



Kemptville Horticultural Society Newsletter

March 2009

Meeting Minutes for Feb. 18, 2009

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** A warm welcome was extended to all. Due to a winter storm, turnout was small but enthusiastic. There were no visitors.
2. **HOSPITALITY:** Jean Sears, Gillian Pancirov and Gail Bourque were thanked for the refreshments.
3. **JANUARY MINUTES:** Accepted with no revisions.
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT JANUARY 2009:** Presented by Arline Rutter; Move to accept, Jean Sears; seconded Sheila King; motion passed.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - District 2 AGM: Saturday, April 25, 2009 in Pembroke, including guest speakers, demonstrations and vendors. **MOTION:** KHS to subsidize \$15 of the \$25 fee for members attending (includes coffee and lunch); moved by Jean Sears; seconded by Gillian Pancirov.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - Ottawa Botanical Garden Society: **MOTION:** KHS to renew the \$35 annual membership; moved by Yolanta Blockley; seconded by Jean Kilfoyle.
 - Bill Langenberg (January's speaker) and his activities related to therapeutic gardening: **MOTION:** KHS to donate \$100 to Bill's initiative; moved by Carmen Pincott; seconded by Mary Carlson.
 - Seedy Saturday: March 7 from 10–3 at the Ron Kolbus Lakeside Centre in Ottawa (seed exchange, sales and presentations).
 - New Horizons trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, June 9 & 10: 2 nights with 2 or 3 shows, cost will be \$475–\$545 depending on the number of attendees.
 - Canada Blooms is March 18–22 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in Toronto.
 - Sheila King, currently our District 2 Director, is interested in running for VP of the Ontario Horticultural Association. **MOTION:** Sheila King is nominated as a candidate for VP of the OHA; moved by Diane Partlo, seconded by Jean Sears.

- KHS will hold its seed exchange this evening.
7. The business meeting was adjourned at 19:50.

The business meeting was followed by:

- Plant de Jour: Rex begonia (Pat Kiteley).
- Member Expert: African violets (Gail Bourque).
- Speakers: Terry Butler and Terry McEvoy re horticultural projects of interest in North Grenville.

Treasurer's Report

Kemptville Horticultural Society Financial Statement for February 2009 (as at Feb. 28, 2009)

| Revenue | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Membership | 75.00 |
| AGM Reg (Mem. Con.) | 10.00 |
| Total Revenue | 85.00 |

| Expenses | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Hall rental | 80.00 |
| Donation / Community Living | 100.00 |
| Advertising | 128.13 |
| Office Supplies | 2.21 |
| Membership / Ottawa Bot Garden Soc | 35.00 |
| Total Expenses | 345.34 |

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|-------------------|----------------|
| Net Income | -260.34 |
|-------------------|----------------|

| Assets | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Bank Balance | 2,888.27 |
| Petty Cash Balance | 53.45 |
| Total | 2,941.72 |

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|-------------------------|-----------------|
| GST Credit Due | 54.98 |
| FLGIC 027/Nov26/09 1.6% | 2,300.00 |
| Total | 5,296.70 |

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| Bursary FLGIC 019/Maturity Nov 9/09 1.6% | 2,478.00 |
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Upcoming Events/Notices

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.

Successful Gardening Show. The 17th 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 21st 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!).

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, 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.

Photographic Competitions: Jean Sears.

Dates to remember:

March 31, 2009 for the District 2 competition.

June 1, 2009 for the OHA competition.

September 30, 2009 for our own KHS competition.

Remember there are forms to be sent in for the OHA competition — see me — and they have to be matted to size 5" x 7". Good luck!



Recipe

Carrot Cake Cookies — Gail Bourque

1 cup packed light brown sugar
1 cup granulated sugar
½ lb. unsalted butter, room temperature
2 large eggs, room temperature
1 tsp vanilla extract
2 cups all purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. salt
1 tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. nutmeg
½ tsp. ginger
2 cups old fashioned rolled oats
1½ cups of finely grated carrots
1 cup raisins
cream cheese frosting

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper and set aside. In a bowl combine sugar and butter. Beat until light and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla and beat until well combined.

In a large bowl sift together flour, soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger. Stir to combine. Gradually add flour to the butter mixture and mix on low speed until just blended. Mix in oats, carrots and raisins. CHILL in fridge until firm...at least 1 hour.

Using a ¼ measuring cup, scoop dough onto prepared baking sheets leaving 2" between cookies. Press down with a fork.

Bake until browned 9–12 minutes depending on the oven. Do not overcook. Cool on a rack. Once completely cooled, spread cream cheese frosting onto a cookie and sandwich with another. Store in an airtight container. Makes about 25 sandwiches.

Cream Cheese Icing

250 gm package of cream cheese, softened
¼ cup softened butter
Icing sugar

Cream together the butter and cheese. Add 2 tsp. of vanilla. Gradually add 3 cups of sifted icing sugar.



