



Carleton Place & District Horticultural Society

May 2024

President's Pen

Hello everyone.

I hope you were able to check out the Ottawa Orchid Show this past weekend in Ottawa. It was well worth the drive to Algonquin College to see the show. Here is a picture that I took at the show.



Ottawa Orchid Show
by Paul Pietsch

Tonight, our speaker is Dale Odorizzi, and her topic is Invasive Plants—The Beautiful Thugs. This is an interesting topic. We are learning that there are quite a few plants that we should never have considered for our gardens but now it is up to us to pay attention to these thugs and remove from our gardens. Our Spring Flower Show is on tonight as well. Most of us have something in bloom, so it should be a good show.



Double Bloodroot
by Paul Pietsch

At the end of the proceedings, there will be door prizes. One will be a double-flowering bloodroot I have. It is no longer in bloom, but it's a native and comes back early spring every year.

Our speaker on Wednesday, June 5th will

be Ken Allison and he will talk on Interesting Plants in the Alvar.

Reminder: We will have our Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 25th at the Victoria School Museum Garden, (see page 3 for details).

Paul Pietsch
President

Pollination

by Paul Pietsch, President & Master Gardener

So the question to ask is how important is cross-pollination. To put it differently, genetic diversity is really what nature prefers, whether it's plants or animals. Seeing as plants have limited choices of who to pollinate with, how do they manage? There are about five different ways they manage to get it right, more often than not. The surest one is the way Winter Berry, a deciduous holly (*Ilex verticillata*) does it. It is pictured below. The sexes are on two separate plants. This is not true with most plants. Many nurseries now sell a male and a female Holly plant IN THE SAME POT. This also makes Holly's more expensive.



Earth Fest 2024

Thanks to the amazing support from CPDHS members, we had a successful day at EarthFEST on April 20th. Despite the cold weather, positive feedback and interest was received for both the children's activities we hosted and Climate Change & Biodiversity information table.



Irene Tobis & Kilby McCann
CPDHS Climate Change table

The Climate Change & Biodiversity Interest Group talked with many event participants and gave out bookmarks to raise awareness about the Society. Several new members were also signed up. Master Gardener, Helen Halpenny, answered lots of visitors' questions and the table offered free information about interesting topics like winter sowing and a recent change in Carleton Place bylaws allowing for native plant gardens. Thank you to Irene, Kilby, Daniel, Heather, Doreen and Paul for volunteering at the table.



Flower Planting pots provided to kids for planting seeds at Earthfest
Made of recycled materials by Valencia Logan & her merry band of volunteers



Valencia Logan & Ryan McKenzie
CPDHS Junior Gardeners Activities table

The children's table was very busy and rewarding. We had about 100 children who either made a craft or decorated a recycled planter and planted a seed. It

was lovely to be able to offer a free activity for families in the community and have an opportunity to teach children basic planting skills. We watched them getting excited about gardening and planning what they would do with their seedling when it sprouted. Thank you to Anita, Janet, Ryan, Abhann and our two high school volunteers.

Once again, thank you to everyone who donated supplies, their time or their support for EarthFEST. We appreciate you!

Bri Logan
CPDHS Director

2024 District 2 Flower & Edibles Show

Saturday
August 17, 2024

Show Theme:
Bridging Communities



Hosted by Almonte, Carleton Place and Pakenham
Horticultural Societies

Open to the Public 1:00-3:30 PM
Free Admission
Tea Room, Silent Auction and Vendors

Almonte Civitan Hall
500 Almonte Street (Wolfgrove Road)
Almonte, Ontario

Garden Ontario



2024 Plant Sale

Mark your calendars! CPDHS is hosting our annual Plant Sale at Carleton Place & Beckwith Museum's Victoria School Garden on May 25th. The plant sale is the primary fundraiser that enables our society to make the many contributions to the local community that it does.

However, there is work to be done before the plant sale day arrives!

We need lots of plants and we need lots of potter-uppers! Here is how it works....

“POTTING UP FOR THE PLANT SALE – Calling all Potters!

Society members take large clumps of perennials out of their gardens/or donations and deliver them to Rick & Sandy Roberts' at 238 Lyndhurst St., Carleton Place on the corner of Mississippi Road and Lyndhurst Street. If no one is home, place them near the gates by the driveway.

We will use Society provided pots and black soil to pot up the plants, label them, and put them to one side to grow lush and sturdy by the time of the sale on May 25th.

Our first potting up at Rick's place starts this Saturday, May 4th. The other potting up days will be Saturdays, May 11th and 18th and Tuesdays, May 7th, 14th and 21st from 9:00 AM to Noon.

OR, Members can choose to pot up plants on their own and bring them to the Carleton Place & Beckwith Museum's Victoria School Garden the Friday (24th) evening before the Sale.

Have plants but unable to dig them?

We have many gardeners who have plants to split or share and need some help, so Rick is busy setting up a schedule for the team of members who are happy to help with the digging up of these plants. If you have plants that need to be dug up, please call Rick at 613-451-3013 or email him at cpdhsmembers@gmail.com, and he will schedule you in at a time that is convenient for you. A

knowledgeable person will be on hand to make sure that the plants are dug safely and that your garden is protected.

Willing to volunteer as a digger?

We need a few volunteers to dig and divide plants for those who have plants in their gardens that they are willing to split or donate but are unable to do themselves. Each digging crew will include an experienced coach... so don't worry about being unqualified. Call Rick at 613-451-3013 or email him at cpdhsmembers@gmail.com to let him know. He will add you to the volunteer digger list and work out schedules after we know when gardens are available.

Volunteerism will power this year's CPDHS Plant Sale to great success!

Unable to pot-up or dig-up but still want to help. We always need volunteers the night before the plant sale to set-up everything and the day of the plant sale to help our customers.

Happy gardening, Rick Roberts and Doreen Harris



Burnt Lands Alvar

Barren Limestone Plain that hosts rare vegetation. north of March Rd., between Burnt Lands and Golden Line Roads, Almonte, ON.



By P199 - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=29090179>

The Burnt Lands Alvar is the most extensive alvar east of the Frontenac Axis and is an outstanding example of this globally significant habitat. It supports some 82 breeding bird species, 48 butterfly species and 98 owl moths. It is home to globally rare species such as the Ram's-head Lady's slipper and a new owl moth discovered there by naturalist Dan Brunton. Although the alvar is not a prairie, many prairie species are present such as prairie sawflies and a thriving population of wingless prairie leafhoppers whose nearest other known population is in the Bruce Peninsula.

Join us at our June 5th meeting to learn more about this fascinating alvar right next door to us.

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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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