



# Greely Gardeners Group

## *Newsletter*

November 2010

### GREELY GARDENERS EVENTS

#### **Wednesday, November 3 – Topic: Rock Gardens**

Guest Speaker: Judy Wall, from Rockwall Gardens, Perth; Greely Community Centre, at 7:00 p.m. Judy and Phil Wall opened Rockwall Gardens in May 2000, and eventually began to focus on alpines, rockery, and drought-tolerant, lower maintenance, unique, unusual plants that are environmentally sustainable in the local area. They grow rare and unusual seeds from around the world not normally found in the retail trade. They germinate the seeds, grow them on site and observe the plants for at least one year before offering them to customers, ensuring that their unique plant labels depict how the plant will perform locally. <http://www.rockwallgardens.com/index.html>

#### **Wednesday, December 1 – Annual Christmas Pot-luck Dinner**

Greely Community Centre, at 7:00 p.m. There will be prizes and surprises and plenty of additional fun. Spouses are welcome. Don't miss it!

#### **SPECIAL NOTICE – GREELY GARDENERS GROUP NEW EXECUTIVE**

The October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was the Annual General Meeting of the Greely Gardeners Group at which Executive Officers were elected for the coming year. Please take a look at the end of this newsletter for a full list of your new GGG Executive for 2010-2011.

### OTHER GARDENING EVENTS

- **Manotick Horticultural Society: Monday November 8** “Fresh Flowers for the Holidays”, Joanne Plummer of Mill Street Florist; 7:30 p.m., Main Hall, RCMP Campground, Long Island, (Nicoll's Island Road - off River Road).
- **Russell and District Horticultural Society: Monday November 22;** at the Russell Legion/Lion's Den; Annual General Meeting with the theme “Getting ready for Christmas” starts at 6:30pm with a potluck supper. Learn about the care of amaryllis, poinsettias and paper whites by Pegi Holtz; decorating tips by Louise Houle; Christmas wreaths by Marilyn MacMillan  
<http://www.russellgardeners.ca/events.html>
- **Osgoode Garden Club** meets on the third Wednesday of the month; 7:00 p.m. at the Osgoode Library on Osgoode Main Street. For information call Louise Boudreau 826-0385.

## October Meeting - Making Bird Feeder Wreaths

Sue Hiltz gave a very hands-on demonstration. The wreath was made from wild grape vines, which she had cut and left outside so that they could be pliable enough to wind into a wreath. It was then covered with bunches of a plant she grows specifically for her wreaths. Once the main wreath was made Sue encouraged everyone to gather around the table to watch her add the decorations and to ask questions about the different seeds and berries one could use, and how to balance the wreath to make it look good.

Sue brought a wonderful array of dried seed heads - sumac, sunflower, Echinacea, rosehips - that had been collected from her garden or the area around her. She also used some Indian corn. She very expertly showed us how to make the wreath, and plan the placement of the seed heads. Although she does these wreaths very quickly and professionally, she emphasized that

it is not difficult. The demonstration was easy to follow and the wreath simple to make, the emphasis being on hands-on and give it a try. Make it as plain or fancy as you want - the birds will love it anyway!



## Tips - Putting your garden to bed for the winter

Many of us have questions about putting the garden to bed for the winter. The Canadian website below has a few good tips including: fertilizing your lawn; protecting young trees; salt and deer damage; winterizing roses and rhododendrons and other useful information, such as storing dahlias (see below).

<http://ca.lifestyle.yahoo.com/home-garden/blog/markcullen/441/duvet-time-in-the-garden>

<http://ca.lifestyle.yahoo.com/home-garden/blog/markcullen/443/putting-your-garden-to-bed-chapter-2>

### How do I store dahlia tubers for next year?

**Answer:** Wait until the foliage has turned brown in the fall. Cut the foliage down, leaving a few inches of stem above ground. Dig around the plant carefully to avoid damaging the tubers. Lift the clump and gently shake out excess soil. Wash the tubers gently. Lay the tubers on sheets of newspaper and allow them to air dry in a sunny location for 1 week. Store tubers in a cardboard box lined with newspaper; store in a cool, dark, dry location.

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## Greely Gardeners Group – 2010-11 Executive Committee

**President** - Gary Hall 613-821-7445

**Vice-President** - Lee Nickerson 613-574-0214

**Treasurer** - Melissa MacDonald 613 821-9680

**Past-President** - Shelley Piercey 613-821-1120

**Secretary** - Sue Young 613-574-0098

**Events Co-ordinator** - Phyllis Nickerson 613-574-0214

**Members-at-Large** - Jackie Livingstone 613-821-3542; Terry Sutcliffe 613-826-2742; Gill Toll 613-821-6123

**Newsletter** - Heather Clemenson 613-821-7445 **Website** - Gary Hall 613-821-7445

[www.greelygardeners.org](http://www.greelygardeners.org)