



# The Watering Can



Newsletter of the West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

SEPTEMBER 2016

## NEXT MEETING

Tuesday September 13, 2016  
7:30 p.m.  
Carp Memorial Hall  
3739 Carp Road

## PROGRAM

***"The Power of Pollinators"***  
with Dr. James Coupland

### ***Vegetable, Fruit & Flower Show***

Entries to be placed between 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Guidelines are in the 2015/2016 yearbook and in the Resources section of our website. Please come early to place entries and use the entry tags provided on the website, pre-filled to save time.

## GOODIES & DOOR PRIZES

The following members 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. *Optional: your contribution of a garden-related item for the door prize draw is also welcomed.*

Anne Lamb	Carol Lane
Charlene Langlais	Sheila Laughlin
Johvi Leeck	Pam Leeks
Rhoda Lemke	Gay MacQuarrie
Janet Marr	Dan Mayo

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.

## GREETER FOR THIS MEETING

Donna Christie

## THANKER FOR THIS MEETING

Kathleen Teahen

## September Meeting - Feature

### THE POWER OF POLLINATORS

with Dr. James Coupland

Consider him the bug whisperer.

Much like The Horse Whisperer popularized in book and film, Almonte's Dr. James Coupland has an affinity for insects, especially bees.

"I used to be able to pick up a bee with my fingers and not get stung," says the entomologist and beekeeper, who has been collecting bugs since he was two. He even loves black flies, although he admits he'd prefer they not bite.

He turned his passion into a thriving career studying insects, with a research facility in Almonte and as an in-demand consultant for the United Nations around the world.

Heard of the Zika virus that made headlines in advance of the Olympics in Brazil? Coupland has worked on abatement strategies to combat it.

A strong advocate of pollination, conservation and the value of ecosystems, he'll bring a talk about the importance of pollinators and their decline to our next monthly meeting on September 13.

Pollinators, which are critical to plant reproduction, are "a huge part" of the value of nature, he says. And even individual gardeners can have a big impact in solving the problem of habitat loss and the effect of insecticides.

"Just think about lawns – lawns are desert," he says. "Home gardens are a really important aspect of wild pollinator diversity." The diversity of the flowers we plant maintains a diversity of pollinators, he continues.

Coupland's talk will start with a big picture look at how we approach nature and how we value it before getting into pollinators and the impact of things like insecticides. His company – FarmForest Research – develops sustainable pest control products for big companies that are pollinator-safe.

Born and raised in Almonte, Coupland spent more than 20 years in Europe, where he founded his company, before coming back home. "Europe's a bit crowded," he deadpans. "I wanted to come home and do my work in Canada; there's more space."



[Contributed by Anita Murray, Program Director]

## September Meeting

### VEGETABLE, FRUIT & FLOWER SHOW

Our usual Fall vegetable, fruit and flower show will also take place at the September meeting. Classes and rules are detailed in the 2015/2016 yearbook, beginning on page 34, and in the Resources section of our website. Entries are to be placed between 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Use the entry tags provided on the website, pre-filled to save time.



We encourage everyone to bring in at least one entry for the show. It doesn't have to be a design entry. It can be some cut flowers or a fruit or vegetable. Don't be shy. We look forward to your participation in showing the wonderful rewards of your love of gardening.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

September is the beginning of our new club year so it's time to renew your membership. Our membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. Membership fees remain the same — \$15 for an individual, \$20 for a couple or family (living at the same address) — and are **due in September**.



Please bring cash or a cheque (made out to West Carleton Garden Club) to the September meeting or mail your cheque to: West Carleton Garden Club, c/o Karen Buckley, 3558 Torbolton Range Rd, Woodlawn ON K0A 3M0.

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

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



We extend a very warm welcome to the seven new members who joined us in the spring: **Lynn Gillard, Barbara Campbell, Carla Curran, Isabelle Egan, Sally Kay, Darlene Wallace, Rita Herkes.**

We are very pleased to report that we ended our 2015/2016 year with a whopping 124 members comprised of 53 renewal, 46 new, and 25 lifetime\*. We hope to see you all back this year!

