



Calling all gardeners...

Kanata-March
Horticultural Society

Volume 41, Issue 5
May 2011

President's Message

The April showers we have been experiencing for the most of this month will almost surely result in an abundance of May flowers, if the old saying holds true. And though we hope it does, we don't just hope, but we plan as well: we have our annual plant sale coming up this month, on the 21st at All Saints High School in Kanata. Things are really looking good for the sale: over 70 rain barrels sold so far, and members on your executive committee are growing tomato and other seedlings in preparation. We hope that many of you are as well, so that we have a lot to offer at our sale.

At our next general meeting on May 3rd, I will talk a little about the day of the plant sale, the details, when we should have our plants on site, when the

sale starts, who volunteers to do what, etc.

Although the sale will be in the parking lot of the high school, we hope to have some canvas cover available, especially for the cashier.

The OHA District 2 AGM was held at Pakenham on April 16th. Representing KMHS were yours truly, Jane Bouchard, Gisele Robertson, Norma Davidson, and David and Shelley Sissing. We had a lovely time: business at hand, good speakers, a nice lunch, and several interesting vendors and exhibits. We also saw a presentation on the Ottawa Botanical Garden Society which was very interesting and very professionally done. For more information on the OBGS and its future plans, please check out their [web site](#).

Don't forget that we are planning a visit to the Governor-General's residence in July. We hope that you can join us. We all provide more information as it becomes available.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next general meeting on May 3rd: our guest speaker is Marilyn Light, who will be discussing orchids.

Bye for now!

*Gerald Bouchard
President*

"The world's favorite season is the spring.

All things seem possible in May."

- Edwin Way Teale

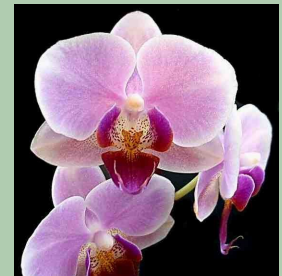
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Orchids 101

Tuesday, May 3rd, 7:30 p.m.

Old Town Hall, March Rd,
Kanata



Orchid expert Marilyn Light will join us to share her knowledge of orchids, and how to care for them using both a slide show and demonstrations with live plants.

As always, guests are most welcome. The \$5.00 guest charge can be applied toward an annual membership of \$15.00.

KMHS Plant Sale - Saturday, May 21st

This year's plant sale will be held in the parking lot of All Saints High School, 5115 Kanata Avenue (Kanata Lakes), on Saturday, May 21st from 9 a.m. til 2 p.m.

Our sale will include the pick up of rain barrels from our on-line sale partnership with RainBarrel.ca. We will be looking for

volunteers to help with both the plant sale and the rain barrel pick up.

We are hoping that our members will have plants to share for the sale, so if you have either grown seedlings or are dividing up plants in the next few weeks, please put some aside for our sale! Please drop off sale contri-

butions before the sale to either the Davidsons (2470 Dunrobin Rd, 832-4615) or the Sissings (23 Balding, Kanata 599-8981). as we can't leave them overnight at the school. Please label the plants so buyers know what they are. More info to follow on this by e-mail as we get closer to the sale date!

KMHS Announcements

Allium Bulb Fund-raiser

OHA District 2 is selling Allium bulbs this spring, which will arrive in time for fall planting. If you would like to order bulbs return the order form with payment at either the May 3rd meeting or mail it to KMHS by May 21st at the address on the back of the newsletter. Order forms are on the website at <http://www.kanata-horticultural.com/Bulletin Board.htm>

OHA District 2 Photo Competition

Congratulations to Norma Davidson who earned two second place ribbons and one third place ribbon in the OHA District 2 Photo Competition. The photo submissions were on display at the AGM on April 16th.

“The Carp Garden Centre” Opening

Kings Creek Nursery will be opening a new garden centre called “The Carp Garden Centre” on

Saturday, May 7th. The nursery is located at 153 Donald B. Munro Drive in Carp, north of March Road. For more information visit their website at www.carpgardencentre.com/index.html#

Fletcher Wildlife Garden Plant Sale

The Fletcher Wildlife Garden’s plant sale will be held on Saturday, June 4th, 9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. on Prince of Wales Dr (south of the Arboretum)



Members Garden Tours

Would any member like to have a day when other members of KMHS could view your garden? We would like to resurrect a program that has been quite successful and appreciated by the Society's members over the past few years. You choose when you would like to show your garden and we will provide Society members with a schedule for all showings this spring and summer. It doesn't

matter if your garden is in perfect shape or not, as some of the best visits can come from getting other members to offer advice and answer questions you may have about problems with your garden. Perhaps you have a special display or type of garden that you would like to show; e.g., roses, vegetables, rock garden, water

garden, etc.

