



Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society

March 2025

President's Message

This first meeting of the year kicks off one of my favorite months. Farmers claim that 'if March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb'. Last week's heavy snow makes us hopeful that their prediction is true this year.

With daylight hours beginning to stretch into the early evening, I was motivated to set up our indoor seeding racks on Saturday, adding more LED lights, finally replacing an unreliable timer, and sorting out planting trays and pots. This week I'll sterilize pots, prepare potting mix, and plant pepper and herb seeds. It's too early to start most garden staples, but others like leeks and onions also benefit from an early start. Many seedlings are best started 3-5 weeks from now. Others prefer to be direct sown into the garden when the time comes.

We have a fun-filled spring ahead of us, both in our gardens and with the Society. The best way to get the most out of your membership in CPDHS is to volunteer. It's a wonderful opportunity to share time and experiences with people who have a common interest in all things horticultural. From helping out the dedicated team at the Victoria School Garden, to preparations for our Spring Plant Sale, volunteering or attending Lanark County Seedy Saturday in Almonte (March 15), Earthfest 2025 (May 3), and kid's programs like 'Plant a Pasta Sauce Garden' (March 29). Our Flower Show Committee has organized Flower Show Workshops for everyone from novices to experienced exhibitors to be held on two Saturdays (March 29 and April 26), as well as the Spring Flower Show itself a few weeks later. Check our website (www.cphorticulture.ca) under 'Special Events' and 'Meetings' for latest details.

Don't forget that your CPDHS membership card earns you a discount (usually 10%) on plant material at several local and distant nurseries. They are happy to see you because they know you are a plant addict, and you are happy because you get to keep some money in your jeans. The list of local garden centres is listed on the back page of this newsletter for easy reference.

Be sure to mark your calendar for next month's meeting on April 2 at 7 pm when Chloe Hurst will speak to us on This Gothic Garden in Carleton Place. Chloe's interest in gothic gardens went viral worldwide on social & traditional media in 2024. I'm looking forward to Chloe's presentation.

Wishing you all an early spring that is filled with the sights, sounds and fragrances of your gardens coming out of their winter slumber.

Rick Roberts
President



Board of Directors 2025

Executive Officers - 2025

President: Rick Roberts

Vice President: Irene Tobus

Treasurer: Linda Bartlett

Secretary Debbie Guthro

Immediate Past President: Paul Pietsch

Directors - 2025

Laura Cupper, Rob Drapeau, Dianne Elliott, Barbara Fowler, Brianna 'Bri' Logan

Coordinators & Special Interest Groups

Updates to this list are reported on the CPDHS website (Our Team)

Advertising & Promotion – Linda Bartlett

Climate Change & Biodiversity interest group – Brenda Cupper (lead), Irene Tobis & Daniel Brumar

EarthFest – Brianna 'Bri' Logan (lead – children's workshops); Daniel Brumar & Irene Tobis (lead – Society & Climate Change Committee table)

Flower Shows – Barbara Fowler (lead), Doreen Harris, Heather Lebeau, Barb Clarke, and Valencia Logan

Guest Speakers – Paul Pietsch

Hospitality – Kilby McCann (lead), Margaret Coombs, Cindy Hanna, Beth Hunter, Dianne Elliott

Membership – Laura Cupper

Member Communications – Rick Roberts

Newsletter – Linda Bartlett

Nominating Committee – (2 board members plus 1 member)

Photography Competition (annual) – Rob Drapeau (lead), Doreen Harris,

Photography, Meetings and Events – Rob Drapeau

Photography, December Blossoms Competition – Daniel Brumar

Plant Sales – Rick Roberts (lead), Doreen Harris

Social Media: Facebook – Rick Roberts

Social Media: Instagram – Brianna 'Bri' Logan

Victoria School Garden & Heritage Museum Garden – Paul Pietsch

Volunteer Hours Reporting: Rob Drapeau (lead), Dianne Elliot

Youth: School Programs and Post Secondary Bursaries – Debbie Guthro

Youth: Young Gardeners' Workshops – Bianna 'Bri' Logan

Website – Rick Roberts

I look forward to an exciting year of working with our team of volunteers and Board to build on the successes of CPDHS that accumulated under the leadership of Paul Pietsch.

Happy gardening, Rick

“Growing Together, Learning Together”

2025 Program

March 5th

Three Types of Grafting

Speaker: Paul Pietsch

April 2nd

This Gothic Garden Lives in Carleton Place

Speaker: Chloe Hurst

May 7th

Tiny Forests, Big Impact

Speaker: Stephanie Benoit

May 24th

Spring Plant Sale

Victoria School Garden

June 4th

Vines and Their Care

Speaker: Mary Shearman Reid

September 3rd

Native Plant Gardening

Speaker: Melanie Ouellette
(Native Plant Giveaway)

October 1st

Plants That Make Up Our Recipes

Speaker: Petra Graber

November 5th

Naturopathic Medicine

Speaker: Marcin Podlewski N D

December 3rd

Christmas Social and AGM

Demo: Christmas Designs

Photo Competition

Theme: Candiana – 2025

Class: 1: *Canadian colours of red and/or white* (any combination) from any plant source

Class: 2: *Structures/buildings typifying Canada* – with horticultural content, it could be barns, structures representative of Canadiana, cedar rail fences etc.

