



The Watering Can



Newsletter of the West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

OCTOBER 2016

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday October 11, 2016
7:30 p.m.
Carp Memorial Hall
3739 Carp Road

PROGRAM

"It Starts With a Seed: How to collect, save and use seeds from your garden"
with guest speaker Kate Green
of USC Canada

PLUS... Flower Seed Exchange

Along with Kate Green's talk, we'll be holding a flower seed exchange for trading favourite flower seeds and receiving new exciting seeds for next year's beds.

GOODIES & DOOR PRIZES

Goodies: If your last name begins with...

Mc to N

you are asked to bring baking or other treats to share during the coffee break. These will be available along with coffee and tea for all to enjoy.

Your turn to bring goodies comes up about once each year. If you are unable to bring baking/treats, please exchange your turn with another member or contact Mary Reynolds at 613-832-0408.

Door Prizes: Your contribution of a garden-related item for the door prize draw is also welcomed.

GREETER FOR THIS MEETING

Donna Caldwell

THANKER FOR THIS MEETING

Donna Christie

OCTOBER MEETING - GUEST SPEAKER

IT STARTS WITH A SEED:

How to collect, save and use seeds from your garden

with Kate Green

It starts with a seed. And it leads to bountiful harvests year after year, not to mention food self-sufficiency.

"It" is the age-old practice of saving your seeds, and expert Kate Green of USC Canada will show you how at the October meeting. (USC Canada is an international social justice and development agency that works with farming communities to secure local food and seed systems and support sustainable livelihoods.)

Why go to the effort to save seeds when you can easily buy them at a store, or simply buy your produce and flowers?

Cost, for one thing. Recycling the seeds from your harvest is much more economical. Then there's the reassurance that the variety you're growing is well suited to our climate. And there's the issue of food security and knowing its source.

"When people are able to save seeds from their own crops or network in a community, like with a community seed bank, they know where the seeds have come from, they know they're going to grow there and they have more security for their food supply," says Green, who has helped develop organic and sustainable farming methods in Asia for more than 20 years. She's also a volunteer with Seeds of Diversity Canada and Just Food, "spreading the word about generally how easy it is to save seeds yourself, how important it is that we save our own seeds and some of the issues affecting especially vegetable seed growing in Canada."

Green's show-and-tell presentation will explain how and when to collect seeds, why people save them and which seeds are easy to save so that you get the most success.

Whether you have a small balcony garden or a large yard, she'll point out things to think about, as well as offering a few key practices to make sure you get really good seeds.



"It's such an important part of people being able to feed themselves where they are."

For more information about seed saving, Green recommends the following websites: www.usc-canada.org; www.seedsecurity.ca; www.justfood.ca; www.seeds.ca.

[Contributed by Anita Murray, Program Director]

PLUS...

FLOWER SEED EXCHANGE

At this month's meeting, we'll be having the first of many flower seed exchanges put on by one of our newest members, Donna Cook. This will be a fun-filled night of trading our favorite flower seeds OR vegetable seeds and receiving new exciting seeds for next year's beds.

Come prepared with your seeds in packets OR in a bowl for everyone to "pinch and package". Donna will bring tent cards for the members who will be sharing using the bowl method.

In case you missed getting the handout previously on how to collect and store your seeds, we've provided it again as a separate attachment.

Remember to note the plant name, height, growing conditions and maybe a picture as this will help when organizing our new garden space.

[Contributed by Donna Cook, Member]

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE



We had a lot of members renew their annual memberships during the September meeting. But there are still many of you who have yet to do so.

Please bring cash or a cheque (made out to West Carleton Garden Club) to the October meeting and see Karen Buckley at the membership desk. Or mail your cheque to: West Carleton Garden Club, c/o Karen Buckley, 3558 Torbolton Range Rd, Woodlawn ON K0A 3M0. Individual dues \$15, couple or family \$20.

