



**APRIL 2015**

## **GREELY GARDENERS EVENTS**

### **UPCOMING**

*Please note that starting April we are back to our Wednesday night schedule.*

### **MONTHLY MEETING – Wednesday April 1**

Topic: “Growing Roses”

Guest speaker: André Poliquin

Greely Community Centre, 7:00 p.m.

André Poliquin is an International rose expert, horticulturist, biologist, teacher, author, past president of the Quebec Rose Society and co-founder of the Federation of Canadian Rose Societies. Please join us to hear André discuss types of roses; buying, planting and pruning roses; pests and diseases; and winter protection for these beautiful flowers.

### **MONTHLY MEETING – Wednesday May 6**

Topic: “Amazing Annuals”

Guest speaker: Mary Ann Van Berlo, Master Gardener

Greely Community Centre, 7:00 p.m.

Join us for a photographic tour of stunning new and unusual annuals you can add to your pots and flower beds including some that you can start from seed or seed directly into the garden.

We'll also have seeds of some gorgeous annuals to give away.

## PAST MONTH EVENTS

### **MARCH 5 PRESENTATION: "The Selection and Care of Perennials"**

On March 5th, Robert Wolodarski, Perennials Manager for Artistic Landscape Designs, spoke to the Greely Gardeners Group on the subject of *"The Selection and Care of Perennials"*.



Robert stressed the importance of a healthy soil, one that is 50% solid, 25% air, and 25% water, in growing healthy plants. Robert had a wonderful presentation where we were introduced to a great variety of shade-loving plants, and an equal variety of sun-loving plants. Robert had a few words of wisdom for each plant, all of which were shown with its name. Robert also shared a few secrets here and there, that most of us endeavoured to copy down:

- Aluminum sulphate diluted in water kills slugs on plant;
- Malathine (a domestic-use mosquito chemical) diluted in water gets rid of ants between patio stones;
- 'Hens & Chickens' should be prevented from forming more than one blossom or they'll die;
- White Bleeding Heart (Dicentra) is a considered a weak variety.
- Plant only 'hardy' Redbuds in this area;
- Potted hostas (with drainage) can be overwintered outside if covered with geotextile to protect them from ice;
- Perennial hibiscus need gardeners to be patient, as these plants may not grow until the end of June.

## **MARCH 10: VISIT TO RICHMOND NURSERY**

On March 10, Peter Rofner, owner of Richmond Nursery, took a couple of hours off his busy work day to give 22 Greely Gardeners Group members an informative tour of his nursery. Throughout the walkabout, Peter explained how the nursery's use of modern automated equipment, as well as the nursery staff's careful monitoring of light, humidity and pH permit faster healthier plant growth from start to sale, whether done from seed or cutting. Richmond Nursery is situated at 3440 Eagleson Road in Richmond, and is open daily year round.



## **DO YOU HAVE GARDENING PHOTOS TO SHARE WITH US?**

At the March 5 meeting, Gary Hall, our Past-President and Webmaster, asked members to submit their favourite 2015 garden photos, or some 'Before' and 'After' photos of their garden renovations for posting to the Greely Gardeners Group website. For more info, please visit our website [www.greelygardeners.ca](http://www.greelygardeners.ca).

If you have photos to share, please send them to Gary at:  
greelygardenersgroup@gmail.com

