



# Kemptville Horticultural Society Newsletter

## February 2009

### Meeting Minutes for Jan. 21, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order, and a warm welcome was extended to all. Memberships for 2009 are now due (\$15, including a personalized wooden name tag for each new member).
  2. Hospitality: Vicki Foerster, Carmen Pincott and Tracy Wyse were thanked for the refreshments.
  3. Sylvia Hoffman moved to accept the November 2008 minutes, seconded by Nora DeVette; motion passed.
  4. The Treasurer's Report for November 2008 was presented by Arline Rutter. Tracy Wyse moved to accept; seconded by Carmen Pincott; motion passed.
    - The KHS is starting 2009 in a good position, with \$1472.18 in the account (plus the GIC).
    - Members should ensure they are compensated for all KHS expenses by submitting receipts (complete with member's name and project).
    - Opportunity to fund special KHS projects (e.g., speakers, workshops); all suggestions welcome.
  5. Old Business
    - Public planting: The 2009 grant from North Grenville is \$600; the KHS must match this equally, submit a budget and submit audited expenditures post-season. There is the potential to hire a student (and KHS member) Alicia Hutton part-time to assist this summer.
    - District AGM April 2010: A 1-day meeting at Kemptville College; approximately 125 typically attend; the meeting comprises speakers, the business meeting and vendors. Pat Kiteley has volunteered to chair. The KHS needs 5 main volunteers plus helpers (volunteering: Yolanta Blockley, Nora DeVette, Grace Forget, Sheila King (re speakers), Carmen Pincott, Arline Rutter, Tracy Wyse).
  6. New Business
    - Judging School registration: 3 KHS members are on board.
    - The Successful Gardening Show will be held in Toronto (International Centre), March 19–22, 2009; it will include an OHA flower show competition.
    - A short survey was circulated to determine members' wishes.
    - The OHA convention will be held at Trent University in Peterborough, July 10–12, 2009.
    - Junior Gardeners: Sheila King suggested that this group participate in District 2's youth program (would need a leader).
    - Exchange table: Anthea Willows introduced a new initiative, an exchange table where members who contribute items (books, tools, plants, etc) may then choose items donated by others.
  7. How the Society Works
    - Pat Kiteley reviewed the procedures and regular events at the KHS.
  8. Motion to close: moved by Anthea Willows; seconded by Victoria Hutton; motion passed.
- The business meeting was followed by:
- "My Beautiful Peperomia": A brief introduction to this house plant, with a specimen on show (Pat Kiteley).
  - Member expert: A brief description of worm composting (Monique O'Brien).
  - Speaker: Bill Langenberg spoke about his Herb Farm business as well as some thoughts on landscaping and volunteering at local group homes in horticulture therapy.

Notes:

## Treasurer's Report

### Kemptville Horticultural Society Financial Statement for January 2009 (As At January 31, 2009)

Revenue	
Membership	540.00
Grant: North Grenville Municipality	600.00
Grant: OMAFRA	1,000.00
Donation	70.00
Total Revenue	<u>2,210.00</u>

Expenses	
Hall rental	80.00
Speakers' Fees	50.00
Yearbook	207.74
Advertising	66.30
Office Supplies	106.91
Treasurer Bonding	20.00
Total Expenses	<u>530.95</u>

Net Income	<u>1,679.05</u>
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Bank Balance	3,149.52
Petty Cash Balance	55.71
Total	<u>3,205.23</u>

GST Credit Due	51.81
FLGIC 027 / Nov 26/09 1.6%	2,300.00
Total	<u>5,557.04</u>

Bursary FLGIC 019 / Maturity Nov. 9/09 1.6%	<u>2,478.00</u>
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## *Upcoming Events*

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**District 2 Annual Meeting.** This year's District 2 Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2009. All members are invited to come to the Pembroke Knights of Columbus Hall for a day of gardening fun and information. More information to follow.

