



Kemptville Horticultural Society Newsletter

September 2009

(see also www.gardenontario.org/site.php/kemptville)

Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2009

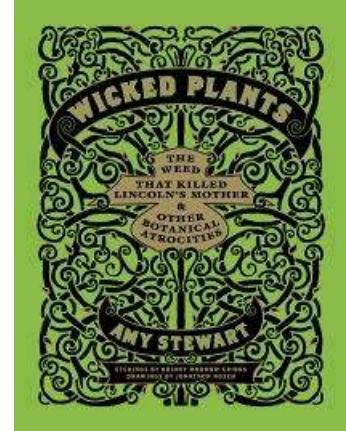
1. CALL TO ORDER: One new member was introduced; all were warmly welcomed.
 2. HOSPITALITY: Erika Csiffary, Helga Baumgard, and Gudrun Wiedenfeld were thanked.
 3. MAY MINUTES: Accepted as printed.
 4. TREASURER'S REPORT: Accepted as printed.
 5. OLD BUSINESS
 - Garden Tour (Nora DeVette): June 20; tickets are available and all members were encouraged to support the tour by purchasing tickets and attending. Pat Kiteley thanked Nora for her efforts over the past 3 years and Nora was awarded with a framed print of a peony, painted by Diane Partlo.
 - Hey Days (Arline Rutter): Over \$1150 was raised for the hospital. Many volunteers for the KHS plant stand (personally thanked by Arline) made the effort a great success.
 - Giving Garden (Carmen Pincott): Plantings are complete and a 3 bin composter was built. A substantial honey locust tree (donated by Pioneer Nursery) was planted in memory of Terry McEvoy who had the vision for the Garden. Weeders are needed and welcome.
 - Public plantings: All are now planted and much of the care over the summer will be provided via a small KHS contract with member Alicia Hutton.
 - Large (>1 acre) & small garden competition, mid July: Members were encouraged to sign up.
 - Earth Day KHS representation: A thank-you letter was received. Nora DeVette and Gillian Pancirov were thanked for their attendance and innovations.
 6. NEW BUSINESS
 - Road trip to Perth, July 18th: Pat Kiteley is organizing expeditions to Kiwi Nursery and Rock Wall Gardens, which both have excellent display gardens as well as plants for sale.
 - RWR Summer Fun Day, August 15th: For District 2 members; potluck lunch; 5 demos/talks organized so far; contact Pat ASAP to allow an estimate of numbers.
 - Jazz in the Garden: Upcoming at the Norgaard's garden, a fundraiser for the new Library, July 18.
 - Orchids at the Purdon Conservation Area: Coming into bloom shortly (mid June to early July) & well worth a visit; near Balderson & Lanark so local shopping is a possibility too.
 - Oak Leaf Gardens: The Kemptville Probus Club is visiting this very showy private garden near Athens on Monday, June 29; contact Jean Peart for information (258-5406).
- The next meeting is early — September 9 — to increase the possibilities for the flower & vegetable show.
- The business meeting was adjourned on a motion by Carmen Pincott, seconded by Jean Sears.
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- The business meeting was followed by:
- Plant de Jour = None this month
 - Member Expert: Tips for small & miniature arrangements (Sheila King).
 - Speaker: Jeanne Dagley spoke on growing & cooking with basil.



New Books

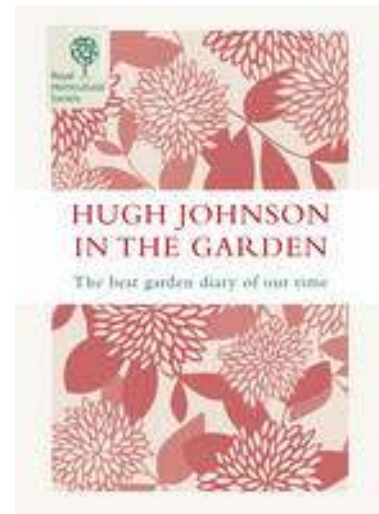
Wicked Plants. The Weed That Killed Lincoln's Mother and Other Botanical Atrocities. By Amy Stewart. 223 pages. Published by Algonquin Books. Publication date May 2009. ISBN-10: 1565126831 (hardcover).

A tree that sheds poison daggers; a glistening red seed that stops the heart; a shrub that causes paralysis; a vine that strangles; and a leaf that triggered a war. In her book, the author details more than 200 of Mother Nature's most appalling creations: plants that kill, maim, intoxicate, and otherwise offend. The reader will find out which plants to avoid, which plants make themselves unwelcome, and which can kill, such as the weed that killed Abraham Lincoln's mother. This book of evil plants will entertain, alarm, and enlighten the most intrepid gardener and nature lover.



Hugh Johnson in the Garden: The Best Garden Diary of Our Time. By Hugh Johnson. 288 pages. Published by Mitchell Beazley. Publication date May 2009. ISBN-10: 184533485X (hardcover).

