsored by The Garden Club of Carman & the Active Living Centre, registration at Carman/Dufferin Museum
20 Kelly Hand Drive.
12:30 to 2:30 pm Saturday, July 18, 2015. Touring 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Cost \$15.00/person includes light refreshments & admission to the museum

Fehr-Way tours are arranging a day trip so call them for details

West Kildonan Horticultural Society

Fiesta Day Plant Sale

June 6, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Seven Oaks Arboretum

Selkirk & District Horticultural Society

Annual Plant Sale

May 29, 6-8 pm
Memorial Hall behind the Safeway store

**St. James Horticultural Society
Gigantic Plant & Bake Sale**

May 23
Deer Lodge CC
323 Bruce Ave
9 am – 2 pm

**MHA
Board of Directors Meeting**

October 16, 2015
Neepawa, MB

“Support local horticultural society and garden club Plant Sales – Great deals on a huge variety of plants”

“Remember to invite your MHA regional director to your club activities”

Gardeners' Corner



MAKE YOUR GARDEN SMELL WONDERFUL BY GROWING LEMON VERBENA

Lemon verbena (*Aloysia triphylla*) is a must have herb: The heavenly, lemon scented (and flavoured) leaves are cherished for tea (hot or cold). Lemon verbena thrives in full sun, and a potting soil rich in organic matter. The branches of lemon verbena will triple at every point where you snip them - so harvest often!

Lemon verbena is a shrub from South American, and therefore must be wintered indoors below USDA zone 9. However, lemon verbena is deciduous and typically drops its leaves during the low light months. This is a critical point; we have heard from many sad gardeners lamenting the death of their plant over winter indoors (where as the plant was simply demonstrating its natural dormancy). Dormancy lasts one to three months, during which time you should water weekly and never fertilize. The only way to prevent winter dormancy for lemon verbena is to grow it under grow lights left on 18 hours/day.

During the active growing seasons of spring and fall, water and fertilize lemon verbena regularly. Plants can grow into well-branched plants over 24 inches tall in one season. Small white flowers often occur in late summer, and have a perfumey, delicate lemon fragrance. If planning to winter indoors, grow in 6 inch and larger pots with drainage holes.

Pests can be an issue when growing lemon verbena indoors; watch for spider mites and white flies. As a precaution, rinse plants under fast flowing fresh water every two weeks.

Lemon verbena can be harvested at any time in the active growing season, and is equally wonderful fresh or dried.

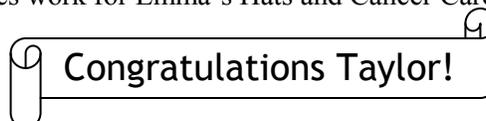
2014 MHS Award Recipient

Taylor Larson was the recipient of the 2014 Manitoba Horticultural Societies Award and we are pleased to share with our readers information received from Red River College.

Taylor Larson is a second year student in the Greenspace Horticulture program. Taylor is a dependable, hardworking student with very good creative, technical, written and public presentation skills. She demonstrates a significant amount of initiative in our greenhouse with both her own projects and our plant identification collection. Her work is consistently completed to a very high standard.

Taylor has worked in the horticulture industry prior to entering our program. She worked as a Forest Protection Health Inspector with the City of Winnipeg Urban Forestry Branch, and as a Student Laborer with the Manitoba Forestry Branch. For her co-op work term in 2014, Taylor worked on the grounds crew at Assiniboine Park, and participated in the work required to complete the Journey to Churchill project.

Taylor's volunteer experience includes work for Emma's Hats and Cancer Care Manitoba.



"If you would like to help a student with their horticultural studies please donate to the MHS Award Fund."

Horticultural/Gardening Events

“Mark your
calendar”



“Summer is the
perfect time to
visit flower shows
and participate in
garden tours”



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.icangarden.com/clubs/mha

Agassiz Garden Club

- May 13 7pm **Lasagne Gardening**
All meetings held at Anglican Church Hall
- May 16 10 a.m. to noon **Plant and Bake Sale**,
Lac du Bonnet Community Centre
- June 10 7 p.m. **Peace Garden** slide show
- Aug. 9 – 10 **“Make it Bake it Grow it Show it”** Agassiz
Annual Show, Lac du Bonnet Community
Centre
Entries Aug. 9, 5-8 p.m. Viewing: Aug. 10,
1:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Brandon Garden Club

