

Recap CPDHS June 3rd, 2026 General Meeting

Recap provided by Debbie Guthro, CPDHS Secretary

Call to Order 7:04 p.m. - 9:05 p.m.

Let's begin by acknowledging the Algonquin Anishinaabe nation on whose traditional and unceded land we gather this evening. We thank them for their long-standing and ongoing stewardship of the Ottawa River Watershed and express our commitment to reconciliation.

Rick

- Welcome - what a beautiful day, thank you for coming out.
- I've been using my 10% nursery discounts, you may be able to purchase soil too!
- Update - Plant Sale
 - Broke another record – \$5125 +\$ 35 =**\$5160.00**
 - Many thanks to many volunteers who stepped up to donate plants and contribute volunteer hours.
 - I've received several ideas for improvements for next year's sale. They are recorded and we encourage others to contribute more. With fine tuning, and growing volunteer participation, we can improve both the quality of our offering and increase sales every year.
 - **Reminder about a photo contest on behalf of Rob Drapeau.** Theme, the Joys and Tranquility of Horticulture see the June Newsletter and the Website for details. Take photos of the Peonies, Roses, Iris's as they are coming out.

Directors, Committees & Coordinators Reports

- **Linda Bartlett**
 - Treasure's report - \$14,395 in the bank. \$12,707.00 after expenses from the flower show, plant sale, and high school bursaries. At the beginning of the year we had \$9,381.00
 - Bus trip to tour the gardens at Rideau Hall - June 23, 2026 leaving Carleton Place by 9:30 at the Rona Parking Lot behind Staples. Several members have not paid yet with eleven spaces available. Cost \$35.00 and bring your own lunch. Contact Linda Bartlett for more information.

- Linda Bartlett, Janet Caine and Beth Hunter had a great time at the Station Active Living Center presenting Container Gardening. They have invited them back for a presentation on Center Pieces in October for Thanksgiving.
- The Town of Carleton Place will be working with our OHA Certified Judges (Heather Lebeau, Linda Bartlett and a student Judge) to judge gardens around Carleton Place for Garden of the Week. Further details to follow.

- **Barbara Fowler** – Summer Flower Show & Strawberry Festival

- Info in the June Newsletter, the Schedule is online and hard copies are available. Barbara is looking for volunteers for Friday night at 6:30 p.m. to set up, Saturday morning to assist with the flower arrivals from participants and Saturday afternoon for cleanup. Please see Doreen Harris if you are interested. Show entry tags are also available.

- **Irene Tobis:**

- Plant exchange - We are planning a Native Plant giveaway this year and a Plant exchange at the September General Meeting.
- Tree inventory volunteers - Janet McGinnis from the Urban Forestry River Corridor Committee, described how the volunteers would participate in identifying specific trees for size, health, where they are located, do they have such diseases as Ash, OakWilt, etc. Usually meet Tuesday, Wednesday or Saturday for 1-1 ½ hours where you are set up with a team. You learn a lot about trees and it's a great experience.
- Education: Beth Hunter and Irene Tobis spent time with 85 grade 7 students with sewed Black Eyed Susan plants. The demo showed how to separate into individual pots. The students went home with transplanted plants . Pleasant experience. Lots of questions and engagement.

- **Laura Cupper**

- Laura mentioned there are 4 rows of Sod available (best for patching) available from Donna please contact her this evening. We now have 122 members.

Intro Spotlight – Debbi O’Malley

- Spotlight: **Flower Show Committee** on *Floral Design/Specimen*.

Barbara Fowler presented many tips on how to enter specimens for the flower show entries. Make sure containers and cutters are clean. Cut flowers in the cool of the day and add them to a bucket with a bit of water. Select blooms at their peak, with details on the florets color. How to condition the specimens. Glass containers should be clean enough to drink out of. Barbara referenced the O.J.E.S. and the Snippy Tips 1 as the flower show books to go to. Most of all, don't be daunted by all the information. Pick your most beautiful bloom, put it in a vase and bring it. Participation is needed to make the show a success.

Thank Spotlight – Debbi O’Malley

Intro Guest Speaker – Debbi O’Malley

Debbi introduced Jessica who is the head of Research, working with a PHD Student Mimi studying pollinators. Debbi and Irene Tobis’s gardens have been chosen as two of the gardens for their study.

- **GUEST SPEAKER - Prof. Jessica Forrest** from Department of Biology of University of Ottawa on *Pollinators and their Habitats*.
 - What is pollination? The transfer of pollen from the male part of a flower (anther) to the female part (stigma)
 - Who are the different pollinator animals (Birds, Flies, Beetles, Wasps, Butterflies, Humming Birds, Moths)
 - What are the Habitat requirements (overwintering sites, temperatures, precipitation, moisture, food)
 - Minimizing threats to the wild (avoid pesticides, keep lawns somewhat untidy, avoid honey bees as they take pollen and nectar from pollinators). Flowers bloom throughout the season (natives in the area, cultivars). Trees

and grasses (nesting habits, leave blooms on stems over winter, leave the leaves, stems and woody debris to provide micro climates)
Jessica was able to answer many interesting questions at the end of the presentation. Well done Jessica.

Thank Guest Speaker –Debbi

Refreshment break

Many treats were brought in to enjoy.

Door Prize Draw

– From past member Sandy Schaeppert
Winner: Gail Pahwa won a “sign”

Closing Remarks – Rick

- Thank you to all who donated the refreshments.
- Thank you to Margaret Coombs and our Hospitality Committee volunteers
- Next Meeting Sept 2nd – same place – same time
Guest speaker: **Wendy Asbil**, National Manager of CFIA’s Invasive Alien Species and Domestic Plant Health programs, board member of the Canadian Council of Invasive Species, & was University of Guelph professor/lecturer and researcher for 18 years on topic of ***Invasive plants and other pests in the garden, forest and environment.***
- Finally....please help with clean up if you are able
 - Have a great summer – But remember to take some breaks to relax and enjoy your garden and others