The Watering Can

WEST CARLETON GARDEN CLUB
P.O. BOX 326, CARP, ONT, K0A 1L0

FEBRUARY, 2011

West Carleton Garden Club On line http//sites.google.com/site/westcarletongardenclub

Executive Committee

President – Donna Caldwell – 839-2079
Vice President – David Hinks – 839-2248
Treasurer – Ted Barnicoat – 839-0615
Secretary – Denise Burnham
Newsletter – Denise Burnham – 839-7316
Program – Kristen Rothschild – 622-5543
Plant Sale – Mary Reynolds – 832-0408
Hospitality – Mary and Roy Reynolds
Flower Show – Anne Crosley – 470-0079
Membership – Adeline Alkan – 839-0611
- Anne Crosley
Yearbook – Sharry Featherston
- Christina Zehaluk
Members at Large
– Nancy Argue – 622-1122
Laurie Lord – 839-6596
Past President – Anne Gadbois – 256-7161

Plant Swap Corner

Here is an opportunity to get rid of some over abundant plants in exchange for someone elses.

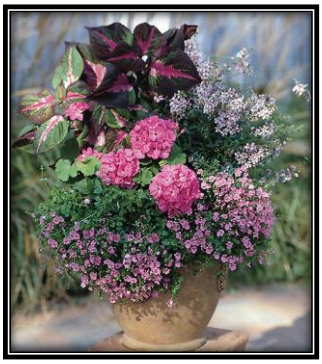
Raun Griffiths is looking for some herbs, such as horseradish and Comfrey which some people might consider invasive in exchange for artemesia.

If you are interested you can reach her by e-mail at raun.griffiths@gmail.com or call (613) 730-0480

Anyone who is interested in participating in this exchange, please submit your request by the 25th of the month so that it can be included in the newsletter
denise_burnham@hotmail.com or (613) 839-7316

February 8, 2011

A Passion for Containers and Baskets



With Carole Onion
Hillside Gardens

Carole and her husband Bruce have been owners of Hillside Gardens for the past 22 years. They took over from her parents who started the business 40 years ago after immigrating from Holland.

Carole will be sharing her passion for container gardening in a power-point presentation. This should wet our appetite for a colourful upcoming gardening season.

Monthly Garden Quote

The color of springtime is in the flowers, the color of winter is in the imagination.
~Terri Guillemets

Coming Events

March 8, 2011

Rock Garden Construction

with Paul Peitsch

April 12, 2011
In Search of the Elusive Double Trillium

with Brian Carson

May 10, 2011

Attracting Wildlife at the Fletcher Wildlife Garden

with Isabelle Nicol

June 14, 2011

Flowering Shrubs and Trees in our Region
Turf Management

with Dale Henderson

Goodies and door-prizes for the February meeting are kindly requested from members with Surnames starting with A and B

Tips from Last Months Meeting

Houseplants can be very beneficial in our lives. They purify and renew our stale indoor air by filtering out toxins, pollutants and the carbon dioxide we exhale - replacing them with life sustaining oxygen!

Although it should be safe to presume that all plants are capable of removing toxins from our air, research by NASA showed that some house plants are more efficient in filtering out toxins than others. Philodendrons, Spider plants, and Pothos were found to be the most efficient in the removal of formaldehyde. Gerbera Daisies and Chrysanthemums were found to be effective in the removal of benzene, a known carcinogen.

As a rule of thumb, allow one houseplant per 100 square feet of living area. The more vigorous the plant, the more air it can filter. Keep in mind that plants will not do much to alleviate tobacco smoke or dust in the air.

Aglaonema sp. Chinese Evergreen

Aloe barbabensis Aloe Vera, Burn plant

Chlorophytum comosum Spider Plants

Chrysanthemum sp. Mums

Dieffenbachia sp. Dumbcane

Epipremnum sp. Golden Pothos

Ficus sp. Ficus

Gerbera sp. Gerbera Daisy

Hedera sp. Common English Ivy

Philodendron sp. Heart leaf philodendron

Spathiphyllum sp. Mauna Loa

- indicates that it is toxic

Epipremnum aureum overgrowing Udawattakele Forest

If plants seem to dry out as fast as you can water them, repot your plants into slightly larger quarters using potting medium. Cut off any dead roots, and, only if several smaller roots are present, those thick taproots that run around the insides of pots. These taproots help anchor plants in the ground outdoors but are useless in a pot. By removing them, you encourage a proliferation of small roots, which are much better at absorbing water and nutrients.

Group plants together, placing those with thin leaves in the centre. Several plants transpiring together can create considerable humidity. If that isn't enough, build a humidity tray: Fill a waterproof tray with gravel, pour water into the bottom and set plants on top. Refill the tray frequently but lightly, making sure you're not leaving a pool of water above the gravel. Plants left sitting in water may develop root rot.