

# West Carleton Garden Club

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October Newsletter

**“Double, double, soil and trouble”**

## **October General Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2015**

**7:30 p.m., Carp Memorial Hall, Carp**

**Members free; Guests \$5**

Q: What's the best time of year to plant grass seed? And should I seed and fertilize at the same time?

Q: Is it possible to plant seeds and mulch at the same time, or should I wait until after the seeds have come up?

Q: I forgot to fertilize last fall! Am I doomed?

Q: What plant material can I use as an alternative to grass in areas where grass just doesn't want to grow?

Do these and many more questions come up when you think of your lawn? Are you constantly striving for the perfect lawn but are starting to wonder if such a thing actually exists? Should you be replacing turf with groundcovers?

Come to our upcoming meeting and let three knowledgeable **Master Gardeners – Lee Boltwood, Judith Cox and Kathleen Teahen**, who just happen to be members of our club too, help us sort out our many concerns about our parterre problems.

A little shy about asking questions in public? Please do not hesitate to email me your questions at least a week in advance of the meeting ([agadbois@xplornet.com](mailto:agadbois@xplornet.com)) and I will forward them on to the expert panel so that they can prepare for the discussion. In fact they prefer to get some questions in advance as this will get the ball rolling. They have also asked us to not hesitate to ask any gardening-related questions at the meeting, even those not on the subject of lawns.

For the meeting: Greeter is Donna Caldwell and Thanker is Anne Gadbois. As usual, would members whose family names begin with letter A to E please bring in sweets and / or door prizes, thanks so much.

Membership Renewal

We were able to renew many annual memberships during the September meeting but there are still a number of members who have to renew. Please see Brenda Baird at the membership desk at the October meeting and get that done. Individual member dues: \$15, Family:\$20.

## Ed Lawrence

We had spectacular attendance for our special guest, Ed Lawrence, at the September meeting held at the Carp Agricultural Hall. Despite the heat, Ed graciously entertained and enlightened us with his familiar homey voice on pruning and other tricks of his trade. Wouldn't you like to bet on how many of us went out after the meeting to buy his recommended secateurs?

A huge cartload of thanks goes out to **Anita Murray, our Program Director**, who organized the evening and to the many club volunteers who set up chairs and tables, decorated the hall, brought in refreshments and manned the desks. Let's not forget members who participated in the flower and vegetable show. You all made the evening memorable!



Thanks also to the audience who came in droves, to the members who renewed their memberships; and to the new members who joined, all 18 of them, welcome!

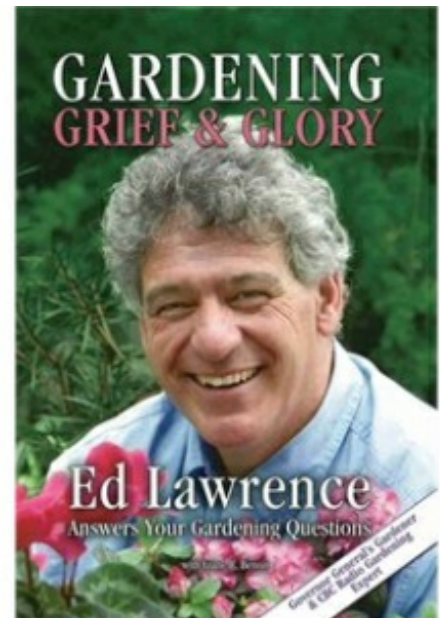
What a night!

As it happened, Ed Lawrence ran out of his book 'Gardening Grief and Glory' which was on sale at the meeting. If anyone would like to purchase an autographed copy book at the discounted price of \$20, please see the membership table at our October meeting. Ed has graciously agreed to arrange to provide us with some.

## Planning

Your executive have started planning for future activities. It has been a few years since our very successful Carp Garden Tour and the thought is to have another tour, perhaps a little less formal this time, next summer in the Dunrobin-Constance Bay (i.e., not in Carp) areas of West Carleton.

We are also doing some advance planning to mark the 150th Anniversary of Canada in a variety of ways. The Reading Garden at the Ottawa Public Library, Carp Branch, which we installed and maintain will receive some attention. Also, there may be some initiatives surrounding the planting of commemorative trees, much to the thoughts echoed by Ed Lawrence at our last meeting. We will keep you informed of these and other initiatives on an ongoing basis and call upon your help.



If you have any ideas about possible outings/activities/initiatives/program topics or would like to help out on any of the committees which will be struck to coordinate, please do not hesitate to make your interest known to our **Membership Director, Brenda Baird**, or to any other member of the executive. We need the assistance of a lot of members to make our club vibrant. This is a also very good way to meet and befriend other members of the group. All members, but especially new members,



please take note.

## **Next meeting**

Our November meeting will feature **Robyn Lee of Lee Valley Tools** who will address the group on “The Lee Valley Story”. The last time we had another notable member of the Lee family, founder Leonard Lee, address our group we nearly doubled attendance with many of our members’ male spouses attending! Do you think it had something to do with “tools”? Please don’t hesitate to invite spouses/partners and neighbours to this evening or any other evening which might peak their interest.

We will also hold our usual annual general meeting in November, with presentation of financial reports and budget. More about that in the next newsletter.

## **Reminder**

A friendly reminder that you are receiving this email because you are a member of WCGC and/or you have expressed an interest in the garden club’s activities and events, flower shows, guest speakers, gardening opportunities and resources, and more. You may unsubscribe anytime if you no longer wish to receive our monthly newsletter or periodic emails, by contacting [agadbois@xplornet.com](mailto:agadbois@xplornet.com).