

The West Carleton Garden Club - Ready, Set, Grow

Mailing address: Box 326 Carp, On K0A 1L0

February 2008 Newsletter

Next Meeting: February 12th "The Garden Within"
Expressing yourself through your garden - Sandrine Prasil
7:30 p.m. Carp Memorial Hall Snacks & door prizes A-L

We are pleased to welcome our February speaker - Sandrine Prasil on "The Garden Within": Creativity starts from within each one of us. A garden begins from within. Each garden speaks about the creator's soul and identity.

Sandrine Prasil has been gardening for almost half her life. She has Bachelor's degree in Agronomy, a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics and a graduate certificate in adult training. She has lived in France, China and Morocco; traveled in various areas of the world, and realized that no matter where we come from, we are first human with a potential to develop and to give to others.

Sandrine is the owner of "The Garden Within" which provides consultations and other services in garden design.

Check out Sandrine's website for more information about her "Vision".

<http://www.gardenwithin.ca/index.html>

"My goal is to get people to be open to nature, to observe what makes them feel good," she says. "What kind of environment makes you feel good? Do you want the calm of shade or a sunny spot to sit in? Do you want a riot of color or subtle pastels? A lush lawn or cool stone? Sometimes you don't know what you want until you see it, and then your emotions take over. You feel soothed or refreshed. You just know it's right."

"Gardening is about appreciation, inspiration and transformation," says Prasil. "Nurturing a garden is really nurturing the self. By having an idea for a garden and going through to action with it, you aren't just transforming the land. You're transforming yourself. You learn a bit more about who you are and you bring it out into the world."

Message from President -Renewal/New Membership Initiative

As you may know, for various reasons, our membership has taken a sharp decline. We are now very close to losing our capability of receiving our grant from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAFRA). The executive committee is very concerned that if we continue in this direction, our Club will be forced to close due to the exhaustion of the goodwill and volunteer hours which a few members have been steadfastly providing.

We have tried a number of initiatives over the past few years which have been successful in attracting new members, but not in the number required to regenerate our Club. For this reason, we would like to appeal to you directly to help us with our challenge by attending a special 'think tank' meeting to be held at the Library in mid to late May (date to be confirmed). We have decided that May would be a good month given the other activities around the OHA AGM which we are focusing on now. Ted Barnicoat (Treasurer) has offered to lead the initiative and to provide the framework for the meeting and I will facilitate it.

Over the coming months, we will formalize our plans for this meeting and keep you informed during our regular general meetings and in our newsletter. 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.

Thank you so much.

Anne Gadbois

Sighting of First Sign of Spring

The Registration Packages for our District Annual General Meeting are out to all Societies and people are beginning to sign up at Societies across our District. We hope that all our members can be in attendance so please sign up at the next meeting and help us welcome the hundreds of guests we will be hosting at the Kinburn Community Centre on Saturday, April 26.

Thanks to the many of you who have already indicated that you'll help out. The sign-up sheet goes up on the wall at every meeting or you can contact Donna at posreinf@xplornet.com, 839-2263 to indicate where you'd like to pitch in. Certainly, we want you to come even if you don't want to work at the event. It would be nice just to have a large contingent of us there as a welcome to the many who travel far to attend. Besides, it will be an entertaining, informative and interesting day.

Here are just a few of the many ways you can participate:

· Weed out those cluttering mugs in your cupboard & donate them to our environmentally friendly welcome breakfast. Donna will bring a bin to the next meetings.

· If you have any gardening-related items that would serve as a door prize please bring them and Adeline Alkan will collect them.

· If you have any fairly valuable items that could serve as Silent Auction items, please bring them in and Jill Barnicoat will collect them. Let her know what the retail value would be as this information will be indicated on the auction sign-up sheet.

· If you or someone you know has a business they'd like to promote we are seeking pens, seeds, pamphlets, pins etc. in bulk (200 each) for inclusion in our welcome bags.

Thanks for helping us to make this a wonderful event.

Roses, Roses, Roses Galetta Nurseries

Don't forget to review the roses order forms in order to purchase "own-root roses". Deadline is the February meeting. If you can't make it and wish to purchase please call me at 613 836 6274

Huntley Historical Society Seeking Input on Garden

The Huntley Historical Society is hoping to install a small, low maintenance heritage garden in front of their Research Centre which is located on the grounds of the Carp Airport. If any members are interested in giving them some design advice &/or advice about plant materials, soil prep or even help with the actual gardening they'd love to hear from you. Please give their president, Joan Caldwell, a call at (613) 831-2501 or give your name to Donna Christie and a group of us could meet with them sometime in early spring.

District 2 Flower show

Check out the attachment for the upcoming District 2 Spring show oin April 18-20, 2008 at the Nepean Sportsplex

Artemesia Daylilies garden tour invitation

It's already been a few months since the latest Convention in Owen Sound, last August! And the Spring gardener's itch is just around the corner!

In response to requests by many OHA local chapter representatives, we are proud to announce that our website is finally up and running. We can be found at www.artemesiadaylilies.com.

The purpose of this message is three-fold:

- = while we recognize we're quite a few kilometers away from your home, we would like to invite your society members to a garden tour during our peak blooming season (3rd and 4th weeks of July). At that time, we are usually open Thursday thru Sunday. We can certainly accommodate special requests.
- = we would also like to offer your members a 15 % discount on all of our products. Orders have to be received by March 15th and exclude gift certificates (an already discounted item).

- = our speaker programme will be ready for September 2008. We are sharing growing and hybridizing info, tricks of the trade, current trends and future introductions.

Feel free to pass this message along to your membership. We really hope to hear from you in a near future!

Alain Johnson & Jocelyn Bertrand, Artemesia Daylilies, Priceville, ON Toll-free 1 (866) 924.0409

More Upcoming Events

March 11	“Grasses” Phil Reilly, Reilly’s Country Gardens
April 8	“Shade Gardens” Mary Anne VanBerlo Master Gardener
May 13	“Perennial Beds & Borders” Creation & maintenance Susan Patry
June 10	IKEBANA demonstration Mary Reynolds



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