If you would like to make your garden available for show to members of the Society only, please contact Jean or Karl Siemens at 613-591-0522 or jsiemens@rogers.com. Give your name, phone number, email address, home address, and the date and times that you could open your garden for a visit.

KMHS Gardeners needed!

Due to a shortage of volunteer assistance from our members, last year KMHS had to contract out the maintenance of our Molly Wilson Garden at a cost to our club. Surely a society of gardeners of all levels of ex-

perience can spare an hour or two a month to help maintain Molly Wilson Garden at the Old Town Hall and the gardens at Tom Thomson Park in Beaverbrook?

When we send out an “all

points bulletin” to solicit your help, please provide whatever time you can to assist us. It’s a shame to spend our hard-earned funds from the plant sale to have someone else garden for us.



2011 Rain Barrel Fundraising Activity

This year, KMHS is partnering with RainBarrel.ca to bring affordable rain barrels to the Kanata and area communities.

The rain barrels are sold on-line at

www.rainbarrel.ca/kanata-gardeners/.

There are several colours to choose from for the base models which are available for \$55 each (tax included). Each rain barrel comes with a filter basket, overflow and inter-connectivity outlet, spigot, nipple and 4 feet of overflow hose (12 and 24 foot hose lengths are available for purchase at an addi-

tional charge on the website).

The rain barrels are doubly -environmentally friendly as they are made from large barrels previously containing food grade items, thus reducing landfill waste and reusing strong commercial containers for home use.

Rain barrels are available for sale on-line now, with **the last date for on-line purchases on May 20th**. Customers will purchase the barrels on-line and bring their receipt (proof of purchase) to pick them up at our KMHS annual plant sale on Satur-

day, May 21st, All Saints H.S., 5115 Kanata Avenue, 9 a.m.—2 p.m. It is possible to arrange for an alternate pick up date **after** May 21st for orders that have been pre-paid if necessary.

If you have any questions about the rain barrels, drop us a line at kana-tamhs@yahoo.ca or contact KMHS Treasurer David Sissing at 613-599-8981.

Some examples of rain barrels—additional images available online at www.rainbarrel.ca/Kanata-gardeners



Gardening Activities for May:

- Transfer bedding annuals to outdoors in a protected area or cold frame to harden off
- Sow annual seeds including vegetables directly into the soil
- Check trees for tent caterpillars and other insects
- Repair any winter damage to lawn
- Fertilize lawn and start mowing, aerate if necessary
- Prune summer flowering shrubs
- Plant annual bulbs (cannas, dahlias, gladiolus, etc) directly into soil
- Add compost or well-rotted manure while planting
- Mulch new beds or top-up the mulch on older beds
- Transplant tender flowers and vegetables after risk of frost passes



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 students 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 at kanatamhs@yahoo.ca.

Upcoming gardening events....

May 6-23rd

Canadian Tulip Festival “Kaleidoscope”, a celebration of spring awakening through colour, culture and community
www.tulipfestival.ca

May 21st

KMHS Annual Plant Sale including rainbarrels from www.rainbarrel.ca, All Saints H.S., 5115 Kanata Ave., www.kanata-horticultural.com also www.rainbarrel.ca/kanata-gardeners/

June 7

KMHS Meeting
“Beauties of the Burnt Lands: Our Newest Provincial Park”, Old Town Hall, 821 March Rd, Kanata
www.kanata-horticultural.com

June 25 & 26th

OBGS “Over the Hedge Garden Tour and Car Rally”, showcasing amazing country gardens west of Ottawa,
www.ottawagarden.ca

July 10th

KMHS Members’ Tour of Rideau Hall, 1:00 p.m., www.kanata-horticultural.com

September 10th

OHA District 2 Summer Flower Show, to be held in Smiths Falls during the “Picklefest”
www.sfpicklefest.ca

