

Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society

Meeting Recap – June 4th

Members enjoyed a information packed June meeting where committees and officers reported on recent activities of the society, successes, and upcoming events for the summer. Our guest speaker was a big hit! An interesting topic perfectly presented.

Opening Remarks

President Rick Roberts called the meeting to order, then invited Margaret Coombs to deliver a land acknowledgement, recognizing that we live, garden and meet on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Nation.

It was wonderful to have another strong attendance on this beautiful June evening.

Treasurer's Report – Linda Bartlett

Linda Bartlett presented the financial report, noting that the Spring Plant Sale generated \$4,235.00 in revenue, while the sale of birdhouses contributed an additional \$260.00. She also informed the group that the society's fiscal year will conclude on September 30, 2025. Members are requested to submit any outstanding expenses to Linda prior to this date. Furthermore, Linda has prepared and distributed printed copies of the current month's newsletter.

Plant Sale Update - Rick Roberts

Rick reported on the great success that our volunteers, members, and the community made of our Spring Plant Sale and thanked all for their extraordinary efforts. A record number of our members donated plants and volunteered their time and energy to make this happen: plant & pot donations, digging donor gardens, potting up, promotion, transporting plants, setting up, working the sale and cleaning up the aftermath and more.. A special thank you was extended to Linda Seccaspina for her outstanding role as Master of Ceremonies. She was presented with a thank you card in appreciation for her invaluable contributions.

Looking ahead to 2026, there are numerous tasks to be completed in preparation for the next plant sale. We are looking for volunteers to head up various efforts. The first to step forward are Carlo Beaudoin and Cheryl Moore who have taken on the role of team leaders for the donor garden.

Young Gardeners Committee - Bri Logan

Bri Logan provided an update on the **Embers event**, which was a resounding success. She extended her gratitude to her volunteer team—Irene, Anita, Debbi (spelled like this), Janet and Valencia. Irene and Anita organized the activities

Bri also announced that another **Rona Workshop** for children is scheduled for August 9th, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. with the workshop, themed "Clay Garden Animals," Bri will also feature a session for adults at 10:00 a.m. on the same day. For any inquiries, please contact the CPDHS Young Gardeners team at CPDHSyouth@gmail.com.

Hospitality Committee - Kilby McCann

Kilby McCann thanked the many members for the donations of baked goods for our Refreshment breaks. Cheryl Moore indicated there were books for sale at the back of the room.

Flower Show Committee – Barbara Fowler

Summer Flower Show and Ice Cream Social – Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for July 5, 2025, with flower show entries to be submitted from 9:00 to 10:45 a.m. Please note that the doors will close promptly at 10:45 a.m. to allow for final preparations before judging at 11:00 a.m.. We encourage you to invite members of the public, family, friends, and neighbours to join us from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. for the event.

For those entering the show, the "Novice" category is intended for individuals who have never participated before, providing a great opportunity to try something new. Categories will include small

and parallel designs, as well as a children's section for members' children or those children who have previously participated in CPDHS events.

Volunteers are needed for various roles. Resources such as OJES books and "Snippy Tips" will be available at the Exhibitors' table in the back. Don't forget to pick up your entry tags as well! Additionally, there will be dedicated tables for the Climate Committee and Youth Groups at the event

Victoria School Garden Update - Irene Tobis

The Victoria School Gardens continue to grow more beautiful each day. We are in the process of establishing a rock garden and are currently gathering the necessary materials. Paul Pietsch will begin work at the end of June. Sedum plants have been generously donated by Linda Bartlett. We are still in need of wheelbarrow-sized rocks. If you have any to contribute, please contact Anita Ruus.

Climate Change & Biodiversity Committee - Irene Tobis

The Climate Change Committee has identified an opportunity to recycle black flower pots through a program at the Independent Grocery Store. They will accept these pots, break them down, and repurpose them into PC plant pots. In return, participants will earn 100 points, which can be redeemed for plants. We encourage all members to donate their pots to the Independent by June 18, 2025. While we currently have an inventory of large pots at the Victoria School Museum, we are still in need of medium-sized pots.

New Guest Speaker Committee – Rick Roberts & Bri Logan

Rick announced that the Board has unanimously agreed to establish a new Guest Speakers Committee. The Committee is comprised of three members including one executive member (Bri Logan) and two general members (Carlos Beaudoin and Debbi O'Malley). The committee will begin its work immediately, focusing on researching and selecting speakers for 2026, while coordinating with Paul Pietsch for the remainder of 2025. On behalf of the members and Board, Rick extended sincere gratitude to Paul for his many years of dedicated and successful service.

The committee's responsibilities include identifying and recruiting qualified speakers, coordinating their attendance, ensuring the technical setup is in place, and preparing a backup in case of any cancellations.

Bri shared that she is enthusiastic about the upcoming year and the significant amount of work ahead. The committee's focus will be on scheduling topics identified by members through their registration forms, and recommendations to Committee members. A poll for additional suggestions will be conducted to ensure a diverse and engaging slate of speakers.

Photography Contest Reminder - Rick Roberts on behalf of Rob Drapeau

Rick Roberts reminded all members to take photos throughout the summer. Details are in the June 2025 newsletter.