This text contains a selection of the writings of Hugh Johnson for the Royal Horticultural Society magazine *The Garden*. The author's passion for gardening shines through in this diary written about his renowned garden. "Tradescant's Diary," a column of garden jottings, first appeared in the RHS magazine in June 1975 and soon became a monthly fixture. Hugh Johnson's writings are a mixture of topical, whimsical and humorous anecdotes organized to follow a gardener's monthly calendar. The name "Tradescant's Diary" was taken from John Tradescant, gardener in the UK to Lord Cecil at Hatfield House and to King James I, who was one of the first men to introduce plants from foreign countries to his own garden [Ed. note: try the novel "Earthly Joys" by Philippa Gregory for a relaxing read on this topic].



The Garden Visitors Companion. By Louisa Jones. 256 pages. Published by Thames and Hudson. Publication date April 2009. ISBN-10: 0500514631 (Hardcover).

The first part of this book offers a worldwide survey of garden philosophies, and the modern phenomenon of garden tourism. Why do owners want to open their gardens, and why do people want to visit them? The remainder of the book seeks to answer these questions. "The Garden Visitor's Companion" is essential reading for all garden visitors, owners and designers.





A Member's Garden

Joyce Cameron. My husband and I purchased our Kettle Creek home in July 2005 from former horticultural society member John Trant. He lovingly landscaped the whole garden (more than 1½ acres) with numerous flower and mixed beds and developed a large area for vegetables. It's more work cutting the lawn, weeding, pruning, leaf raking (over 60 poplars alone), and improving than we have time for, but we try to keep up. We moved here from Fredericton to be near our grandchildren in Ottawa, and much time is spent with them. Initially, I spent most of my time replacing the main large flower bed in front with perennials instead of annuals, and I added more bulbs. After 2 years of wrestling with countless runners from 3 lilac bushes in that bed, I finally got rid of them. And I'm still adding perennials. It's a big bed — 76 feet long and 8 feet wide. I have added perennials and bulbs in the other beds also. There are 3 beds next to the house, and behind the house are 2 more substantial beds. One is dedicated mainly to daylilies, but has some bushes and roses too. The other, the largest bed of all, is intermixed with assorted trees, bushes and flowers. And I've added ever-bearing raspberries and strawberries in the vegetable garden for the grandkids to pick when they visit. But most of all I love the birdhouse we just added on top of a dead white birch in the front. Our first family of birds moved in this spring, and they chatter to us whenever we work nearby.





Memorable Gardens

VanDusen Gardens, Vancouver. The land making up these wonderful gardens was originally owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway and was leased by the Shaughnessy Golf Club until 1960 when the club moved to a new location. A proposed subdivision was opposed by many Vancouverites, and in 1966 the VanDusen Botanical Garden Association was formed to help the Vancouver Park Board save the site. Funding from the City of Vancouver, the Government of British Columbia and the Vancouver Foundation with a donation by W.J. VanDusen, allowed the acreage to be purchased. In 1975, the VanDusen Botanical Garden officially opened to the public. This is an extensive garden that is well worth the visit if you are in the Vancouver area. Most stunning is the “Laburnum” or Golden Chain Tree walk with the underplanted alliums in bloom as well as the rhododendron walk that was in bloom when we visited in early June. You can see similarities in the other photos to the lush English gardens that have a similar climate, with wisteria just beginning its bloom. In the border you can see the same alliums along with nepeta and the laburnum as a backdrop. *Nora DeVette*





Upcoming Events/Notices/News

Notice to KHS Members: The next Garden Gossip meeting at *Brewed Awakenings* (Creekside Mall, Rd. 43) from 10:30–11:30 approximately will be on Friday October 2.

Hello fellow photographers: Just a reminder that entries for the competition close on September 30th 2009. I hope that you will go through your "bundle" (if you are like me) and find something to fit the captions. If you want to enter and wish to, we can arrange a meeting so that I can get them ready to judge before the October dinner. Thank you. Jean Sears.



From the Nurseries

Gemmell's Garden Centre Smiths Falls: It's Fall Magic this month as we have loaded up the greenhouses with our gorgeous flowering Fall Mums, Winter Pansies, Grasses, Dianthus, Asters, Sedums and the ever popular giant Texas Mums! There's everything you need to design your own fall planters or buy one of our custom designed mixed planters. Lots of interesting perennials and shrubs still available. Check out our Luna Series of Hibiscus with huge 6" blooms. Everything is grown right here in our own greenhouses where we've been growing locally for 77 years!
Happy Gardening from Kelly Heath RR3 11862 Hwy 15 N, Smiths Falls Ont. Telephone: 613-283-6674.

Green Thumb Garden Centre, Nepean: End of season sale – rather than the usual Horticultural Society Discount, we are offering 30% off all of our plant material. We are increasing the discount to 50% off on our 4 inch perennials and our roses. I hope some of your members will drop by to see what we have to offer. Mary Sherman Reid, 17 Tristan Court, Nepean, Ont. 613-224-2652.



Whimsical Picture



Centre of Plant is a bed?