If you have any changes to your phone number, email address or mailing address, please let Karen know.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We extend a big warm welcome to the new members who joined us in September:

Jennifer Butterworth, Wendy Hopkins, and Gladys and John Tasseron.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016 / 2017

September 13

The Power of Pollinators – with Dr James Coupland of FarmForest Research
Plus Fall Vegetable, Fruit & Flower Show

September 22-25

WCGC Booth at Annual Carp Fair

October 11

It Starts With a Seed: How to collect, save and use seeds from your garden – with Kate Green of USC Canada
Plus Flower Seed Exchange

November 8

Taking Companion Planting to the Next Level – with Master Gardener Rebecca Last
Plus WCGC Annual General Meeting

December 10

Float in Carp's Christmas Parade

December 13

Holiday Potluck and Social (no speaker)
Plus Silent Auction

January 10

Creating an Edible Design – with Telsing Andrews of Aster Lane Edibles

February 14

Designing a Landscape for Large Lots – with Welwyn Wong of Welwyn Wong Landscape Design

March 14

Child's Play: Gardening with children, fairies and more – with Master Gardener Judith Cox

April 11

Keep It Contained: Get inspired to create dazzling containers – with Master Gardener Catherine Disley

May 9

Perennial Pleasure: New varieties, favourites and how to choose and care for them – with Robert Wolodarski of Artistic Landscape Design
Plus Mini Spring Flower Show

May - Date TBA

WCGC Plant Sale – Carp Farmers' Market

June 13

Spring Social (no speaker)
Plus Plant & Vegetable Show
Plus Election of 2017/2018 Executive

July & August

Summer Break - no planned events

RECENT EVENTS

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Vegetable, Fruit & Flower Show

This show, the first of our 2016–17 season, attracted many entries, especially in the cut flower category. Despite our hot and dry summer, the quality of the cut flowers was impressive and showed the dedication of our gardeners to beautification of their properties.

The fruit and vegetable entries, although not overwhelming in number, were evidence of the quality and goodness that can be produced in our gardens.

The **Best in Show for Cut Specimen** went to **Joanne Douwes** for her white dahlia bloom that measured more than 4" in diameter (Class 31). The **Best in Show for Design** was awarded to **Denise Burnham** for her pavé design in Class 48 "Pumpkin Pie."

An enjoyable and impressive show and a super start to our gardening club year. Many thanks and congratulations to all who participated.

AWARDS SUMMARY			
	1ST	2ND	3RD
Karen Buckley	3	-	-
Denise Burnham	5	3	2
Nellie Carnelos	3	1	2
Donna Christie	4	4	-
Joanne Douwes	3	3	2
Susan Dowler	-	1	1
Wendy Good	4	1	2
David Hinks	4	4	-
Lorraine Jeffrey	6	2	2
Pat Moxham	-	-	2
Anita Murray	1	3	1
Susan Peacey	1	-	-
Mary Reynolds	-	1	-
Kathleen Teahen	-	-	1
Sheila Woods	2	-	-

BEST IN SHOW CUT SPECIMEN	BEST IN SHOW DESIGN
Joanne Douwes Class 31 Dahlia larger than 4" in diameter	Denise Burnham Class 48 Pavé design "Pumpkin Pie"

[Contributed by Pat Buchanan, Flower Show Organizer]

HONEY FOR SALE AT OCTOBER MEETING

Our speaker from the September meeting, Dr James Coupland, has his organic raw pure honey for sale. It is unpasteurized and cold extracted to make sure the good things remain in the honey. This is the best kind for sore throats and allergies.

If you are interested, we will have some for sale at the October meeting. Please see **Karen Buckley** at the membership desk.



PRICE:

500 mL jar - \$8
1 kg jar - \$15

APRONS FOR SALE

We have a small quantity of gardener's aprons available for sale. The aprons are made of heavy weight, dark green, cotton-poly twill with three handy pockets to hold all your tools, while protecting your clothes. They also include an embroidery of our club flower, the *Aquilegia canadensis*, aka Columbine. Price is \$35. A great gift for yourself or your gardening buddy! Contact **Denise Burnham**, 613-839-3378 or denise_burnham@hotmail.com.





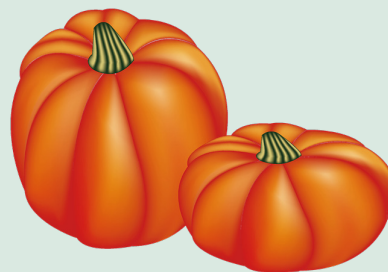
Best in Show - Design
Denise Burnham



Best in Show - Specimen
Joanne Douwes



HOW TO CLEAN AND COOK A PUMPKIN



Here are tips on how to clean a pumpkin for cooking.