Class: 3: *“Food for Thought” Container gardening* – Vegetables, or herbs grown in a container or raised bed (a raised bed built above ground level, made of materials such as wood, concrete, or stone).

Rules

- ▶ Photographs must have been taken during 2024/2025 and include horticultural content.
- ▶ The original image must be taken by the member, but printing can be by the member or commercially.
- ▶ Each member is eligible to submit two unmatted 4” x 6” colour photos in each of the classes.
- ▶ Record your name and class number on the upper right-hand corner on the back of the photo.
- ▶ Photographs will be displayed on a black background.
- ▶ Photographs must be submitted in a sealed envelope, with an entry tag, to the Photography Convenor, at the October general meeting.
- ▶ The winning photographs will be displayed, and the winners announced, at the November general meeting.

Photography convener:

Rob Drapeau, 613 206-4316 drapeau@bell.net

Assisted by Doreen Harris 613-915-7704,
doreenharris@teksavvy.com

Growing Herbs

Dale Odorizzi, Lanark Master Gardener



Herbs are easy to grow and are very prolific. Some Herbs are Annuals, others are Perennial and still others are grown from bulbs. I tend to grow the annuals in my vegetable garden and the perennials in the flower gardens. Start them 4-6 weeks before you plant them outside. If you use seeds to grow your herbs, you can get a very wide variety of each type of herb. For example, one seed catalogue has over 16 types of Basil. Herb plants are also available at many garden centres. Herbs like lots of sun and well-drained soil.

To start your seeds, it is best to use seed starting soil. Garden soil is too heavy. It must be sterile to prevent any disease. The containers must be clean and thoroughly washed. You can use plastic cups or containers. Label the containers so you will know what seeds you have planted in which container. It is amazing how parsley and cilantro look so much alike. I like to use a shallow container. Press the seeds into the soil and cover with a little soil. Check your seed packet to determine how much it should be covered. Cover the planted containers with plastic wrap. Set the container in a warm place to germinate. The top of the refrigerator or a heating pad underneath are good spots. Once your seeds germinate, they will need light. This can be in a bright sunny window or under a grow lamp. Fertilizing is not necessary until the seeds have germinated. Once the risk of frost has passed and your garden soil has warmed, plant your seedlings outside.

The following provides some tips on growing and preserving my favourite herbs.

Basil (A) grows easily from seed. Use your basil all season long. The more you use it, the better it grows. Basil can be dried but will turn black, much like basil you buy at the grocery store. Freeze or make into a Pesto and freeze. I tend to store my pesto in small canning jars to keep the smell from going into my freezer.

Chives (P) can grow from seed or divide from an existing clump. Cut back to the ground when the leaves turn brown. Chop into short pieces and dry in hydrator or on a screen.

Cilantro (A) or Coriander Leaves are cilantro and seeds are coriander. Grows easily from seed. Freeze leaves. Dry seeds when ready. Use seed whole in pickles or ground in dishes.

Dill (A) grows easily from seed. Dry.

Garlic (Bulb) plant bulbs in October. Harvest in July when about half the leaves have died down. Leave in the sun for a few days to mature. Hang bulbs to dry or use the freezer approach. No oil is necessary.

Mint (P) BEWARE—Grow in a container as this spreads wildly. Dry or Freeze.

Oregano (P) grows from seed or buy a plant. Drying is best for this herb.

Climate Change Group December Photo Contest

The December Flower Photo Contest was a real challenge this year! The snow first fell December 1st, and remained almost continuously through to March. Only a few brief melting spells let participants find those last few flowers hiding under the snow. After increasingly warm and erratic winters over the last decade, this winter finally seemed a bit more traditional.

Despite this, our winters are still warming. For the second winter in a row, we had no daily highs below -20 °C, and no nights even close to -30 °C. These low temperatures are important for keeping invasive plant and pest species at bay. According to a City of Ottawa and NCC study (ottawa.ca/en/climate-resiliency), we can expect 20% fewer days below -10 °C, and winters 4 weeks shorter by the 2030's if we don't reduce our CO2 emissions.

Thanks to all 5 participants in the photo contest. You are all winners in my mind. I look forward to another great competition next year!

Daniel Brumar
Member of Climate Change Group



CPDHS SPRING FLOWER SHOW

May 7, 2025

Exhibits may be placed from 6:00- 7:00 p.m. before the regular meeting.

