

Our October meeting (last Wed) was well supported with strong attendance and a record number of flower and vegetable exhibits on display for the Fall Flower and Edibles Show.

Opening:
CPDHS President Paul Peitsch kicked off the meeting with a warm welcome and greetings to members and guests in attendance. He made special mention of the growing number of new members, and how they are getting involved by volunteering at society activities and helping out at Victoria School Garden.



Linda Bartlett, VP and Treasurer reported on the finances of the society. Income in 2024 has been strong due to successes in fundraising, with expenses being well controlled. As a result we are able to increase our budget for good works in the community in 2025. Linda also asked members if they were interested in having a potluck at our December meeting. A strong majority agreed by a show of hands. More details on the potluck later.



Doreen Harris, Director & Photography Contest Coordinator accepted entries for the Annual Photography Contest. Photos will be judged before the November meeting at which all entries will be on display with winning photos identified. As an entrant last year I was especially pleased that the judge/s made notes regarding the strengths and opportunities for each photo. The extra time taken to do that helps us all to take better photos.

Rick Roberts, Director & Co-Coordinator Plant Sale provided final details on the lead up to the Plant Sale and thanked donors and volunteers for all they have done and will do at the sale.

Guest Speaker:
Paul Lacelle, owner of Lacelle Apiary & Beekeeping Supplies of Carleton Place, provided an interesting and informative talk on honey bees and their relationship with plants. Paul spoke in terms that those of us with no experience on the topic could follow and appreciate, but also provided advanced ideas to help those who are currently beekeeping. He captured the interest of our members and guests who listened intently and asked thoughtful questions that were answered fully and clearly.



As a neophyte I learned that Queen bees are extremely promiscuous, Drones are lazy except for hanging out with their buddies and mating whenever there is an opportunity, and that the female bees are in charge, do all of the work, and know exactly what they are doing. I'm oversimplifying :)

All in all this was an excellent talk from a comfortable communicator with 30+ years of experience in the trade. If you have a chance to see Paul elsewhere, don't miss it. Or, drop into Lacelle Apiary & Beekeeping Supplies if you are looking for advice or supplies for your bees

Annual Fall Flower and Edibles Show

A large assembly of outstanding entries were on display for members and guests to enjoy after the judging was completed. Not only were there a large number of entries, the quality was excellent.

A wide range of exhibitors participated, from first timers to those who have competed for many years. All acquitted themselves admirably. Thank you for sharing your entries and artistry. I took a few photos of a small percentage of total exhibits which I'll share here in no particular order:

















Refreshment Break

Snacks and drinks were available during the flower show and were much appreciated by all. Beverages and treats are donated by members and organized by Dianne Elliott. A thank you to those who donated and to Dianne for coordinating it.

I've likely missed plenty of details in this report and could have taken more photos. Best way to not miss anything next month is to come out to the November meeting and spend an evening with your friends at the Carleton Place and District Horticultural Society. Hope to see you there ...

Happy gardening, Rick

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