

# The Watering Can

## West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society

Thinking warmly of each of you and wishing your family an extra measure of comfort, joy and hope

### WCGC AGM

A successful annual general meeting was held via Zoom on Tuesday, November 24th. We achieved quorum and the meeting began on time, hosted by President, Brenda Baird.

Brenda sought approval for the financial reports which had been sent in advance to all the members. She delivered her President's report outlining our club's activities until the March lockdown due to coronavirus restrictions. See p. 3.

OHA District 2 Director Anne Harbord attended the meeting. As per custom, she "installed" the executive members in their positions and filled us in on D2 news - the 2021 convention is in planning for July in London, Ont., the 2023 Convention will be hosted by D2 at the Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata and a planning committee will be formed in January.

In closing, Brenda thanked all for our efforts this year and wished everyone a very happy holiday. Thank you too, Brenda!



## Holiday Greetings!

At this time of year, and especially in a year which has been like no other, we look back at our accomplishments, personal and as a community, and try to plan ahead, full of hope for the future.

The gardening process takes time and effort but we gardeners are a patient and resilient bunch. Even if we might have been daunted at times throughout the past months by the many restrictions placed upon our normal activities, our gardens have helped immeasurably in having given us a neutral and nurturing focus to calm our nerves while weathering this pandemic.

Your executive has been meeting regularly by videoconference to discuss possible meetings (which have been impossible under current conditions) and now we are planning some Zoom speakers for the coming months. Stay tuned! As this scaled-back holiday period approaches, your Executive Committee wishes you all a season of joy and comfort and a new year of good health and much happiness!



## Membership News

As a club, we have indeed saved on expenses related to the meetings we could not hold since April after the sanctions were imposed. We are in a good financial situation as can be seen in our financial statements. This is why we have not insisted more on membership dues this year.

However, as a matter of continuity in support of our garden club, and to help fund programming going forward, it would be very much appreciated if 2020-21 dues (\$15 single, \$20 family) could be sent to our Treasurer, Sheila Stumpf, by:

- **e-transfer at [treasurer@wcgc.ca](mailto:treasurer@wcgc.ca)**
- **or by cheque addressed to the West Carleton Garden Club c/o Sheila Stumpf, 202 Charlie's Lane, RR1 Carp, ON. K0A 1L0**

Speaking of membership, and as mentioned in our President's Report to the AGM below, our focus going forward will be to welcome members back to our meetings and activities, to attract new members and to keep up our presence in the community. In this respect, if you have neighbourhood friends who would be interested, please encourage them to join us.

[www.wcgc.ca](http://www.wcgc.ca)

## FUN FACTS!

**Mistletoe** is the common name for obligate hemiparasitic plants in the order Santalales. They are attached to their host tree or shrub by a structure called the haustorium, through which they extract water and nutrients from the host plant. Their parasitic lifestyle has led to some dramatic changes in their metabolism.

**Holly** or **holly**, is a genus of about 480 species of flowering plants in the family Aquifoliaceae, and the only living genus in that family. The species are evergreen or deciduous trees, shrubs, and climbers from tropics to temperate zones worldwide. Wiki

## WCGC Photo Competition - Still time for November!

November - "Captive Audience" – a festive planter or door decoration incorporating horticultural elements.

Please send your digital pictures before December 1st to [gay\\_macquarrie@hotmail.com](mailto:gay_macquarrie@hotmail.com) **with the month and your name in the subject line of the digital entry**. The entries and winners will be revealed later on in December.

(Pictures of the beautiful urn below at Memorial Hall and those seen on page 1 are from Brenda Baird who put the urns together on our behalf.)



## **West Carleton Garden Club and Horticultural Society**

**AGM, Tuesday, November 24th, 2020**

### **President's Report**

This report is for the term from Sept 1, 2019 ending on August 31, 2020.

We began this term by holding our first general meeting in September where a Fall Flower and Vegetable Show was held. We had many entries and a few new members with entries as well. When Carp Fair was held later in September, once again we maintained a booth, focusing on Pollinators. This drew a lot of attention and special thanks to Wendy & Johanna for creating this and those members who helped to man the booth during the Fair.

Throughout the year we had many interesting speakers. We learned about ornamental grasses, caring for fruit trees, welcoming birds to our gardens, interesting houseplants, Gardens in China and having a Naturalists Garden. We had an average attendance of 40 people and welcomed a few new members. We held a successful seed swap, held monthly photo competitions and held mini flower shows during the winter months.

We held our AGM in November and December was our annual Christmas Potluck where we had a silent auction and sold Christmas table centrepieces.

We were fortunate to have held a meeting in March, on the 10th just before the lockdown because of the Pandemic came into place. Little did we know how soon our lives were about to change. Directives came out immediately from the OHA and the Province that all public events, planned trips, garden tours and plant sales were to be CANCELLED until the State of Emergency was lifted and local Public Health Agencies declared it safe to resume our normal activities.

As you know, this still hasn't happened. Fortunately, we the Executive Members of our Society have been able to meet through Zoom meetings (thanks to Leislle & Ken) and once we were able to meet outdoors, maintaining Social Distancing to discuss our Societies' plans.

We have maintained contact with our Membership with our great monthly newsletters. We have our own Website, Facebook site and this summer launched an Instagram site, which encourages members to post photos from their gardens. Input on this has been impressive.

Our focus, looking forward once our lives return to some sense of normalcy, will be to welcome our members back to meetings, encourage new members to join us and to keep up our presence in our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Baird  
WCGC President



Some happy memories from last year's potluck. Oh, to get together again!