(\*Awarded on occasion. Lifetime members are exempt from paying membership fees.)

## 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

TBA

March 14

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

April 11

TBA

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

## RECENT EVENTS

### JUNE MEETING

June 14 — Our final meeting for the club year was busy and full. We had the election of executive for the coming year... plus a plant and vegetable show... plus the Spring social.

#### The Election:

We thank the following executive who are stepping down from their current roles...

- **David Hinks** for his leadership as President throughout the past two years.
- **Anne Gadbois** for keeping us informed of upcoming events through our monthly newsletter.
- **Patricia Buchanan** for the fabulous job she's done on producing the last three yearbooks.
- **Brenda Baird** for her tireless efforts at maintaining accurate membership records.
- **Donna Caldwell** for the great job she did organizing our flower shows.
- **Lorraine Jeffrey** for her unfailing attention to detail in keeping our financial records in order.

We wish our Past, Past, Past President and Newsletter Editor **Anne Gadbois** and Past President **David Hinks** all the best as they focus on other commitments and trust they will continue as active members of our club. Anne has already agreed to continue managing our Facebook page.

Most of the executive are remaining on, a testimony to what a great group this is. Some have changed their "portfolio". Some members have joined the executive for the first time and we wholeheartedly welcome them.

At our AGM in November we will ratify the election results. Your new slate of officers is listed on the last page of this newsletter and are pictured below. Thanks to **Anne Gadbois** for hosting the June executive meeting and year-end wrap-up, where this photo was taken.



**Standing Left:** David Hinks, Donna Christie, Anita Murray, Karen Buckley, Lorraine Jeffrey, Ken Sala, Kathleen Teahen, Roy Reynolds, Leislle Alvarenga, Denise Burnham, Anne Gadbois, Patricia Buchanan, Dan Stumpf  
**Seated Left:** Brenda Baird, Nancy Argue, Donna Caldwell, Mary Reynolds, Sheila Stumpf **Missing:** Wendy Good, Susan Dowler



Your executive is a hard-working bunch who keep our club running well, endeavouring to provide a strong program to benefit our members. But they can't be expected to do it all. From time to time, we need extra hands to take on a variety of roles.

Have you flirted with becoming more involved in the club? We encourage you to do so in 2016/2017. Here are two opportunities to get involved now:

### GREETERS & THANKERS

We are in need of greeters and thankers for this season's monthly meetings.

**Donna Christie** will circulate a sign-up sheet at the September meeting. Please consider this opportunity to help out. As a Greeter, all you need do is position yourself at the entrance and greet members as they arrive and provide some direction to guests. As a Thanker, you simply express a few words of thanks to the speaker after his/her presentation and conduct the door prize draw.

### CARP FAIR

The 153rd annual Carp Fair is just around the corner. The theme this year is "Growing Forward in 2016." We will have a booth again this year, shared with the Master Gardeners, and it will be located in the Exhibit Hall.

We'll be needing volunteers to man the display. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the September meeting. We'll also need people to help set up the booth on Thursday afternoon the 22nd. This is another opportunity for you to get involved.

**Denise Burnham** is our booth coordinator and can be reached at 613-839-3378 or [denise\\_burnham@hotmail.com](mailto:denise_burnham@hotmail.com).





At the June meeting, outgoing President **David Hinks** presented outgoing Treasurer **Lorraine Jeffrey** with the Society President's Award. This certificate is presented at the discretion of the Society's President in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Society's activities.

### Plant & Vegetable Show:

We were thrilled to see such a lovely assortment of plant and vegetable entries for judging. Thanks to organizers **Donna Caldwell** and **Patricia Buchanan**, and others who came to help with set up and a quick tear down at the end.



Best in Show, Design  
**Donna Caldwell**



Best in Show, Specimen  
**Anita Murray**

### Spring Social:

Members brought a fabulous assortment of "finger lickin' good" sweet and savoury goodies for all to share and enjoy.



### 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](mailto:denise_burnham@hotmail.com).



### 2015/2016 YEARBOOK

The club's yearbook was distributed at the May meeting. If you did not receive your copy, you can pick one up at the Membership desk at the September meeting.