- First, scrub the outside of the pumpkin with a vegetable brush.
- Cut the pumpkin in half and use a spoon to scrape out the fibers and the seeds. A serrated grapefruit spoon works great for this.
- Cut the pumpkin halves into smaller pieces, then place them skin side up in a shallow baking dish.
- Add water to just cover the bottom of the dish, and cover tightly.
- Bake in a 325°F oven until the pumpkin is fork tender. The time will vary depending on the size of your pieces.
- Let it cool, and then either cut off the peel or scoop out the flesh.

TIP: For pumpkins that you're not cooking right away, keep them cool but not quite as cool as root crops. If you have a coolish bedroom, stashing them under the bed works well. They like a temperature of about 10 to 18°C.

(Source: almanac.com)



SEPTEMBER MEETING

Announcements/Presentations

In a surprise to yearbook designer **Pat Buchanan**, it was announced at the September meeting that our latest yearbook took **FIRST PRIZE** in the OHA 2016 Publications Competition. Pat did not know that it had been submitted under Class #14 - 2016 Yearbook - Letter Size Folded Into Booklet Style.

Judging took place at the OHA Convention in late July. The award is a bright red 1st-place ribbon and a \$10 cash prize. Congratulations Pat, well done!



Lorraine Jeffrey presents the award to **Pat Buchanan** for placing first in the OHA publications competition under Class 14 - 2016 Yearbook.



Anita Murray holding the Best in Show - Specimens trophy for her winning entry at the June show.

In addition to the above presentation, an engraved trophy was presented to **Anita Murray** for winning **Best in Show - Specimens** at the June flower show. **Donna Caldwell**, who missed the meeting, will also receive an engraved trophy for winning **Best in Show - Design**. Winners get to keep the trophy for one year.

CARP FAIR FLOWER EXHIBITORS - SECTION 29

Some of the winning entries by our club members. Congratulations to all!

Denise Burnham: 1st prize — Class 109, "Tiny Treasures" — a miniature not to exceed 5" in any direction.



Donna Caldwell, Denise Burnham, Donna Christie: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively — Class 110, "Steeped in Tradition" — tints and tones of any one colour displayed in a tea pot.



Donna Caldwell: The West Carleton Garden Club Award — awarded to the exhibitor having the highest total points in Section 29, as a whole. *PLUS* Best in Show.



CARP FAIR

September 22-25 – This year's theme was "Growing Forward with Vines". Members were asked to grow vines in pots over the summer to display in the booth. Although there weren't many blooms, pictures of the flowers were displayed.

Denise Burnham, Brenda Baird, Wendy Good, and Karen Buckley set up the booth. **Kathleen Teahen** organized the manning of the booth which was shared with Master Gardeners.

Thanks also to **Donna Caldwell, Nancy Argue, Faith O'Donnell, Brenda Baird, Karen Buckley, Joan McNab, Lee Boltwood and Kathleen Teahen** for their time at the booth.

[Contributed by Denise Burnham, Booth Coordinator]



Posing after setting up the WCGC booth are **Karen Buckley, Brenda Baird, Denise Burnham and Wendy Good**

ABOUT WCGC



The West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society is a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association, District 2. The club was established in 1989 and joined the OHA in December 1990.



Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August) in the Carp Memorial Hall, 3739 Carp Road at 7:30 p.m. where featured speakers share their knowledge.

Guests are always welcome to our meetings. The \$5 admission fee for guests can be applied toward an annual membership. Yearly membership fees are \$15 for an individual, and \$20 for a family and are due in September. Our membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. To inquire about membership, contact **Karen Buckley** at 613-832-2668 or karen.buckley@ocdsb.ca.

Visit us at WCGC.ca | Join us on Facebook

2016 / 2017 EXECUTIVE

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Donna Caldwell, Susan Dowler

The Watering Can newsletter is published every month except in July and August.

Send your information, submissions and articles to Lorraine Jeffrey by email at lorrainejeffrey@xplornet.ca.

Submission deadline for the November issue is October 26.