

Horticultural Society Meeting
Monday, September 19th, 2022
Held in Community Hall, Marionville, ON

President, Grace Stapper welcomed everyone including the new members in attendance. Grace encouraged all to purchase their 2022 membership. New memberships will commence for the 2023 year in January. She said there were 2022 yearbooks on the back table for those who were interested. She also mentioned that it was the last chance to order the Ontario Horticultural Society's 18-month calendar (January 2023 to June 2024). Membership fees remain at \$10 per member, per year.

Thanks was extended to the Township of Russell for allowing us the use of the Marionville Community Hall at no fee. Carol Van Die successfully applied for a grant to cover this cost.

The speaker scheduled for tonight's meeting was unable to attend but would instead speak at the November meeting.

Louise Houle spoke about the garden tour held in August. It was very well attended with the final garden and refreshments being held at Cora and Henry Staal's farm on Hamilton Road in Russell. There was great variety with a total of five gardens being on the tour. Peter Van Die made a suggestion that attendees be made aware of who is the host of the various gardens – perhaps with a name tag or something similar. Louise asked that she be advised of suggestions for gardens to visit in future years. She stressed that size was not a factor as many beautiful gardens are on a smaller scale.

Louise reported that the trip to Garden Gardens in Ormond on August 18th was successful with 9 people attending. The gardens were beautiful with flowing water and springs and carved trees. She stated that spring would be a good time to visit as they plant many tulips.

Louise reported on the trip to Humanics Sanctuary and Sculpture Park in Cumberland on September 15th. There were between 75 and 80 sculptures from around the world. A suggestion to those who might wish to attend in the future – wear good walking shoes and perhaps bring a walking stick. Twenty people attended. It was also suggested that it would be a wonderful place to visit in the fall. It was felt that this was a wonderful place for reflection, meditation and appreciation of art and nature. The price is \$5 per senior/\$8 for adults. There is a lunch area with canopies and a children's playground.

Grace Stapper stated that 80% of all cut flowers are imported from outside North America.

Manja Bastian generously donated a bouquet of flowers for a draw at the meeting. She stated that this Saturday (September 24th) would be the last day for pick-your-own flowers at their Green Corners Farm in Edwards. She reminded everyone that they also sell bulbs and suggested we check out their website www.GreenCorners.ca

Louise also said that she has poppy seeds that were donated by "The Lily Guy". She also has contact information for garlic if anyone is interested. The price of the garlic is \$13 per pound.

She reminded everyone of the Clay Pot Workshop on October 12th from 10 am to 4 pm at the home of Pegi Holtz, Victoria Street, Metcalfe. Cost is \$20 which covers the cost of all supplies needed. 7 people have already registered with a maximum number of participants being 10.

Thanks was extended to Louise for organizing the day trips and workshops.

Jacqueline Wyss donated four houseplants that were won by attendees by random drawing depending on their birthday.

Pegi Holtz reported on the flower show held at the June meeting. There were 10 participants and twenty-two entries. Prize money was distributed to the winners. Please refer to pages 18 and 19 of the 2022 yearbook for the list of categories for the plant shows to be held in February, March and April of 2023. Congratulations was extended to all the winners.

Julie Keravel, Horticultural Society Director assigned to the Junior Program was not in attendance. It was stated that the Juniors exhibited at the Russell Fair. A question was posed whether or not we should continue to exhibit at the Fair. Suggestions are welcomed.

Grace Stapper talked about the elections for the upcoming year. Members are encouraged to consider running for a position. Connie Johnston has indicated that she will not be filling the role of Secretary. Therefore, that position will have to be filled.

Connie Johnston talked about the Horticultural Society files at the Russell Museum. Currently they are stored in boxes and containers. The Historical Society feels that at least one filing cabinet would be a better way to keep these files to preserve them. Carol Van Die said she will see if she has one that can be used.

A question period was held regarding the members gardens.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Johnston, Secretary, Russell Horticultural Society