## GARDEN TOUR-IFFIC!

June 18 — On a hot and sunny Saturday approximately 100 people had tickets to a terrific tour of gardens in the Kinburn and Dunrobin area of West Carleton. The club sincerely thanks the hosts who graciously opened their gardens for us to enjoy while supporting the raising of funds for our club's project for Canada 150 — improvements to the Reading Garden. It is our hope to widen the cement walkway on the periphery of the building to allow better access to the garden and to help provide better work space for events held there. We also wish to install a culvert and fill to solve the drainage problem. We are delighted to report that the fundraiser raised \$1,147.70.

The gardens on the tour were provided by **John and Linda Soper, Marjorie Vendrig, Jeff Sugarman, Roy and Mary Reynolds, Lois Addison and Dorothy Richardson, Jacqui Ehninger-Cuervo, and Pat and Alan Gale.** We extend our sympathies to **Lis Allison** who had to withdraw due to the passing of her husband. We extend our thanks to the many volunteers who greeted guests at each garden and helped to host. Many positive comments were received regarding the huge variety of gardens, their interesting designs and plant material and their informative and welcoming hosts.



Thanks to tour committee members **Nancy Argue, Donna Caldwell, Karen Buckley, Wendy Good, Brenda Baird, Denise Burnham and Donna Christie** who volunteered to make this a success. The hosting gardeners, and all volunteers who were able to, met on the Sunday to visit the gardens with the addition of **Sharry Featherstone's** garden in MacLaren's Landing. Our township certainly has many gorgeous settings and many gardeners who further enhance these settings and are kind enough to share them with us. We can glean design ideas, art ideas, see what grows well in this area and be inspired.

*[Contributed by Donna Christie, Chair, Garden Tour Committee]*

## THE NEW CANADA 150 TULIP



Canada turns 150 in 2017 and to honour the occasion, a special, maple leaf-inspired tulip was unveiled in Ottawa's Commissioners Park in May. The Canada 150 tulip's elegant white bloom with red flames was designed to mimic the Canadian flag.

The National Capital Commission (NCC) partnered with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Home Hardware—exclusive retailer of this special tulip bulb—and Communities in Bloom to produce and distribute the tulip.

During the sesquicentennial celebrations in spring 2017, 300,000 Canada 150 tulips will be showcased in the NCC's flower beds, and thousands more will bloom in community gardens across Canada.

The public can purchase Canada 150 tulip bulbs at participating Home Hardware stores nationwide as of September 2016 (*this month!*). They will be sold in packages of 25 for \$14.99 and 100 for \$44.99. So if want to enjoy the beauty of this special tulip as part of the Canada 150 celebrations in spring 2017, get out to one of the stores and buy some bulbs now!

*(Source: [ncc-ccn.gc.ca](http://ncc-ccn.gc.ca) and [greenhousecanada.com](http://greenhousecanada.com))*





## WCGC BURSARY AWARD

June 29 — Each year the West Carleton Garden Club offers a \$200 bursary to a graduating student from West Carleton Secondary School to be received at commencement.

A selection committee at the school considers students pursuing studies in horticulture, agriculture or the environment at either a college or university level. Financial need as well as academic standing is also used as a criterion for selection.

This year's bursary was awarded to **Evelyn Kelsey** who is now at McGill University in Montreal enrolled in the Agricultural & Environmental Sciences program.



Outgoing Treasurer **Lorraine Jeffrey** presents the WCGC award to **Evelyn Kelsey**.

At the commencement ceremony, Evelyn also received the following awards: Ontario Scholar, Honour Roll, Award of Distinction in Visual Arts, and an Extended French Immersion Certificate.

We are very pleased to be able to assist this deserving student in her academic studies.

### 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](http://WCGC.ca) | Join us on Facebook*

## 2016 / 2017 EXECUTIVE

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**MEMBERS AT LARGE** - Leslie Alvarenga,  
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](mailto:lorrainejeffrey@xplornet.ca).

**Submission deadline for the October issue is September 28.**