



Calling all gardeners...

Kanata-March
Horticultural Society

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November 2011

President's Message

As we now draw to the end of the year, it is a time to reflect on what a wonderful summer we had, and also to plan and prepare for the year ahead.

For us, our plans include the Annual General Meeting (AGM) that will be held at our November 1st meeting. As I have mentioned (countless times), we need to elect new members to our Executive board. To this end, I have sent out to a number of you letters of incentive to step forward. A couple of you have done so, for which I am grateful. We do have a good society, but it needs an infusion of new people with new ideas to keep it viable and dynamic. If you are still thinking of volunteering for a position of executive or director, now is the time at the AGM.

We are in need of volunteers to help organize the annual potluck supper which will be held on Friday, December 2nd at a new location, St. Paul's Anglican Church at 20 Young Rd, near Hazeldean and Castlefrank. If you care to help out, please add your name to the sign up sheet which will be circulated at the next meeting or send an email to kana-tamhs@yahoo.ca or contact Jean Siemens or Gisèle Robertson.

This past weekend Gisèle and I attended the District 2 Fall Advisory Meeting, sponsored by Stittsville Goulbourn Horticultural Society. We were entertained by guest speaker James Graham, Second Vice-President, Ontario Horticultural Association. He gave a presentation on

how to strengthen and build up your society. His core message was, "communication and involvement", that is, try to get members involved and moving in various activities.

At the AGM I spoke to the President of the Nepean Horticultural Society. I think that she would like to host one of the District 2 advisory meetings (either in the spring or fall), but would prefer not to do it alone; she was wondering about whether our society could join with hers to host one of these events. This would be quite an exciting challenge, something to think about in the near future.

Our featured guest speaker this month is John Szczepaniak, who will be speaking on a subject that may be of special interest to some of you, which is the makeover of a townhouse front yard. If you live in a small townhouse, with a small yard, or you know someone who does, then this should be of interest: just because one has a small yard does not mean you cannot have a lovely garden.

I'm looking forward to hearing John speak on this, and I am also looking for a good turnout at the AGM.

See you all then.

Gerald Bouchard
President

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Urban Pocket Makeover

Tuesday, November 1st

7:30 p.m.

Old Town Hall, 821 March Rd,
Kanata



Landscape Architect John Szczepaniak will take us through an interactive makeover of a town house yard.

As always, non-members are welcome at a cost of \$5.00 which can be applied toward an annual membership of \$15.00.

"A few days ago I walked along the edge of the lake and was treated to the crunch and rustle of leaves with each step I made. The acoustics of this season are different and all sounds, no matter how hushed, are as crisp as autumn air." - Eric Sloane

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KMHS Announcements

December Potluck

Our annual Potluck supper will be held on Friday, December 2nd at St. Paul's Anglican Church at 20 Young Road, Kanata.

This is a really nice event that provides an environment that allows our members more of an opportunity to socialize than our regular meetings. We will see

the photos that were submitted for our photography competition as well as a look at the first and second place photos that will grace our calendar for 2012.

Plan to bring along your favourite dish and join your fellow gardeners for this seasonal get-together. More details to follow by e-mail, but if you would like to assist with set up or other preparations please contact Jean Siemens or Gisele Robertson.

Kings Creek Nurseries Wreath Workshops



Sue and Tim Dyer of the Carp Garden Centre and Kings Creek Nurseries are offering wreath workshops to be held again this year at their tree and perennial nursery on Saturdays and Sundays in November and December.

Dates for workshops are: November 12 and 13, November 19 and 20, November 26 and 27, December 03 and 04, December 10 and 11, December 17 and 18. They plan to have the final weekend (December 17/18) as centerpiece and Christmas planter workshops, with the earlier weekends as wreath workshops. However, you can make whatever you'd like on any day! Prices have not increased : \$50 including tax.



Workshops usually last about three hours and are held each morning and each afternoon of every weekend when they take place. They start at 9am and at 1:30pm.

They also offer private workshops during weekdays, or weekend evenings, for corporate events, birthday/Christmas parties, etc.

Payment is by cash or cheques only (made out to Kings Creek Trees, or Carp Garden Centre). No deposit is required for reservation. For more information call 613-253-4126 or visit their website at www.kingscreektrees.com.

