

## ***The West Carleton Garden Club - Ready, Set, Grow***

*Mailing address: Box 326 Carp, On K0A 1L0*

*May 2008 Newsletter*



**Next Meeting: May 13<sup>th</sup> "Suzanne Patry"**

**Speaker: Suzanne Patry of White House Perennials in Almonte**

7:30 p.m. Carp Memorial Hall

Snacks & door prizes A-L

The May speaker is Suzanne Patry of White House Perennials in Almonte. She will speak on designing and maintaining perennial beds and borders. Website

1. [http://www.whitehouseperennials.com/01about/01top\\_fr.htm](http://www.whitehouseperennials.com/01about/01top_fr.htm)

The Mini Spring Flower Show will be held during the May 13 meeting. The list of categories is attached as are other details for entrants. We should encourage as many members as possible to enter and show off. A list is attached

We are planning our spring "Weed n' Chat" in the Carp Library Garden on May 21, with a rain date on May 22. People should come out anytime after 6 PM with their favourite weeding tools, rakes, edgers and bags. Wheelbarrows are always welcome.

The Annual Plant Sale will be (Anne to provide date). Pot up any plants you may wish to donate early.

### **New Membership Initiative**

We would like to propose May 29th for our special membership Think Tank at the Library.

Anne has booked the room for 6:30 and will be there to set up..

We ask people to come for 7:00 to 8:30.

In the meantime, please start thinking about fresh ideas about WCGC renewal, what kind of garden club we want, and new membership marketing initiatives. 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

### **District 2 AGM a Great Success By Donna Christie**

We had nothing but complements from the 160 gardeners who came to the District AGM on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Kinburn Community Centre. Thank you all for your support in either donating door prizes, items for our silent auction, items to include in our gift bags, floral arrangements, baked goods for the breakfast &/or help with greeting, set up or take down. Thanks also to all of you who came.

I would especially like to recognize my capable and hard working team who worked so well together and who made the planning of this event so smooth and enjoyable:

*Adeline Alkan ,Christina Zehaluk, Ted Barnicoat, Jill Barnicoat, John Soar, Marg Farr,*

*Nancy Argue, Sharry Featherstone, Anne Crosley, Carole Demjan, Roelie Jackson, Sue Hughes*

Dear members

The **Ottawa Botanical Garden Society** is organizing a **Country Garden Tour** with an optional car rally this June 14 and 15. We're hoping you can join us for this major 2008 fundraising project to help re-establish a botanical garden that once existed at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa.

The owners of ten fabulous gardens in the Kemptville, Manotick, Burritts Rapids and Merrickville areas have generously opened their gardens for this event, which you may tour by driving or cycling around them at your leisure. You can go on the tour either day or both days? whatever works for you! The gardens will be open Saturday, June 14 and Sunday June 15, 2008, from 10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m., rain or shine. Alternatively, you may choose to compete for special prizes while touring, by participating in the car rally. For this option, you may get together with a group of friends or we can arrange for you to join a group. The car rally will be fun and it will include a questionnaire and a treasure hunt.

In early June, registrants will receive a "passport" in the form of a keepsake booklet which will describe the gardens on the tour, along with a map of their locations and an outline of the procedures to follow for the car rally. I am including a copy of the event poster and links to the information sheet and registration form which I hope you will complete and send to the address indicated at your earliest convenience.

Please pass this information along to any of your friends who may be interested in our event which will be both impressive and fun. Participants may wish to make a weekend of it by staying in one of the local inns or B&B's.

To all of you, we hope for your support to make this event a success. After all, a major capital city like Ottawa should have a botanical garden!

Monique D. Oaks, Chair  
Over the Hedge Committee  
Tel: (613) 234-2875  
[e-mail: monique.oaks@sympatico.ca](mailto:monique.oaks@sympatico.ca)

For more information about this tour of 10 exquisite country gardens in the Manotick, Kemptville, Merrickville and Burritts Rapids areas: <http://www.ottawagarden.ca/en/events/OBGS-Over-the-Hedge-information.pdf>

To download a mail-in registration form for the tour:  
<http://www.ottawagarden.ca/en/events/OBGS-Over-the-Hedge-registration-form.pdf>

### **Gerry from the 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.

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)

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](http://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 Brochures will be available at the next meeting Publicity Committee, Homes and Gardens Tour, CFUW/Kanata

The Canadian Federation of University Women/Kanata is thrilled to announce our second biannual Homes and Gardens Tour on Saturday June 21, 2008 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Funds raised will provide scholarships for local women about to enter university.

The tour will feature six unique homes and six original gardens in and around Kanata. Whether you are an avid gardener, looking for inspiration for your own home or simply curious, we are sure that you will enjoy this exciting tour. We also invite you to stop for Afternoon Tea from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Dr., where you may browse the items in our Fifth Avenue Shoppe.

This extremely popular event sells out rapidly. We encourage you to buy your ticket early. Tickets, which include the tea, are \$25 each or two for \$40 and are available at the following outlets after May 17: Kiddie Kobbler, Signature Centre, Kanata; Zu Hair Designs, Van Leeuwen Centre, 420 Hazeldean Road, Kanata; Pretty Pots, 1528 Main St., Stittsville; and Art Mad, 1300 Main St., Stittsville or by calling 613 592-4912, 613 592-6724 or by e-mail to [clematis53@gmail.com](mailto:clematis53@gmail.com)  
For further information about the Canadian Federation of University Women/Kanata visit our web site at [www.formark.com/cfuw/kanata](http://www.formark.com/cfuw/kanata).

Brochures are available at our upcoming meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Garden Blog

One can easily join us by logging on to [www.planetplant.net](http://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

[www.cyanhorticulture.com](http://www.cyanhorticulture.com)

[www.planetplant.net](http://www.planetplant.net) 604.734.4439

Upcoming  
June 10

IKEBANA demonstration Mary Reynolds

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