



Greely Gardeners Group

Newsletter

March 2012

GREELY GARDENERS EVENTS

MONTHLY MEETING -- Wednesday April 4

Topic: **"2012's Best New Perennials"**

Guest speaker: **Richard Aubert**

Greely Community Centre, 7:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING -- Wednesday May 2

Topic: **"Creating Your Spring and Summer Planters"**

Guest speaker: **Catherine Disley**

Greely Community Centre, 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY MAY 26 – ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

Andrew Shields Park, 1145 Old Prescott Road,

9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

If you are in your garden soon and dividing perennials or simply removing ornamental plants and shrubs that you no longer need, please pot them up and put them to one side for our GGG Annual Spring Plant Sale. If you need pots let us know (Heather: 613- 821-7445).

Reminder GGG 2012 Membership Fees Are Now Due:

If you are intending to renew your annual membership at our next meeting, to save time please consider printing a membership form from our website www.greelygardeners.ca and filling it in ahead of time. At only \$10 for the year, we are still the best bargain in town!

OTHER GARDENING EVENTS

- **Manotick Horticultural Society**, Monday April 16, "Dahlias", Olly Chuchryk from Charing Cross Gardens; 7:30 p.m., Main Hall, RCMP Campground, Long Island, Manotick.
- **Russell and District Horticultural Society**, Monday 7:00 p.m., Royal Canadian Legion/Lion's Hall at 24 Legion Lane in Russell. Details posted on website: <http://www.russellgardeners.ca/>
- **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 please, call Linda Laframboise at 613-826-0906.



MARCH MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

On Thursday, March 1st, 2012, members of the Greely Gardeners Group were very fortunate to have **Crispin Wood** share his thoughts on "*Trees for Your Garden*". Crispin is the Lead Arborist for the Federal Department of Agriculture's Central Experimental Farm (CEF) in Ottawa. With over ten years experience in the fields of arboriculture and urban forestry, his experience in the management and maintenance of the woody plant collections in the 400 hectare CEF Arboretum made Crispin the ideal speaker on the subject of trees for the urban landscape.

Highlights of his presentation focused on considerations to be taken into account when planning to add a tree to your property. From site conditions to suitability, not every tree is appropriate for a city garden, although many of us in Greely enjoy a little more than postage stamp sized garden. Nevertheless, size, form, growing habit, water requirements, flowering and seeding behaviour and necessary maintenance should be remembered when we say to ourselves "let's put a tree in our back yard!" From Crispin's presentation we learned that a site analysis of our property and investigation into the growing characteristics of trees that we are considering will help us decide which trees are suitable for our gardens, and which trees are not.

As a help in making decisions on suitable trees a useful reference is the Ottawa Hydro website. http://www.hydroottawa.com/pdfs/88262_english_tree.pdf

Re-design of the 'flagpole' garden at the Greely Community Centre

On March 5th a small group of GGG members met in the Board Room of the Greely Library to continue planning the re-design of the 'flagpole' garden. There was an exchange of suggested plants and shrubs and discussion on the requirements of the full-sun garden. We are mindful of the need for plants that are drought tolerant, as we cannot guarantee regular watering of the garden. Also, we are looking for mainly perennial plants that have good colour and a fairly long blooming season; or a succession of plants that will enable the garden to have colour throughout the growing season and possibly through the winter months as well.

The next meeting will be on Monday April 9th. If you are interested in joining the discussion, please contact Gary at 613-821-7445, or by email at gthall@sympatico.ca.

Greely Gardeners Group – 2010-11 Executive Committee

President - Gary Hall 613-821-7445

Treasurer - Jane Rietze 613-699-6330

Secretary - Sue Young 613-574-0098

Member-at-Large - Melissa MacDonald 613-821-9680

Newsletter - Heather Clemenson 613-821-7445

Vice-President - Lee Nickerson 613-574-0214

Past-President - vacant

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

Member-at-Large - Gill Toll 613-821-6123

Website Updates - Gary Hall 613-821-7445

Website URL www.greelygardeners.ca