- May 20 **Container Gardening** – Hands On Workshop
(members only) Patmore Nursery, Also What's
New for 2015.
- May 23 **Area Greenhouses Bus Tour** (members only)
- May 30 **Plant Sale** – 9 am at 2020 McGregor Avenue
- Jun 3 **Vegetable Container Gardening** – Hands On
Workshop (members only)
- Jun 17 **Succulent Containers**– Hands On Workshop
(members only)
- Jul 5 **Member Garden Tour & BBQ**
- Aug 10 **Flower Show & Tea** – 311 Park Ave. E., 1 pm

Garden Club of Carman

- May 21 **Plant Sale** – Legion Auxiliary Hall 4 – 6 pm
- May 26 Shade **beds** with **Brenda Newton**
- June 5 **Annual Outing – Tours of Greenhouses**
Contact Paula 204-745-2588
- June 9 Workshop by **Eileen Cox**, call club for details
- July 18 A **Garden Celebration Tour** – Contact Val 204-
745-6065
- Aug 6 **Annual Flower Show** – Carman Community Hall.
Public welcome 3 – 8 pm

Hartney Horticultural Society

- May 2 **“Leap Into Spring”** For information, email
edradcli@mts.net or call 858-2287. Thanks.

St. James Horticultural Society

- May 23 **Gigantic Plant & Bake Sale** – Deer Lodge CC.,
323 Bruce Ave., Wpg 9 am – 2 pm
- Oct 20 **Mike Allen** - Viburnum Tree Experts
“What to do about our Evergreens.”

Selkirk & District

- May 12 **Container Planting Workshop**, at Plants Plus in
Petersfield. Back by popular demand, you bring
your own container, get advice, go home with a
showpiece.
- May 29 **SDHS Annual Plant Sale** – 6-8 pm at Memorial Hall
behind the Safeway store.
- June – Date TBA **-Wild Orchid tour** on the new Boardwalk
near Stead
- June 6 **Painted Stepping Stones** – New designs for your
collection! 9:00- 2:00
- July 21 and 28 – **Member Garden Tours**
- Sept 26 ***Cat Birdfeeder** – Create a cute wooden birdfeeder
with a curious cat who loves birds!

Transcona Garden Club

- Transcona Garden Club meets monthly on the third
Wednesday at 7 pm at The Retired Citizens Centre at 328
Whittier Ave W.
- May 20 features **J. Doherty on Bees and Gardens**
- May 23 **Annual Plant and Bake Sale** at the same location,
9 am to 2 pm
- June 14-16 **9th Annual Spring Show** at Kildonan Place
Mall
- June 17 features **Debbie Clairmont on Flower Arranging
Tips**
- Aug 10-11 **49th Annual Horticultural Show &
Competition** – *Kildonan Place Mall*
Call Pat at 204-224-3859 for further information.

West Kildonan Horticultural Society

- May 5 **Attracting Bats** with Dr. Willis, University of
Manitoba
- June 2 How to make **Rubarb Stepping Stones & Bird
Baths** with **Shawna Harkness-Thompson**
- June 6 **Fiesta Day Plant Sale** 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Seven
Oaks Arboretum
- Sept 1 **Annual Perennial Exchange & Auction**

Westman Gardeners www.westmangardeners.ca

- May 7 **City of Brandon Greenhouses Tour**
- May 22 -23 **Plant & Garage Sale** – 25 Grant Blvd, Brandon.
4 to 8 pm – May 22. 9 am to noon – May 23
- June 4 **Garden Flower Arranging**
- Aug 6 **Anchorage Gardens, Boissevain Tour**
- Sept 3 **Potluck & Virtual Tour**

Junior Gardener Clubs

Need A Speaker?
Need Workshop Materials?

Do you have a junior gardener program or a junior group which is affiliated with your society/club that could benefit from some funding? There is a yearly subsidy for each club available from the Weir Memorial Fund for this purpose. To apply complete the request form and submit to the MHA office. For further details or information, please contact the MHA office at m.h.a@shaw.ca or call 204-256-2745

MHA Print Competition

Thank you to the numerous members who entered the 2014 competition with such fantastic photos and congratulations to this year's winners.

Many thanks to June Minish, Nia Massey and Elly Garrett of the Selkirk & District Horticultural Society for coordinating, and to Pam McFarlane for judging the MHA Print Competition.

Contact your society/club secretary for a list of the 2015 classes and start capturing your prize winning entries.

Report from Tanzania on the Tomato Value Chain Project

April 2015

The delegates to the MHA annual convention in Charleswood in January 2015 heard a lot of details about the current project between the MHA and the Tanzania Society of Agricultural Education and Extension (TSAEE). This project has been funded by the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation with support from individuals belonging to the MHA. The presentation by Dinah Cepelis highlighted the history of the project, what was planned and what has been accomplished. The timeliness of this project has alerted the agricultural extension community to the presence of a devastating new insect known as Tuta absoluta. The coordinator of the project in Tanzania, Mr. Beny Mwenda, provides us with the following update of what has taken place in the past few months.