No entries will be accepted after 7:00 p.m. when judging starts.

Entry tags will be available on the evening of the Show, as well as at the April meeting.

RULES GOVERNING FLOWER SHOWS

General Rules

1. All exhibitors, except where expressly noted, must be current members of the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society.
2. All entries must be labelled using entry tags provided by the Society.
3. The Flower Show Committee reserves the right to add, delete, or divide classes.
4. Care will be taken with the exhibitor's property, but the Society will not be responsible for any loss or damage.
5. The judge's decision is final. Judges may withhold an award if, in their opinion, the exhibit is not worthy.
6. Judging will be in accordance with the Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticultural and Design, Second Edition, 2019 (OJES), available from the show chair. Please refer to the OJES for information and definitions.

Rules for Horticultural Specimens

1. The exhibitor must have grown the horticultural specimens.
2. An exhibitor may enter a maximum of two entries in each of the specimen classes, provided that each entry is of a different cultivar.
3. Exhibitors will provide their own containers: clear, uncoloured glass for horticultural specimens is recommended.
4. For educational purposes, exhibitors are encouraged to name their specimens.
5. Houseplants must have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 3 months.
6. Harmful, scarce, protected, or endangered plants must not be entered. Please refer to OJES, page 14.

Rules for Design Classes

1. Only one entry is permitted per class per exhibitor.
2. Novice Entries - Members who have never previously exhibited may show in the Novice Design class for a maximum of two years. They may show in the Open class but cannot show in both classes, and having shown in the Open class, they cannot return to the Novice class.
3. Fresh plant material may come from your garden or any other source.
4. Fruit, branches, and decorative wood may be used, and dried and/or treated material may be included. No artificial plant material is permitted.
5. Accessories are permitted unless otherwise noted.
6. Plants in soil are not permitted.
7. Exhibitors are responsible for correct placement of their entries. Members of the Flower Show Committee will be available for assistance.

Awards

Entries earning First, Second, and Third Place, and Honourable Mention will be recognized on entry tags. Best in Show ribbons will be given for each division. Additional ribbons may be given at the judge's discretion. Annual awards will be presented at the Society's December meeting.

Points will be accrued as follows:

First Prize: 5 points Second Prize: 3 points Third Prize: 2 points Honourable Mention: 1 point
Best in Show: 5 points

DIVISION 1: HORTICULTURE

Section A: Spring Flowers

- Class 1: Tulipa, (Tulip), single – 1 bloom
Class 2: Tulipa, (Tulip), any other – 1 bloom
Class 3: Narcissus, (Daffodil), single – 1 scape
Class 4: Narcissus, (Daffodil), any other – 1 scape
Class 5: Iris, (Iris) – 1 stalk
Class 6: Any other flowering bulb or corm, named – 1 stem
Class 7: Any other flower that's blooming in your garden, named – 1 bloom, stalk, stem, spike or spray
Class 8: Flowering branch, 1 stem, not to exceed 24" above rim of container
Class 9: Collection of Spring flowers, 3-5 different cultivars, named – 1 stem of each, in a single container

Section B: Houseplants

- Class 10: Flowering Houseplant – 1 pot, pot size not to exceed 10" in diameter
Class 11: Foliage houseplant – 1 pot, pot size not to exceed 10" in diameter

DIVISION 2: DESIGN

Theme: Bring on Spring

Designs will be staged on a white table covering and have an allotted space of 22" in width.

- Class 12: **Ray of Sunshine** – a Modern Line design
Class 13: **Bless My Blooms** – a Bouquet of Spring flowers, Open Class
Class 14: **Bless My Blooms** – a Bouquet of Spring flowers, Novice Class
Class 15: **Spring Delight** – a Miniature design – will be displayed on a black stand, which is 6" wide x 6" deep with a 6" tall backing, sitting atop a 12" high tube
Class 16: **Growing Side By Side** – a Parallel design, Decorative, Open Class
Class 17: **Growing Side By Side** – a Parallel design, Decorative, Novice Class
Class 18: **Here Comes the Sun** – a Design

DEFINITIONS

Bouquet: A design artistically created by grouping plant material, with or without accessories, using their own stems. May be inserted into a holder or container.

Design: A combination of fresh and/or dried plant materials, with or without other objects arranged to create an artistic unit. A design may include container(s), base (s), and/or accessories. The designer uses the elements of design: space, line, form, colour, texture and pattern in the accepted principles of design: balance, rhythm, proportion, scale, contrast and dominance to interpret the theme and/or class and create a design of harmony and distinction.

Modern Line: A design in which line direction is dominant, characterized by a minimum of plant material and other (optional) components. Line is strongly defined and either vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Lines may extend from more than one area of interest and in different directions. Plant material used to form the line has bolder forms than that used in Traditional Line Design. Focal area should not destroy the strong linear thrust.

