

**Horticultural Society Meeting**  
**Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**Held in Community Hall, Marionville, ON**

President, Grace Stapper welcomed everyone. There were approximately 23 members in attendance. A motion was made by Louise Houle to accept the minutes of the March meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Pegi Holtz.

Grace reported that a new flag has been erected at MacDougall Park.

Russell Township has confirmed that 2022 will be referred to as the "Year of the Garden".

Thanks to Christine Lanthier for picking up the bio-degradable replacement for floral foam, Sideau, from Ashton.

Grace mentioned the Garden Ontario 50/50 fundraiser lottery. All funds raised through the raffle will support education for youth and adult members, environmental programs, awards and grants, community beautification and post-secondary scholarships. Ticket prices are: 200 tickets for \$75; 80 tickets for \$40; 30 tickets for \$20; 10 tickets for \$10. The first draw be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> for tickets sold from May 14<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>. Usual lottery restrictions apply: Must be 18 years of age or over to purchase; must be in the Province of Ontario to purchase tickets; etc.

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

Louise Houle reported on the upcoming **Day Trips**:

Twenty people will be visiting Green Corners U Pick Tulip Farm in Edwards on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Everyone will be meeting there (1259 Yorks Corners Road). Each are required to bring the \$15 cash (interac and credit cards not accepted). This \$15 covers admission as well as 10 tulips. An additional 4 tulips can be purchased for \$5. Everyone was reminded to dress for the weather and conditions and to bring a bucket of water for your flowers. Those not on the list of attendees, were asked to let Louise know of your interest to attend. It is assumed that Sunday will be the last day this season to visit the tulip farm.

Upcoming day trips include: June 5<sup>th</sup> – Garden Path Homemade Soaps in Vankleek Hill; July 7<sup>th</sup> – LouLou Lavender Farm in Williamstown; August 18<sup>th</sup> – Ganden Gardens in Winchester; September 15<sup>th</sup> – Humanics Sanctuary and Sculpture Park, Cumberland.

Louise also reported on upcoming **Workshops**:

Due to the popularity of the Glass on Glass workshop another date has been added. The two dates are June 8<sup>th</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup> – both held at Pegi Holtz's home, 8430 Victoria Street, Metcalfe. Pre-registration fee is \$20. An attendance sheet was available for those wishing to sign up. The next workshop will be on July 13<sup>th</sup> where participants will create Leaf Print Cement Coasters. Location will be once again at Pegi's and the pre-registration fee is \$20.

The Horticultural Society plant sale will be this weekend (Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 8 am until 12 noon at MacDougall Park on Craig Street, Russell). A reminder that there will also be tables set up to sell garden related items. Louise brought markers to label and insert in the plants to indicate the kind of plant and she suggested that the donators put their initials on the back in case of further questions. Lindley MacPhail asked that donators NOT put a price on the plants.

Price will be determined the day of the sale. Also everyone was reminded that they must be available to take home any of their items at the end that have not sold. Peter Van Die (Treasurer) will have the required money float. A signage sheet was available for those wishing to sign up to help that day.

Pegi Holtz mentioned that our Society had been mentioned in the magazine prepared by the Ontario Beekeepers Association for our monetary donation. A portion of this money donated is used for researching the reasons why the bee population is diminishing each year. Over 50% of the honey bee colonies died last year.

Pegi also mentioned that there will be a mini flower show at our next meeting – June 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be four categories, (details in yearbook):

1. "Picnic Day" (in honour of International Picnic Day on June 18<sup>th</sup>) – An arrangement in a basket, may include accessories.
2. "Flip Flop" (in honour of International Flip Flop Day on June 10<sup>th</sup>) – An arrangement incorporating a flip flop.
3. "Red Rose" (in honour of Red Rose Day on June 12<sup>th</sup>) – A corsage using red roses.
4. Specimens – a single red flower in a clear container (examples are peony, rose, poppy, iris, geranium, geum, columbine, tulip, etc.) You may enter more than once in this category so long as the flowers are different species.

Grace Stapper suggested that everyone take the Horticultural Society bookmarks and give them out to friends and neighbours as promotion.

Our Junior Gardeners' Liaison, Julie Kavel, was not in attendance to make a report. Diane Wade has the trophies used in the past for the Juniors and Grace will pick them up. They will be given to Margaret Helliker, our archivist, to store in the museum until needed.

The community garden behind the Russell Library is well under way. The space is 60' x 60'. It will be fenced in and have a storage shed. Information on this garden can be viewed on the Library's website.

Fiat Farm (757 Route 400) will be holding a Spring Bazaar on May 28<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm. Admission will be a free will donation.

Christine Lanthier introduced the guest speaker for the evening. Marc Martin from Dragon Bonsai gave an extremely interesting talk on "Discovering Bonsai"

Respectfully submitted,  
Connie Johnston, Secretary, Russell Horticultural Society