

GREEN THUMB GARDENING



By CHRISTINE COLE

COLOR ME BLUE

Blue flowering plants - there is something almost elusive about them. Blue is not exactly a common garden color. However, its rare occurrence makes it an exciting addition to a garden creation. Some gardeners believe that blue flowers can be blended with any other colors to create a "riot of color". Those who develop color schemes in their garden would place pink, yellow and/or white with blue.

Blue flowers can be found in both annuals and perennials. Perhaps you will discover a new one this season to add variety and interest to your garden. Ageratum is the first blue annual that comes to mind. In fact, it is commonly called Blue Puffs. Ageratum is a short (4"-6") bedding plant often used for low edging and containers. Large clusters of small, blue fluffy ball flowers are excellent flowers that require little maintenance. Lobelia is also highly recommended. There are two types: trailing for hanging baskets and containers and the bedding type for edging and containers. Trailing Lobelia is light blue which creates a dainty "misty" effect in baskets. Bedding Lobelia has an extremely deep blue color with a short, compact habit. New hybrid pansies have been developed that are a pale, pastel blue. They are excellent when combined with other pastel colored flowers. Browallia, Salvia, Torenia (wish-bone flower), Nemesis and the well known Morning Glory all have blue flowers too. Perennials also have a few blue flowering plants. Forget-Me-Nots are sweet little flowers that will quickly spread to adorn a part of the garden with sky blue blooms. Although they appear delicate, they are actually quite tough. Lupines are also late spring flowering. They produce a tall spire of pea-like flowers that are a deeper blue at the base of the spire than at the tip. Campanulas or bellflowers can fit into any part of the garden since they range from ground hugging spreaders to majestic giants of 6 feet tall. In each group there is a variety with blue flowers that range from pale to deep blue. Bachelor Button, Flax and Tradescantia (deep blue almost purple with bright yellow eyes) are also excellent perennial plants to consider. There is color and vitality in blue flowers, and they will fit in anywhere.

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden show-place!

TUITMAN'S GARDEN CENTRE
ACTON
853-2480



BORN TO BE WILD

Jim Alkenhead of Mountsberg Wildlife Centre throws a red-tailed hawk into the air at Harrison School, as the school took part in a hawk release, Wednesday afternoon. The hawk was captured from Pearson International Airport, and was

released locally in hopes it will locate away from the airport. The school presented Mountsberg with a cheque for \$275 which will go towards the rehabilitation program for birds of prey at the centre.

Photo by KRISTIN ALLEN

Good Value Life Insurance

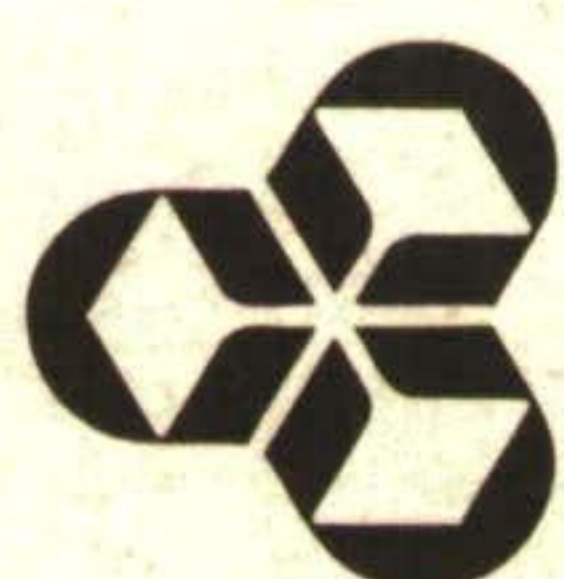


When it comes to life insurance, good value means:

- a wide variety of permanent and term life programs including education funds and mortgage insurance
- a personalized plan sensitive to your needs and budget
- competitive rates

Good value also means having your policies backed by a company you can trust — The Co-operators. We've built our reputation by providing sound financial advice for over 40 years. That's just one of the reasons why we're Canada's leading multi-line insurance company with more than 350 offices nationwide. Call The Co-operators for life insurance.

Good Value From People You Can Trust



the co-operators

Insurance/Financial Services

Call HELEN GILLON

211 GUELPH STREET 877-0131

LIFE • RRSPs • HOME • AUTO • FARM • BUSINESS • GROUP

Randall Brandford is vice-president of Horticultural Society

By ELAINE VANDERBURG

The monthly meeting of the Georgetown Horticultural Society was held on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at Knox Presbyterian Church, Georgetown. Verna Jespersen, president, opened the meeting and welcomed the 10 new members who have joined us since January. The membership joins with her in extending sincere welcome to these new members.

The office of first vice-president has now been filled. Randall Brandford was appointed to this office after he volunteered his services for the position.

A Japanese Flower Arranging workshop is being given by Mary Baillie on April 6. The workshop is for society members only and has been filled since the February meeting.

Mr. David Schmidt of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, was the guest speaker for the evening. He delivered an informative and interesting talk about propagation - grafting, cutting and sowing. For interest, discussion and demonstration he brought along a grow-light stand, various plants, cuttings, seedlings, various utensils, growth mediums and containers. Members learned several methods of plant propagation including grafting, leaf, stem and root propagation as well as seed propagation.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 20 at 8 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church, Main St., Georgetown. Theresa Fischer, a well known flower show judge, is our guest speaker. She will be speaking on and demonstrating the art of Basic Flower Arranging. This will include demonstrations of a table centre piece, a one sided arrangement and a miniature arrangement.

Please make the following additions and deletions to your Horticultural Society calendar of events.

April 6 - Lifestyles of Halton Hills, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Georgetown High School. We will have a display and representatives present to answer questions.

April 17 - Regular meeting - Topic Perennials, general information on growing and care. Speaker Mary Crawford from Crawfords Country Gardens.

May 15 - Regular meeting - Topic Herbs and their uses. Speaker Ina Vrugtman from the Royal Botanical Gardens. This is also the Spring Flower Show. Let's hope Mother Nature co-operates.

For further information please call Elaine at 877-6288.

Boudreau

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Since his return, Luke, now 5-years-old, has received counselling and although he still has nightmares, his mother says he is handling the experience well. She said in court that for the first time last week, Lukie, as she affectionately calls him, was able to go downstairs by himself.

Brian Boudreau, an ordained minister, told the court that it was two or three days after he arrived in Hawaii with his son that he realized he had committed a criminal offence.

Since the couple's separation, they have been to court seven times over the custody of Luke. Boudreau has never been awarded custody of their son.

The sentencing has been held over until Monday, March 18.

The Newfie Store

We specialize in: • Fresh Fish
• Live Lobster • Maritime Products

MOORE PARK PLAZA
74C Main St. N., Georgetown
(416) 873-6122