Last Call for Photo Competition Submissions!

Submissions for the 2011 photography competition must be provided to Karl Siemens **by Tuesday, November 1st** (bring them to the KMHS meeting!!). An important change to note this year is that **only digital files will be accepted for entry**.

Complete details of entry classes, contest rules, and submission information are shown in the KMHS website at www.kanata-horticultural.com/PhotoCompetition.htm.





2012 Open Executive Positions

At our AGM on November 1st, we will be looking to fill the following positions. More detailed descriptions of the responsibilities can be found on the KMHS website on the “Bulletin Board”.

The President provides leadership to the Horticultural Society Membership, the Executive and Board of Directors by coordinating and delegating tasks and seeing that these tasks are completed.

The Vice-President’s position is a training period for the position of president. The Vice-President assumes all the powers of the president in the absence or in the case of the disability of the president.

The Secretary is responsible for keeping an accurate record of all decisions and proceedings of the Society, receives letter and e-mail correspondence and books facilities for meetings.

The Directors are expected to attend all Board meetings, serve on committees and may be appointed to represent the Society at various events.

The Co-ordinators for both program and membership can be held by either Directors or members. The program co-ordinator arranges for the monthly speakers a year in advance based on input from the members, the membership co-ordinator greets and registers all members and visitors at the monthly meetings, maintains records of the registered members.

All members of the Society have some responsibilities. The Executive Officers and Directors alone cannot make it strong. The Society is no stronger than its individual members. The measure of the lasting effectiveness of this society’s work is the willingness of every member to participate and volunteer at the Society’s activities.

House Plants that Help!

With the arrival of cooler temperatures, we tend to keep our windows and doors closed to retain heat, but what about the quality of the air within our homes? Energy conservation tips for the Canadian climate tend to focus on having an air-tight home to retain heat in the winter and air conditioning in the summer, so it can be important to choose a variety of house plants to help us improve our air quality.

When choosing house plants, it’s a great idea to look toward plants that help filter the air and remove contaminants such as trichloroethylene, formaldehyde and benzene that emit from furnishings and building materials.

Easy to find and easy to care for choices found in a NASA study in 1989 include philodendrons, English ivy, spider plants, dracaenas, golden pothos, Chinese evergreens, peace lilies, snake plants (humourously known as “mother-in-law’s tongues”), elephant ears, weeping figs, rubber plants and bamboo palms.





Kanata-March Horticultural Society

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Gardening for the future.....

Visit our website at:

www.kanata-horticultural.com

About KMHS

In existence for over forty years, our horticultural society aims to serve the Kanata-March community through horticultural education, local public garden maintenance, opportunities for young gardeners to earn volunteer hours and various special events. In late May we hold a Plant Sale where many excellent bargains are available to add new dimensions to Kanata area gardens. We hold monthly meetings in the Old Town Hall, Kanata where guest speakers including local gardening experts share their knowledge. A single membership costs \$15 for the calendar year, \$25 for a family membership.

We are one of the twenty plus societies that make up District 2 of the Ontario Horticultural Association and, through this affiliation, we are grateful to receive grants from OMAFRA and the City of Ottawa. These grants are used for public garden maintenance.

The monthly newsletter is on-line at the end of each month. Content suggestions or items for future editions can be forwarded to Shelley Sissing by e-mail at kanatamhs@yahoo.ca.

Upcoming gardening events....

November 1st

KMHS Meeting “Urban Pocket Makeover”, an interactive makeover of a townhouse front yard with John Szczepaniak, 7:30 p.m., Old Town Hall, 821 March Rd

December 2nd

KMHS Potluck and Photo Competition Results, 6:30 p.m., St. Paul’s Anglican Church, 20 Young Rd. Bring your favourite dish to share with your fellow gardeners in a social setting.

January 3rd

KMHS Meeting “Climbers, Creepers, and Trailers”, the many types of vines that grow well in this area and can be used as focal points or to camouflage eye sores with Mary Shearman Reid, 7:30 p.m. Old Town Hall, 821 March Rd.

March 16-25, 2012

Canada Blooms combined with National Home Show, Direct Energy Centre, Toronto, \$20 per Adult, \$18 for Seniors/Students

