



**STONY PLAIN
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY**



down the Garden Path

S.P.H.S. 2008 Board

EXECUTIVE

- President:** Karen Berglund780-963-6575
Vice President: Ericka Unterschultz780-963-6061
Secretary: Margaret Doige780-962-3687
Treasurer: Connie Jump780-968-8127
Honorary President: Edie Schneider780-962-1075

COMMITTEES

Membership:

- Barbara Tinney780-968-0669
 Pat Munch780-962-3324

Phoning Committee:

- Bernice Hennig780-963-3459
 Margaret Doige780-962-3687
 Maxine Frank780-963-9676
 Diane Coulthard780-968-1889

Social: Barb Hutchison780-962-8312

Christmas Party:

- Sharon Sikkema780- 962-4225
 Mabel Stanway780- 962-4884

Plant Sale: Marge Peabody780- 968-2151

Yard and Garden Tour:

- Elaine Frankiw780-960-7367
 Edie Schneider780-962-1075
 Par Munch780-962-3324
 Diane Coulthard780-968-1889

Meeting DETAILS

General meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month (except July, August and December) at 7:30 pm, usually in the cafeteria of the Memorial Composite High School. Membership is not required to attend a meeting but we do ask for a \$2.00 drop-in donation fee.

Message from the PRESIDENT

The weather these past few weeks has been great, don't you think? We have been lucky to have this extra time to work outside. Tidy up a few more things, do a few repairs around the yard and garden. Today I got the last of my six rabbits into his winter accommodations. Peanut was none to happy about the move. I've never heard such as racket out of such a little creature. The rabbits are a bit of a hobby but also the manure is good for my garden. While tidying up about the garden the other day I notices a few pulmonaria blooms, strange for sure to see them blooming in Alberta in November. A big thank you goes out to everyone who sat on a committee or helped the group in any way. The big things and the little all help to make the society productive and moving forward. We've done a lot this year and I hope everyone has had a chance to be involved in some way, it can be quite rewarding. We are looking forward to continuing with the activities such as the yard tour, looking after the library and museum, plant sales, Seedy Saturdays, picnic, the list continues. These activities are a great way to get involved and to get to know each other. There is always room if you are interested in helping a lot or a little. Christmas is just around the corner so I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and hope to see everyone at the Christmas Party on November 28.

As a note of interest. Myself and a few college friends went to Olds a couple of weeks ago to attend the funeral of Buck Godwin. Buck was one of my instructors at Olds College. He was very involved in Horticulture his entire life and was very passionate about his work. Buck loved to teach and inspire others who loved to garden. He will truly be missed.

— Submitted by Karen Berglund

ODDS and ENDS

Seed Collecting — We are looking for some interesting seeds to have in our seed bank to take to Seedy Saturday in the spring. If you can help please pass them on to Karen or Ericka.

A.H.A. Photo Competition — Entries must be received by February 1, 2009. Entry forms and guidelines are available on the bulletin board.

A.H.A. Conference 2010 — Are we interested in hosting such an event? We need a committee to put the whole thing together. We have a set of guidelines and exceptions. If not 2010 then the next year. It has been 8 years since the conference was out our way. It too is a lot of fun and there are always interesting people to meet and a wealth of information to learn.

Memberships due — Membership fee: \$10:00 / Year We kindly request that your membership fees be paid before the November meeting. Early renewal really does help the executive get the paper work in order for the upcoming year. Thank you for your cooperation.

QUESTION of the month

Answer to October question.

What is meant by the term erose?

The term erose means gnawed. Irregular indented or jagged, as if gnawed. This term is often used to describe the edge, or margin, of a leaf or leaflet.

BIRTHDAYS

November — Jo Granger, Daphne Cove, Stephanie Camilleri, Angie Bauer, Emmett Wenger, Cheryl White, Joyce Wild.

December — Lorne Anderson, Herb Erickson, Lucy Holt, Maria Reiser



DATES to remember

Christmas Party — November 28

No meeting — December

Executive — January

General — February 3, 2009



Keephills School GARDEN NEWS

Our third annual Pumpkin Day Festival was a great success. A big thank you goes out to Barb Tinney, Maxine Frank, Connie Jump and Janice Nickolson. These ladies did a great job of judging our 55 pumpkins that were brought in by the students for the contest.

Kathy Zeihr made marvelous pumpkin muffins to have with our lunch. Thank you all for helping to make the day a big success.

Chad Milne was our overall points winner — congratulations!



Green THUMB

The outside plants have done their job for another year and now it is time to take a look at some of our inside plants that might have been a bit neglected over these past few months. Gordon Heaps has beautiful orchids to be sure but they are something I struggle to grow. Barb Tinney has beautiful orchids and I'm sure some of the rest of you do also. We aren't going to be talking about orchids. The asparagus fern is a plant that I have become quite fond of and brings me much less aggravation than the beautiful orchid. The asparagus fern is a hanging plant that looks quite luxurious. They will boom in west or east facing windows. The asparagus fern is used in florists bouquets, a house plant and also as an excellent filler



in baskets and larger planters for the outdoor growing season. This plant is fast growing, bushy and needs a place to hang. The flowers are white not very showy. Small green berries form that later turn red. The roots are able to store water for long periods of time. This house plant makes no special demands other than a gentle misting and it needs to be repotted often. The soil should be airy and well drained. Aphids can be avoided by frequent misting. These plants need to be fed regularly and if they are allowed to dry out their needles will fall off. Trim out old or brown stem. It may be necessary to water 2 – 3 times a week in the summer to avoid needle drop.

— Submitted by Karen Berglund