- TSAEE has continued searching for an appropriate pesticide to combat the new insect pest "Tuta absoluta" in tomato fields.
- The TSAEE team (Beny Mwenda, Kasmir Aloyce) conducted field visits to small scale tomato growers in the villages of Mwangala, Nyamatata, Nyahomango and Usagara [near Mwanza]. In all these villages, the insect has created a devastating situation.
- Kasmir made contacts to get an update on the situation in other regions. It was reported that the insect is all over now. Yet there has been no recognized pesticide effective to this insect.
- A focus group meeting was held with the transporters of tomato, and no problems were noted. Prices for transport were agreeable. The meeting involved Nyahomango, Nyamatata and Nyamle growers, two TSAEE members [Beny Mwenda, Mary Sayi], five owners of bajajis [motorized transport], and three drivers.
- TSAEE held a meeting with scientific researchers from the Laze Zone Agricultural Research Development Institute at Ukiriguru (Tanzania) to get some advice. We concluded that we contact researchers in Arusha where they have specialized on horticulture. We have communicated with them by phone and they are working on the problem.
- TSAEE made a field trip to Magu to learn how control of Tuta is being done in a greenhouse setting. [Note that greenhouses are rare – this is the only one we know of in the Lake Zone. Tomatoes are traditionally grown in a field setting.]
- TSAEE coordinated a focus group discussion between 15 tomato growers and 4 input suppliers. They all agreed on the challenge of combating Tuta. Suppliers do not know what product to stock as farmers have complained about all the available pesticides. Kasmir was able to share his research and what was learnt at the greenhouse. Though there is a sheltered environment in the greenhouse, Tuta is still a problem. A list of pesticides used with some effect at the greenhouse was distributed. Suppliers and farmers have the challenge to face the high prices of these products. The discussion highlighted the problems with using ineffective pesticides. Many farmers are not aware of the proper use of the chemicals, fertilizers and seeds. It was agreed that such meetings are needed to allow exchange of experiences between farmers and input suppliers.

Neepawa Accommodations

Ann’s Heritage House B&B

516 Brown Ave
1-204-476-2952

Garden Path B&B

536 – 2 Ave
1-204-476-3477

Westway Inn – Motel

153 Main St. West, Highway 16
1-204-476-2355
Toll Free Number 1-800-448-0994
westwayinnneepawa.com
westway@mts.net

Neepawa Motel

71 Main St. West, Hwy 16
1-204-476-2331
www.neepawamotel.com
info@neepawamotel.com

Bay Hill Inns & Suites

160 Main St. West, Highway 16
1-204-476-8888
Toll Free Number 1-888-476-8802
www.bayhillinns.com
bayhillinn@gmail.com

Room Rates available from the Vendor.
Please remember to make any arrangements in advance.
Thank you

Raffle Ticket Fundraiser

This year the board has decided to ask societies and clubs to sell raffle tickets instead of the pay-what-you-pull tickets.

Each book of raffle tickets will contain ten (10) \$2 tickets. Prizes are as follows:

1 st	\$400
2 nd	\$250
3 rd	\$150
4 th	\$50
5 th	\$50

There will also be five (5) sellers’ prizes of \$25 each to clubs who sell the winning tickets. The sellers’ prizes replace the MHA membership discount that was previously given to clubs selling 15 or more books of pull tickets.

We are printing 400 books of raffle tickets and we encourage you to sell as many as possible as this could prove to be a great fundraiser! Thank you.

Proposed Amendment to the MHA Constitution

Article 12 - Meetings

- 3. **Quorum:** A quorum at any regularly called meeting of the general membership shall consist of not less than twelve (12) voting members and at a regularly called meeting of the Board of Directors shall be no less than five (5) Directors.

Proposed Amendment

(To be voted on by the membership at the next Annual General Meeting)

Article 12 – Meetings

- 3. **Quorum:** A quorum at any regularly called meeting of the general membership shall consist of not less than twelve (12) voting members and at a regularly called meeting of the Board of Directors shall be no less than four (4) Directors.

Rationale: The board currently operates with six (6) Directors, and the board recommends to the membership that a quorum consist of four (4) Directors due to the reduction in Directors.

MHA Millennium Cookbook

A few editions of the “Millennium Cookbook” are available. It contains excellent recipes compiled by members of the MHA. Cost \$12 per copy.

If you wish to purchase a copy, please contact the MHA office.
Thanks