**Successful Gardening Show.** The 17<sup>th</sup> Successful Gardening Show will be held from March 19 to 22, 2009 at the International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd., Toronto. Parking is free and admission includes entry to the 21<sup>st</sup> International Home and Garden Show. Seminars will be given by Frank Ferragine (Gardening... Tricks of the Trade), Shauna Dobbie (Hot New Garden Products), Ed Lawrence (Growing Great Gardens Pesticide Free!), Frank Kershaw (Gardening on the Wild Side) and Marjorie Mason (Tips & Treasurers From My Garden!).

**Ontario Rock Garden & Hardy Plant Society.** The Society will hold its Hardy Plant Sale on Sunday, May 3, 2009 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at the Toronto Botanical Garden Centre, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto. Invitation is extended to interested members of the OHA.

**Gardening Lecture Series.** Hosted by Friends of the Central Experimental Farm (FCEF) and presented by Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton. Cost for the series is \$40 for FCEF members, \$50 for nonmembers; for individual lectures the cost is \$12 for FCEF members and \$15 for nonmembers. Lectures take place in Building 72 Arboretum, Central Experimental Farm, east of Prince of Wales traffic circle, from 7 to 9 pm. For more information call 613 230-3276, [info@friendsofthefarm.ca](mailto:info@friendsofthefarm.ca), [www.friendsofthefarm.ca](http://www.friendsofthefarm.ca)

*April 7, 2009. Gardening With Climatic Changes.* Carbon dioxide that enters the atmosphere today will continue to impact our climate for the next century and beyond. We are already seeing the effects of climate change in our gardens. So, what can we do to minimize the carbon footprints of our gardening clogs, and how can we best adapt to the changes in local climate that we know are coming? This presentation takes you through a basic understanding of the mechanics of climate change to the practicalities of gardening in a changing climate.

*April 14, 2009. Hemerocallis (Daylilies).* A great perennial choice for brown thumbs, green thumbs, beginning and seasoned gardeners. Daylilies are beautiful but undemanding, adaptable, versatile, hardy and almost care-free. They come in many sizes and a great variety of colours. No garden should be without them. The speaker will convince you that the daylily is a "perfect perennial."

*April 21, 2009. The 100 Mile Diet.* There is no better way to know what you are eating and how it was grown than to grow it yourself. This lecture will present some basic how to's of vegetable gardening in the Ottawa region, based on the presenter's personal experience over several decades of learning what works and what doesn't. It's amazing what can be produced in a small back yard, front yard, container or in a corner of a flower garden.

*April 28, 2009. Herbs.* Herbs have played an important part in everyday life for over 2000 years. This talk will cover some of their historical, medicinal and culinary uses as well as their ornamental use in the garden.

### **FCEF Bus Tours**

*March 20 and 21, 2009.* The FCEF invite you to join them on March 20 and 21 on a trip to visit

Canada's largest gardening show in Toronto. Early departure from Ottawa on March 20, arrive Toronto midday, free afternoon or go to the Show. Our hotel, the Holiday Inn on King St. is located in the heart of the theatre district. Next day to back to the Show until 2 pm and then board the bus to return to Ottawa. Stop at the Glen House Resort in Gananoque for dinner en route.

Arrive in Ottawa about 9 pm on March 21. Cost to FCEF members: \$225 based on double occupancy; nonmembers \$275. For single occupancy add \$80 to either category. For more information call 613 230-3276, [info@friendsofthefarm.ca](mailto:info@friendsofthefarm.ca), [www.friendsofthefarm.ca](http://www.friendsofthefarm.ca)

*June 8–10, 2009.* Come and see the June blooms in Southern Ontario at the Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) in Hamilton! Early departure will allow us to go to the RBG for lunch on the 8<sup>th</sup> and visit the gardens to our hearts' content until dusk. Dine in St. Catharines at your leisure after registering at our hotel. Tuesday morning will find us strolling in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Lunch at your leisure followed by a matinee performance of your choice at the Shaw Festival or a casual afternoon. Dinner in a scenic location en route back to the hotel after the performance. Early departure for the return trip on the 10<sup>th</sup>, with a stop in Picton in Prince Edward County for lunch and a winery tour. Arrive in Ottawa at 6:30 pm. Cost to FCEF members \$215, based on double occupancy; nonmembers \$340. For single occupancy add \$135. For more information call 613 230-3276, [info@friendsofthefarm.ca](mailto:info@friendsofthefarm.ca), [www.friendsofthefarm.ca](http://www.friendsofthefarm.ca)