Membership Coordinator - Laura Cupper

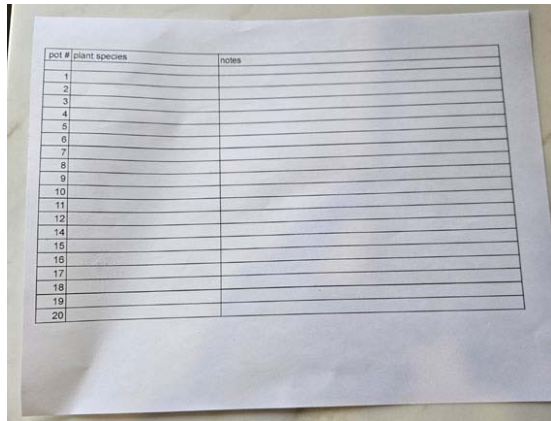
Laura Cupper has indicated we now have 100 members. If you don't have a name tag please let her know so we can have one for the next meeting. Are you getting the member communications, if not please let Rick Roberts know.

Special Project: Garlic Mustard Pull - Kilby McCann

Kilby McCann provided an update on the recent "Pull" day, noting that despite the rainy conditions, six bags of garlic mustard were removed in two hours. During the session, Japanese Knotweed was also identified. Daniel Brumar will be reaching out to the town to inform them of the findings. Additionally, there may be another "Pull" event scheduled for a Saturday morning in June (either June 7th or June 14th). Sign-up sheets are available at the back for those interested in participating.

Show and Tell: Winter Sowing - Beth Hunter

Beth Hunter presented the results of her first foray into Winter Sowing wildflower seeds. She started the process by planting seeds December 21, 2024. The seeds were placed in 24 separate pots then put into an opaque plastic lidded bin that Beth altered for the purpose.



The bin was left outdoors, with no additional watering required. By April 1st of this year, the seeds had developed a moss-like covering as most of the seeds germinated. Only four of the 24 pots failed to germinate.

Beth generously brought the plants to the June 4th meeting to share with members. The resulting healthy plants are still small early seedlings, but will soon be ready to go into gardens.. Members and guests were encouraged to take home one or two each.

Beth recommended that the seedlings be put on a windowsill to grow a bit larger before planting out. (photos by Beth Hunter)



Refreshment Break

Members enjoyed delicious desserts and watermelon, plus drinks that were generously donated by members and coordinated and presented by our hard working Hospitality Committee.



During the refreshment break a table of gardening and horticulture books were available to browse and buy, most for only a toonie! The books were donated by members to be sold at the Spring Plant Sale but the rainy day postponed their sale until this meeting. Thanks to those who donated, to those who purchased them, and to Cheryl Moore for organizing it. A fantastic value and helpful information for gardeners

Guest Speaker

Mary Shearman Reid, Owner of Green Thumb Garden Centre in Ottawa.

Mary spoke on ***Vines and their Care***. She showed us how vines are versatile, while adding a different dimension to your garden. Some are aggressive – some are slow to take hold.



Mary shared her deep knowledge of vines and their history as well as discussed varieties that are popular today. Mary talked about Trumpet Vines, Multi Blue Clematis, Jackamani, Hyacinth Beans, English Ivy, Climbing Roses, Honeysuckle, Wild Grapes to name a few. A very interesting topic delivered in a conversational manner, with detail and humour.

The audience were treated to generous answers to their questions on many aspects of vines and their care. One question posed by Linda Bartlett about her non-flowering kiwi triggered a bit of further research. Mary followed up the next day with the following:

Linda – I did some quick searches last night and this am re your non-fruiting kiwi. Could be too much nitrogen and not enough of the other nutrients. More likely, after our conversation – a pruning situation. There are a lot of good university sites that suggest the A. kolomikta bears its fruits on last year's growth. Happy gardening

Mary gave an exceptional talk that has received rave reviews from those in attendance..

Door Prize Winners

Congratulations to the 18 door prize winners, they went home with a plant for their garden. Also, thank you to those members who donated so many excellent door prizes this month.

Closing Remarks

Rick Roberts concluded the meeting by reminding everyone that our meeting are not held in July or August, but resume on September 3, 2025, featuring a guest speaker **Melanie Ouellette**. Her topic will be **Native Plant Gardening**. Melanie is associated with the *Ottawa Wildflower Seed Library*.

Rick reminded members to take entry tags for the July 5th Flower show, get lots of photographs over the summer for the Photography Contest, and to take home two wildflower seedling pots each that were grown and generously donated by Beth Hunter

In closing Rick wished all a fantastic summer of gardening, flower shows, and quality time with friends and family.

Credits

Many thanks to Debbie Guthro for taking the notes at the meeting that enable the fullness of this recap. Also extending our thanks to those who shared their photos including Beth Hunter, and Bri Logan. Rob Drapeau, our usual photographer, was not able to attend so we are a bit light on number of photos this month.

The final format and content choices were mine, so I apologize for and accept responsibility for any errors and omissions.

Happy gardening, Rick

