

# THE WATERING CAN

West Carleton Garden Club & Horticultural Society



Pic above: <https://canadianorchidcongress.ca/conservation/native/>. Pics opposite: <http://www.northland-paradise.com/orchids.html>.

## WCGC February 13th Meeting " Canadian Orchids "

with **Jan Johns** of the  
Ottawa Orchid Society  
at  
7:00 pm  
Carp Memorial Hall  
Members: Free, Guests: \$5

(In the case of inclement weather, the in-person meeting might be cancelled and offered via Zoom. Notice will be given by email, on our website and Facebook page.)

## Grow to Show: Flower Show Tips from Gay MacQuarrie

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### Your Tool Kit

It's a good idea to have your "tool kit" for flower shows. I use one of my kid's old fishing-tackle boxes. Here is a list of some of the things you might want to include in your tool kit:

- Branch Cutter/Pruning Shears
- Scissors
- Small paint brush
- Tweezers
- Waterproof floral tape for vases
- Stem tape
- Waterproof florist sticky clay\*
- Double-sided tape or glue dots
- Pen/Pencil
- Extra entry tags
- green, brown Magic Markers
- bamboo skewers
- floral wire
- small and medium Kanzans (a.k.a., spiky or floral frog)
- small tape measure

\*Sticky clay is used to anchor floral mechanics to your container.

Use it to secure flower frogs to the bottom of a dry container and the clay will continue to adhere to the container even when water is added.

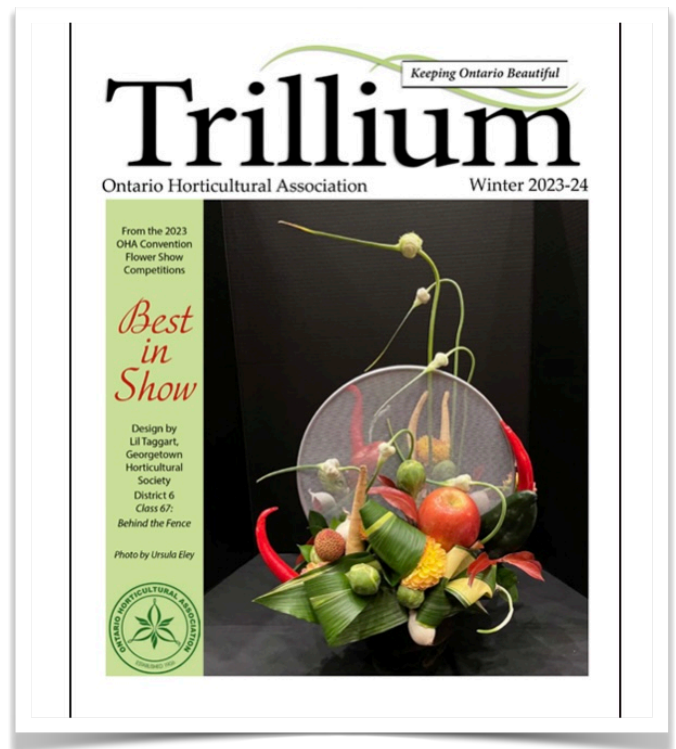
### Other possible items:

- Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Floral Design and Horticultural (OJES) by the Garden Clubs of Ontario and Ontario Horticultural Association, 2019.
- Thorn stripper
- Magnifying glasses
- Paper towel or soft cloth
- Small piece of floral foam
- Plastic, 3-prong pizza topper (in lieu of a pin frog when using oasis)
- Small, spouted beaker for water
- U-shaped floral pins
- Long straight
- Vase for a miniature arrangement

## February speaker

**Jan Johns** is a retired secondary teacher who has been interested in orchids for 50 years. She currently has over 100 orchids representing 20 different genera in her home and garden. Jan has served with the Ottawa Orchid Society since 2014 and is currently the President. She also spent 5 years as 2nd Vice President of the Canadian Orchid Congress and is a member of both the American Orchid Society and the Orchid Society of Great Britain.

Jan addressed our group last year at this time and we are thrilled that she has accepted to return to talk about our Canadian orchids.



The Winter edition of the Ontario Horticulture Association's quarterly newsletter is available here: <https://gardenontario.org/winter-2023-24-trillium-available-now/>

## Upcoming Meetings

March 13, 2024

### "Burnt Lands Trilliums"

with Brian Carson

April 9, 2024

### "Design"

with Sandra Black

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Here's an interesting link about  
"2024, Year of the Lily":

<https://laidbackgardener.blog/2024/01/16/2024-year-of-the-lily/?fbclid=IwAR2Xn-ckBpQCteB2Hb3GsThRR5EcOXm6jKoq40cUdCjgg1hgKBAgky4q7IE>



## Info for New Members

- General meetings are held at Carp Memorial Hall every second Tuesday of the month. No meetings in July or August.
- Social starts at 7:00, meeting at 7:30.
- Refreshments available, small donation for coffee/tea appreciated.
- Members bring in door prizes/sweets as per request in newsletter.
- Flower shows are normally held at May (mini), June and September meetings.
- June meeting is also a social, as is the December meeting (potluck).
- Current executive members list can be found here: <https://www.wcgc.ca/executive.html>
- Annual plant sale, our largest fundraiser, is usually held on the first or second weekend in May at Carp Memorial Hall.
- We are co-hosting a Seedy Saturday at Carp Agricultural Hall on Saturday, March 9th.
- We are always looking for volunteers for our various committees.
- We are **thrilled** that you have joined and hope you enjoy our get-togethers.
- [www.wcgc.ca](http://www.wcgc.ca)



Our **SEEDY SATURDAY** event will be held on **Saturday, March 9th** at Carp Agricultural Hall. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be circulated at the February meeting.

Here's what **West Carleton Online** had to say about last year's event:

"CARP – It was a brand-new event for the West Carleton Garden Club and Horticultural Society (WCGC), and it was a hit right off the bat thanks to the help of two other garden clubs and a large crowd eager for the gardening season to arrive. The WCGC, Stittsville-Goulbourn Horticultural Society and the Kanata-March Horticultural Society worked together to bring a Seedy Saturday of the Carp Agricultural Hall Saturday (March 11). The event brought vendors of seeds from local sources of annuals, perennials, veggies and natives as well as several other related horticulture vendors under one roof, providing the community with an opportunity to prepare for the upcoming garden season ." <https://westcarletononline.com/seedy-saturday-fills-carp-ag-hall/>

It was a great success and we're anticipating a similar response this time too. (Pic below: Children's corner at last year's event.)



## **Native Orchids**

The Lanark highlands, not far from West Carleton, are a choice spot to glimpse at the magnificence of some of our native orchids, the Showy Lady's Slipper Orchids, and complementary flora, especially at the beginning of the summer season in June when they are at their peak.

Be sure to make a note on your calendar to check the website for peak orchid display:

<https://www.lanarkhighlandsbta.ca/visiting-us/lanark-highlands-orchids/> \*source for pic above

Also, there is a very interesting article about indigenous orchids on the Ottawa Orchid Society Website : <https://ottawaorchidsociety.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/OTTAWA-ORCHIDS-2021.pdf>

## **Bring in Your Seeds**

We have been collecting seeds for the **Seedy Saturday** event. Please bring them in, identified, and give them to Brenda Baird. Although it would be great if you can divide them into individual labelled seed packets, Brenda has kindly offered to do so on your behalf ...so kindly just bring them in for her.