News from the Nurseries

Ferguson Forest Centre, Kemptville. Please note that our operations are expected to start again in early April with the outlet store opening about the third week of April. — Ed Patchell

Gemmell's Garden Centre, Smiths Falls. We have some exciting new perennials for 2009 at Gemmell's this season for all you plant addicts at the Kemptville Horticultural Society!

Echinacea x Mac n' Cheese. You can take comfort in these warm and tasty 4½ -inch blooms that cover this Echinacea! Beautiful golden yellow flowers on strong vigorous well-branched stems that grow 26" tall. Perfect complement to Echinacea Tomato Soup. Put them together for a summertime feast! Zones 4–9. Full sun. Attracts Butterflies. Excellent cut flower.

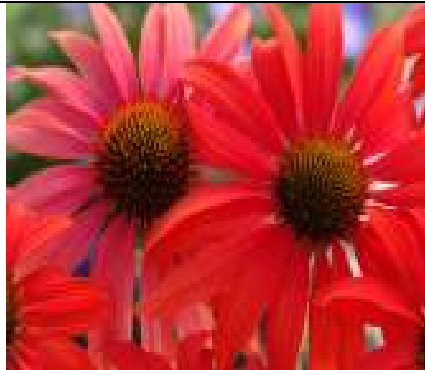
Echinacea x Tomato Soup. Stunning warm tomato-red flowers that grow 5" wide. This excellent new variety grows 32" tall and nearly as wide. Covered with gorgeous blooms till frost! Zones 4–9. Full sun. Attracts butterflies. Excellent cut flower.

Echinacea purpurea Pink Poodle. Amazingly large double-flowered fluffy blooms with bright pink petals. Ideal for sunny borders. Well branched, strong and bushy. Blooms mid summer to early fall continuously when deadheaded. Zones 4–9. Full sun. Attracts butterflies. Excellent cut flower.

For shade lovers we have a couple of new Hosta varieties:

Hosta Abiqua Drinking Gourd. Frosty blue-green heart-shaped leaves that are cupped and will actually hold water! Pale lavender flowers in July. Good slug resistance. Unusual accent for the shade garden. Zones 2–9. 24" tall, 40" wide.

Hosta Sea Fire. Gorgeous bright golden chartreuse leaves absolutely glow in the shade. Unusual red petioles in spring. Will tolerate some sun. Plant with darker purple foliage plants like Heuchera Obsidian for a striking contrast! Zones 2–9. 18" tall, 36" wide. — Kelly Heath.





Plant of the Month

This is a Chinese Evergreen, which I have had for about 10 years. It does very well in any of those places which don't have enough light for flowering plants. However — and this is a big plus to me, although it has happened only twice in my ownership — when it blooms it is gorgeous! Just like a Calla lily, really, or Parson in the Pulpit. This plant is white, and I don't know if there are other colours. The plant takes very little care, needing watering less often than most house plants, and fertilizer about 4 times a year.—Jean Sears



Tips from Members

1. In early spring just as the hosta tips are breaking ground drench them in a mixture of 1 cup of ammonia to 10 cups of water. This will kill the eggs of earwigs and other bugs that have survived the winter. Also save egg shells year round, crush them and sprinkle them around the hostas after watering with the ammonia mixture. Slugs don't like the shells.
 2. Try using old ironing boards to support seed trays. When you need natural light for young seedlings or plants you can place them in front of the window and adjust the height to suit any window.
 3. To prevent tomato rot, add 2 to 3 tablespoons of Epsom salts in each hole when planting tomatoes, or place 1 tablespoon in the hole when planting and work in 1 tablespoon monthly at the base of each plant.
 4. For weed control in driveways, put rock salt and water in a watering can (used only for that purpose) to make a very salty solution and water the area. After applying, replenish the watering can so that the solution is ready when needed again.
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A Member's Garden

Arline & David Rutter: We have lived in Oxford Station at the same address for 25 years. When we first arrived there was a large inground pool at the rear of the house that we enjoyed for many years, but once the children had left home we decided to fill it in and do some landscaping. There we were able to create a rock garden to integrate the different ground levels and put in a small pond and surrounding flowerbeds. We built a garden room for shade and reduced the deck size to fit.

Above the natural garden slope we dug in a large curved flowerbed for bushes, perennials, catalpa and black walnut trees. This bed seems to increase in size every year!

Beyond this, the lawn sweeps down to the creek and the shore area is natural with trees, cattails etc.

Our 1-acre property is pie-shaped with natural bush on the west side and pine and cedar on the east side giving us privacy.

The front flowerbeds are square and formal with centre features of bushes and a birdbath. The beds have tulips and daffodils in the springtime, marigolds with alyssum and dahlias in the summer. A long bed on the east side of the house is filled with bushes and perennials, and the beds surrounding the house edges have hostas, astilbe, roses and a large variety of coloured perennials.

The most striking feature to bloom in August at the southeast front corner of the house is a red hibiscus Dixie Bell, which reaches up to 6 feet.



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@explornet.com or by fax to 613 989-1309.