



# Greely Gardeners Group

## *Newsletter*

April 2013

### **GREELY GARDENERS EVENTS**

**Note: Our meeting in April is back to our usual meeting day of first Wednesday in the month.**

#### **MONTHLY MEETING – Wednesday April 3**

Our April monthly meeting will feature a presentation by Jeff Skevington, a long-time Ontario Naturalist from the Ottawa area. Jeff's talk will provide an overview of things that you can do to naturalize your yard and will follow up with a discussion of some fantastic insects that you are likely to attract as a result. Jeff will also give us tips on several resources that will help us learn more about the biodiversity surrounding us, even in our gardens.

Topic: "A Naturalist Garden"

Guest speaker: Jeff Skevington, Agriculture Canada  
Greely Community Centre, 7:00 p.m.

#### **MONTHLY MEETING – Wednesday May 1**

Topic: "Vegetable Gardens – What to Grow in Ottawa"

Guest speaker: Amber, Payne  
Greely Community Centre, 7:00 p.m.

#### **ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE – Saturday May 25**

Andrew Shields Park, 1145 Old Prescott Road,  
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

*If you are 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 Annual Spring Plant Sale. If you need pots let us know (Heather: 613- 821-7445).*

## JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> GGG FIELD TRIP TO MONTREAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

The **Montreal Botanical Garden** is located at 4101 Sherbrooke St. East and comprises 75 hectares of thematic gardens and greenhouses. It was designated a National Historic Site of Canada in 2008 as it is considered to be one of the most important botanical gardens in the world due to the extent of its collections and facilities.

A visit to the Garden by the members of GGG and their guests is planned for Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Transportation in the form of a 56-passenger bus will be provided, with a departure from the Greely Community Centre at 8:45 a.m. and leaving the Gardens for return trip at 4:00 p.m.

The cost for members will be \$25.00 and for guests \$35.00. Ticket sales will commence at our regular meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April and will close on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2013. Members and guests will be required to sign a waiver as part of the ticket sales process. Questions may be directed to Lee Nickerson at 613-574-0214 or Jane Rietze at 613-699-6330.

## OTHER GARDENING EVENTS

**Manotick Horticultural Society:** Guest speaker: Gord Knights from Floral Design Nursery and Landscaping, Kemptville, will talk about "Integrated Pest Management for Your Garden". Monday April 8, 7:30 p.m., Main Hall, RCMP Campground, Long Island Locks, Manotick.

**Osgoode Garden Club** meets the third Wednesday of the month; from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Osgoode Library on Osgoode Main Street.

**Russell and District Horticultural Society** meets third Monday of the month 7:00 p.m., Royal Canadian Legion/Lion's Hall at 24 Legion Lane in Russell. Details of upcoming events are posted on their website: <http://www.russellgardeners.ca/>

**Ottawa Orchid Society** 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Orchid Show, April 20-21<sup>st</sup> (Saturday from noon to 5:00pm; Sunday 9:00am to 5:00pm); General Admission \$10:00, Seniors (over 60) \$8:00; Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave, Ottawa.  
[www.ottawaorchidsociety.com](http://www.ottawaorchidsociety.com)

## MONTHLY REPORT – MARCH 7, DOUG KING “FRUIT TREES AND SHRUBS FOR COLD CLIMATES”



Doug King, owner of “Make it Green” nursery provided an informative talk about fruit trees and shrubs that are suitable for growing in the Ottawa area. He particularly noted the hardy cherry trees that have been introduced by the University of Saskatchewan. For example “Carmine Jewel” grows as a six foot tall shrub and is a great producer of cherries and the “Romance” series all grow as trees, each with a unique characteristic.

Doug also talked about new blueberry cultivars that can handle a higher pH value as well as cranberries that do not require the moisture that is usually needed to produce cranberries. He also noted varieties of apricot and peaches that can be grown in this area and that provide an abundance of fruit. He is currently testing Casino Apricot (reportedly hardy to zone 3).

He introduced a relatively new berry to many of the Greely Gardeners Group members called a Haskap or Honeyberry. It is a shrub that that is easy to grow in most soils it has no pests and it bears great tasting fruit. It has been grown in Russia and Japan for many years and is only now becoming more well known in Canada. For more information on the cherry trees and the Haskap, see: [www.fruit.usask.ca](http://www.fruit.usask.ca).



Doug provided a hand-out which looks at selecting, planting, and pruning fruit trees and after care of your trees. The handout has been scanned and it available on the GGG website. See also Doug King’s website at [www.makeitgreen.ca](http://www.makeitgreen.ca).

## DENYSE BECKER – MASTER GARDENER IN TRAINING



GGG Secretary Denyse Becker had a surprise at the March meeting. Her husband Scott announced that Denyse had completed her coursework on her road to become a Master Gardener. Since Denyse will not be attending her graduation in Halifax, Scott wanted to acknowledge her achievement and to present her with her personalized Master Gardener's apron. Denyse is now a Master Gardener in training and will continue her training over the next two years with mentoring from other Master Gardeners here in Ottawa.

GGG President Lee Nickerson congratulated Denyse on behalf of the members.



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### Greely Gardeners Group – 2013 Executive Committee

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

**Treasurer** - Jane Rietze 613-699-6330

**Events Co-ordinator** - Geoff Voyce 613-692-5384

**Member-at-Large** - Sue Young 613-574-0098

**Newsletter** - Heather Clemenson 613-821-7445

**Vice-President** - *vacant*

**Secretary** - Denyse Becker 613-425-1157

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

**Member-at-Large** - Phyllis Nickerson 613-574-0214

**Website Updates** - Gary Hall 613-821-7445

**Website URL**

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