

The West Carleton Garden Club - Ready, Set, Grow

Mailing address: Box 326 Carp, On K0A 1L0

April 2008 Newsletter



Next Meeting: April 8th “Shade Gardens”

Speaker: Mary Ann Van Berlo Master Gardener

7:30 p.m. Carp Memorial Hall

Snacks & door prizes S-V

Mary Ann has been a member of the Gloucester Horticultural Society for 12 years and is their current president. She is an **avid** gardener (she said it was okay to describe her as “obsessed”). Her large and beautiful rural garden is mostly in the shade. She very much enjoys the challenge of trying new plants, often growing them from seed. Zone limits are only suggestions for her. Mary Ann volunteers with the Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton. She lectures, writes gardening articles for the Sunday Ottawa Sun and participates in many of the advice clinics around town. Mary Ann will lead us on an exploration of the various degrees and types of shade: full to partial, dry or moist. She will discuss how best to deal with each situation through site preparation and plant selection. She will highlight some of the many native plants: shrubs, annuals and perennials, that will do just fine in the shade.

All systems are Ready & Set to Go for our

1. OHA District 2 AGM, April 26 from 9 – 4

Kinburn Community Centre

Have you indicated to your President that you plan to attend? Have you submitted your Registration fee of \$25 which covers coffee/tea, a welcome continental breakfast, a picnic lunch catered by A.J.’s, floral demonstrations by 5 designers and guest speaker Bruce Henbest of Upper Canada Village on Heritage Vegetables? Come and enjoy a full day of camaraderie with gardeners from the 22 Societies throughout our District. Yes there will be the AGM business meeting but also there will be a silent auction, vendors, a quilt raffle, a multitude of door prizes...

The deadline for registration, due to the caterer needing to know numbers, is April 18th. Therefore, you must let Anne know at the April meeting. We have all our volunteers in place and so are not asking you to work but it would be nice if most of our members could be there as we are co-hosting this event with Stittsville/Goulbourn (who are also encouraging the attendance of all their members).

If you do really want to pitch in we could use a helper to place our A-frame signs at strategic corners first thing in the morning and then collect them at the end of the event and we could use a few people in the parking lot for an hour or so as the majority of guests arrive to help form good parking lines. At the next meeting Donna would be happy to accept mugs you are willing to cull from your cupboards, door prize donations and fillers for our guests’ welcome bags. Thanks so much to the many of you who have already contributed.

We are feeling already well prepared for the big day and excitement grows as we look forward to showing 150 to 200 fellow gardeners some genuine country hospitality. Help us make them feel welcome.

Gerry from the Herb Garden

Hello to Everyone

2. Gerry and I hope that all this snow is not getting you down as you look towards spring and planting your herb garden.

I write to invite you to participate in the first event of our season. On Saturday May 3rd [rain date Sunday May 4th] we want to hold our FIRST ANNUAL GIANT YARD SALE. The cost for the day will be \$10 and any monies you bring in are yours. I am looking for a food vendor for this sale because I am sure that if shoppers can have a bite to eat they will stay longer to shop.

I hope that this event is of interest to you and that you will email back your commitment to it. As well, please forward this email to your friends who also might be interested in participating. Once I know that we have lots of vendors, I will promote the sale in newspapers, etc.

Best wishes to all and I look forward to your response. If you have any thoughts or suggestions about this event I am happy to receive them.

Cheers George

[The Annual Herbfest is scheduled for Sunday July 27th 2008. The theme will be Spice up your life! www.herbfest.ca](http://www.herbfest.ca)

New Membership Initiative

Attend a special 'think tank' meeting for recruiting new members to our club, to be held at the Library in mid to late May (date to be confirmed) in this upcoming meeting. Ted Barnicoat (Treasurer) has offered to lead the initiative and to provide the framework for the meeting and Anne will facilitate it.