Miniature: A design with maximum dimensions no more than 12.7 cm (5") in height, width, and depth including any container, base and/or accessories.

Parallel: A design in which three or more groupings are placed in a parallel manner with open spaces between the groupings. The parallel directions may be vertical, horizontal or diagonal. The design is in one container or in containers combined so as to appear as one unit. There are two types of Parallel Design: Vegetative and Decorative.

Decorative Parallel: A design in which plant material can be used in less naturalistic ways. This type has a more contemporary feel, with fewer components and bolder forms. Non-plant material can be used, e.g., copper pipe, plastic grid, etc.

(Source: Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards 2019)

2025 FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

Barb Clarke, Barbara Fowler, Doreen Harris, Valencia Logan, Heather Lebeau

For any questions, please email: CPDHSflowers@gmail.com.

Flower Shows 101

Have you ever considered entering a flower show, but didn't know how to get started?

Do you find the idea of creating a design daunting?

Are you looking for new ideas for creating designs?

YOUR FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE IS HERE TO HELP!

We are offering the following workshops:

Participating in a Flower Show

Speaker Helen Halpenny will talk about selecting and entering specimens in a show as well as the elements and principles of design. Helen will demonstrate how to create two of the designs from our upcoming May Flower Show Schedule and participants will be invited to create their own Miniature design.

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Community Room, Upper Level, Independent Grocery Store

9:00 am to 11:30 am

Please pre-register by March 20th by email to CPDHSflowers@gmail.com.

Creating a Design for a Flower Show

Speaker Linda Bartlett will demonstrate how to create two more designs from the upcoming May Flower Show Schedule. Participants will be invited to create their own Decorative Parallel design.

Saturday, April 26, 2025

Community Room, Upper Level, Independent Grocery Store

9:00 am to 11:30 am

Please pre-register by April 18th by email to CPDHSflowers@gmail.com.

The workshops are FREE for current CPDHS members. If anyone who is not a member wishes to attend these workshops, they will be required to purchase a CPDHS membership for \$15.00.

Note: There will be a cost of \$10.00 per participant per workshop to cover plant material.

2025 FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

Barb Clarke, Barbara Fowler, Doreen Harris, Valencia Logan, Heather Lebeau

For any questions, please email: CPDHSflowers@gmail.com.

Membership Benefit Horticultural Discounts

As a member of the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society and upon presentation of your current year membership card, you will receive a discount on **PLANTS** only at the following Garden Centres (including Ottawa and surrounding areas).

Garden Centre	Discount
Budd Gardens 2832 Innes Road, Ottawa	10%
Gemmell's Garden Centre 11862 ON-15, Smiths Falls	10%
Green Thumb Garden Centre 17 Tristan Ct, Nepean	10%
Kiwi Gardens 687 Harper Rd, Perth	13%
Reid Gardens 142 Pick Rd, Carleton Place, ON	10%
Rideau Woodland Ramble 7210 Burritts Rapids Rd, Merrickville	10%
Stoneridge Gardens & Nursery 1851 Galbraith Rd, Clayton	10%
Whitehouse Perennials 594 Rae Rd, Almonte	10%

Note: Canadian Tire Garden Centre, Carleton Place usually gives 10% discount on plants only to CPDHS members upon presentation of their membership card.

These garden centres do not offer discounts to horticultural society members.

Carleton Place Nursery - they have their own points system

Peter Knippel Nursery & Garden Centre Inc

Ritchie Feed & Seed Inc.

When you are at a Garden Centre, anywhere in Ontario, all you have to do is ask if they offer a discount to OHA Horticultural Members upon presentation of their membership card. It never hurts to ask.

Laura Cupper
Membership Coordinator

2025 District 2 AGM

The Pakenham Horticultural Society is pleased to host the OHA District 2 General Meeting on Sat May 3, at the Stewart Community Centre, 112 MacFarlane Street, Pakenham. Our theme is "Sustainable Gardening" and we are pleased to have two speakers during the day:

First off, you will hear from Volunteer Canada on lessons learned from across Canada that will help you build community involvement, recruit and retain the volunteers that support community projects, and attract youth to sustain an interest in gardening.

Second, you will hear from Alberto Saurez-Esteban (a well-renowned gardening expert and biologist who will share information on modern sustainable agricultural practices, such as no-till gardening, companion gardening and pest control, and how community gardening supports a sense of pride and community.



We will have vendors and a raffle. Lunch will be served, as well as breakfast snacks. We will also have the business meeting for District 2. The cost to attend this event is \$25.00

More information will be available when the registration package is sent out mid-March.

This newsletter is published by the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society and is distributed to its members free of charge.

We depend on our members for its content. If you would like to contribute, please send your submissions to: cphorticulture@gmail.com

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