## *Plant of the Month*

### **Begonia rex**

Rex begonias are known for their variegated leaves. They do produce flowers, but they are small and unattractive. Rex begonia is not fast growing, but with a little care you can have a very attractive plant that will last for years both indoors and out. To produce a good specimen consider the following tips: use a peat-based soil with 1/3 perlite; don't use a pot that is too big for the plant; place some small pebbles in a saucer below the pot to give more humidity to the plant; don't put the plant in direct sunlight; fertilize with 15-15-15 according to package directions during the spring and summer. If you want to put your rex begonia outside during the summer, be sure to keep it in a shady spot, where it won't dry out. Check carefully for insects before you bring it inside when the nights are cool. To keep your rex begonia looking attractive, you should pinch back the stems, remove dried leaves and re-pot when it looks crowded. If you're interested in finding a unique rex begonia you can visit Pioneer Nursery during the summer as they have a great collection in their greenhouses.





## *A Member's Garden*

**Dennis and Gail Bourque:** We moved to our current property in August 2000, bringing cuttings from a former garden and planting them in a place planned for a vegetable plot. The year 2001 was extremely dry. We started our perennial beds by planting and immediately cutting back the foliage to promote root growth. We now have 2 long mixed perennial borders about 4 feet wide. Behind these gardens there is a naturalized area, featuring daffodils in the spring and then daisies or black-eyes Susans, depending on Mother Nature's plan for the year. Every year is different. Bordering this area we have started to plant shrubs. We have hydrangea, ninebark, perennial hibiscus and a variety of grasses. Joe Pyeweed does well in this area. Dennis has created paths through the woodland garden where you find hostas, wild leek, wild ginger and trilliums. We have many varieties of hosta planted in a shady border backed by a rail fence. We also have a small pond, surrounded by hostas, grasses and ground cover. To the back of the property we have a thyme garden, featuring many varieties of thyme. This garden is now bordered by peonies and sweet peas. There is also a bed of daylilies. Gail enjoys container gardening and moves the containers whenever a particular area needs more colour. We are grateful to friends who share their cuttings and bulbs, because when we walk through the garden we not only admire their contributions but are reminded of our friends.





## *Memorable Gardens*

### **Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ont.**

Situated on 2700 acres and within 45 minutes' drive from downtown Toronto, the Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) is a feast for a gardener's eyes.

It is the largest botanical garden in Canada, and provides year-round interest for the visitor, starting in January with an indoor Mediterranean Garden, a display of orchids and flowering bulbs.

During the spring and summer 100,000 bulbs come into flower. The RBG contains the largest collection of lilacs in the world, and boasts 250,000 iris blooms, some of which are seen here (bottom right). Other areas of interest include the arboretum, the rose garden, the Laking garden and Cootes Paradise (a freshwater marsh area situated at the west tip of Lake Ontario). The garden has 30 km of trails, 4 nature sanctuaries that include plants, mammals and birds from a Carolinian zone (south eastern US), rare plants that grow in the Niagara-Lake Ontario region, and a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. The RBG is also a popular place for birdwatching.

Besides that, there is a gift shop for the purchase of plants, books, CDs, decorations, ornaments at the RBG Centre. For more information about the RBG calendar, festivals, hours, admission rates, etc., go to [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)



*KHS members, please give me feedback as to what you would like to see in your Newsletter. Comments and suggestions are welcome. You are invited to submit any appropriate material for the next Newsletter at least 2 weeks before the meeting. Please send it by email to [pancirov@xplornet.com](mailto:pancirov@xplornet.com) or by fax to 613 989-1309.*