We will soon have a sign-up sheet available for all those of you who would like to participate. In the meantime, please start thinking about fresh ideas about WCGC renewal, what kind of garden club we want, and new membership marketing initiatives.

We desperately need all current members to pay their dues as soon as possible. If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may send a cheque to our mailing address. If you have any friends, family members or neighbours who would be interested in joining, please invite them to our next meeting.

We feel confident that working together, we can renew and reinvigorate our Club

<u>April 26</u>	<u>Annual General Meeting (AGM) for District 2</u>
<u>May 13</u>	<u>"Perennial Beds & Borders" Creation & maintenance Susan Patry</u>
<u>June 10</u>	<u>IKEBANA demonstration Mary Reynolds</u>

Dear District 2 Societies,

If any of your members are interested in Rock Gardens, this conference could be a "once in a life time" experience! OVRGHS would appreciate if this could be passed onto your members. Thank you, Sheila King

The Ottawa Valley Rock Garden and Horticultural Society (OVRGHS) would like to invite you and your members to an interesting event that they are putting on this June. They are also a chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS), and as such will be hosting their Annual General Meeting in Ottawa from June 12 – 15, 2008. The Ontario Rock Garden Society and other Canadian groups have hosted the annual meeting in previous years, but this is OVRGHS first time. They expect that some 100 to 200 delegates from North America and abroad will attend this event, to be held on the campus of the University of Ottawa, right in the heart of Canada's capital.

The title is One Valley: Five Habitats. The focus is on five field locations in the National Capital region that were selected for their significant biological diversity: Purdon Conservation Area, Mer Bleue, the Burnt Lands alvar, Gatineau Park, and Marlborough Forest. Each has its own special topography and flora, and

guides will help visitors to appreciate the many lovely plants, especially wild flowers, grasses, and ferns, that can be found there. Guest speakers at the NARGS AGM are Ottawa-based academics with a strong interest in the natural environment of the Ottawa Valley, and its preservation. More details about the guest speakers, their respective topics, and details of the field visit sites may be seen on OVRGHS web site at: www.ovrghs.ca. See attached pdf file

Message from,

Josie Pazdzior,

President

The Kanata branch of the Canadian Federation of University Women will be holding its second Homes and Gardens Tour on June 21 this year -- with six beautiful gardens and six intriguing homes. Funds raised will be used to provide scholarships for some local women about to enter university.

Regards, Jill Jones 613 592-8957

Publicity Committee, Homes and Gardens Tour, CFUW/Kanata

Dave who used to be at the Montreal Botanical Gardens. Perhaps you might find this of interest to share with other gardeners.

Happy Spring Everyone!

I am glad to announce the launch of a new garden blog: www.planetplant.net

Gary Keim and I (plus a few anonymous friends) have worked hard to create this new medium for various horticultural voices to be heard the world over. While Gary and I will be regular contributors and moderators, numerous friends are planning to pitch in with essays and ideas, profiles, trivia and news updates from around the world. Non-corporate, non-partisan but all relevant and fun, we hope that this blog will answer a need for better online garden-minded publishing.

One can easily join us by logging on to www.planetplant.net to register or to add us through RealSimpleSyndication, also known as RSS (icons to be found at the bottom right corner of the home page). Please, do feel free to forward this message to all of your gardening friends: the more the merrier, right?

Welcome to *PlanetPlant.net* – *Musings from the Global Garden!*

Dave Demers, Vancouver, Canada

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604.734.4439

WCGC Executive Committee	
Anne Gadbois - President	256-7161
Cathy Hutt - Vice President	839-2909
Ted Barnicoat - Treasurer	839-0615
Christina Zehulak - Programs	832-3526
Adeline Alkan & Anne Crosley Membership	839-0611,832-2696
Sharry Featherston - Secretary	839-9944
Janet Wright - Flower Show Chairman	623-5596
Patti Morrison - Plant Sale	
Mary Reynolds - Hospitality	832-0408
Barbara Vilé - Newsletter	836-6274
