

# Spring Flower Show and Plant Auction 2008

by Robert Auger

Members of the Society had a great evening on Monday 16 June showing off their best floral productions and stocking up on new plants.

Despite the heavy rain and thunderstorm which hit the village just before dinner, it turned out to be a great evening to hold the annual plant auction just outside the premises of the Legion Hall/ Lions' Den. Aably assisted by Marilyn MacMillan and Wendy Murray, Lindley McPhail presided over the sale and dispatch of a great number of plants, some contributed by members, others being remainders from the May Plant Sale. Over 25 bidders actively competed for the offerings that covered a diverse range of annuals, bulbs, herbs, shrubs and vegetables. Most present left with their arms full of new acquisitions and not a few worrying about finding new spaces in their gardens to plant them.

The group then repaired to the Legion Hall to see the results of the Spring Flower Show, organized this year by Pat Stachon and Margaret Helliker. The two organizers were encouraged by the number of members who had brought their pride of garden for display and judging. Judge Betty Eastman, from Metcalfe, generously sacrificed her evening to assess the entries which were dominated by the peonies and hostas. Following are some of those who came off with a 1st prize red ribbon:

- Louise Houle: Bleeding Heart, Hosta
- Pegi Holtz: Bleeding Heart, Heuchera (Coral Bells), a Peony, Violas
- Anne Whyte: Iris (medium), the anonymous 'named' Rose, a Peony and the collection of fresh herbs
- Wendy Murray: the strikingly beautiful dark Clematis, a Spring flower and the Coffee table arrangement
- Pat Stachon: two Peonies (the single white and the double rose-pink), the Lady's Mantle arrangement.

- Marilyn MacMillan did well in the greens, especially, the 3 fern arrangement and the 3 asparagus
- Grace Stapper: an Iris (tall bearded), a Peony (double pink) and a blue purple Lupin
- Marcel Beauchamp cleaned up the hosta category with a huge plantain leaf and also did well in the Peonies (single rose-pink).

Again, this evening provided us with another opportunity to learn about our seasonal plants and socialize with garden aficionados. Thank you to those who organized the Auction Sale and Spring Show, your efforts enrich us all.