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Upcoming Events - 2015

**Wednesday, May 6, 2015 - Amazing Annuals**

Guest speaker: **Mary Ann Van Berlo**, Master Gardener

**Saturday, May 23, 2015 - Annual Spring Plant Sale**

9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; Andrew Shields Park

**Wednesday, June 3, 2015 - Best New Perennials and Shrubs**

Guest speaker: **Cindy Cluett**, Beyond the House Garden Centre

**Saturday, June 20, 2015 - Members' Gardens Tour**

*(members and guest only)*

**Saturday, July 18, 2015 - Field Trip to Perth Area Gardens**

*(members and guest only)*

**Wednesday, September 2, 2015 - Hydrangeas and Flowering Shrubs**

Guest speaker: **Suzanne Patry**, Whitehouse Perennials Garden Centre

**Wednesday, October 7, 2015 - Growing Healthy Hostas**

Guest speaker: **Ann Frederking**

**Wednesday, November 4, 2015 - Floral Arrangements for the Holidays**

Guest speaker: **Michelle VandenBosch**

**Wednesday, December 2, 2015 - Christmas Pot-Luck Dinner**

*(members and guest only)*

### Coming in 2016

**Thursday, January 7, 2016 - Lawn Care and Lawn Alternatives**

Guest speaker: **Mary Shearman Reid**, Green Thumb Garden Centre

**Thursday, February 4, 2016 - Growing Wonderful Plants from Seed**

Guest speaker: **Rebecca Last**, Master Gardener

**Thursday, March 3, 2016 - Pruning Shrubs and Small Trees**

Guest speaker: **Diane McClymont Peace**, Master Gardener

## GGG MEMBERSHIP FEES

If you know someone who is planning on taking on a membership at our next meeting, please advise them to print a membership form from our website [www.greelygardeners.ca](http://www.greelygardeners.ca) and fill it in ahead of time.

Memberships are \$10/year and are good until December 2015.

## WANTED: E-NEWSLETTER EDITOR

### What is involved?

This Member-at-Large (executive member) is responsible for

- attending two meetings per month:
  - a. the Executive meeting (for what's coming up or communiqués required), and
  - b. the general monthly meeting (for information on the presentation);
- reporting (or editing reports) on GGG outside activities, such as the spring plant sale, the members' gardens tours and the summer field trip;
- maintaining the GGG e-newsletter distribution list;
- distributing the e-newsletter on or about the 20th day of each month.

*For more information, please contact Denyse Becker at 613-425-1157. This position is open to all GGG members. Training will be provided.*

## OTHER GARDENING EVENTS IN THE AREA

**Manotick Horticultural Society:** Monday April 13, “Tree Care 101”, Marcel Beauchamp, 7:30 p.m., Main Hall, RCMP Campground, Long Island Locks, Manotick. A guest fee applies.

**Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton:** Saturday, April 25,  
***One-Day Garden Design Workshop***

Intended for gardeners of all skill levels, this workshop will walk you through

- assessing your garden site and identifying your landscaping goals and needs;
- placing the structural bones of your garden: the paths, decks, fences, pergolas, patios, sheds and water feature;
- choosing large and small planting material: trees, shrubs, and perennial;
- using garden design principles to create a landscape with all-season interest;
- understanding how your garden matures and how to keep it looking its best.

Fee is \$60. Register on-line at:

<http://mgottawa.ca/forms/designworkshop2015.php>

**Nepean Horticultural Society:** Thursday April 16, “Annuals from A-Z”, Diane McClymont-Peace, 7:30 p.m., 6 Epworth Avenue, Nepean. Guest Fee: \$4.

**Ottawa Home & Garden Show:** March 26-29, EY Centre, 4899 Uplands Drive, Ottawa. Master Gardeners have a booth and will be there all weekend to answer gardening questions.

**Peterborough Garden Show:** Thursday April 2 to Saturday April 4, Evinrude Centre, Peterborough. Admission: \$7. For more info: [www.peterboroughgardenshow.com](http://www.peterboroughgardenshow.com)

## AS YOUR THOUGHTS TURN TO GARDENING...

If you will be dividing perennials or pulling out healthy ornamental plants and shrubs this spring, please consider giving them to the GGG for our May 23 Annual Spring Plant Sale fundraiser. We will provide more information on this subject at the next two general meetings and in the next e-newsletter.

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### Greely Gardeners Group – 2014-2015 Executive Committee

<b>President:</b>	Lee Nickerson	613-574-0214
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Denyse Becker	613-425-1157
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jane Rietze	613-699-6330
<b>Secretary:</b>	Melody Tomka	613-821-1985
<b>Speaker Coordinator:</b>	Elaine Routledge	613-692-9988
<b>Past-President:</b>	Gary Hall	613-821-7445
<b>Member-at-Large:</b>	Leslie Boomer	613-821-0101
<b>Member-at-Large:</b>	Josephine Shourie	613-240-1444
<b>Member-at-Large:</b>	Adele Landmesser	613-469-8964
<b>Treats Coordinator</b>	Melody Tomka	613-821-1985
<b>Gifts Coordinator</b>	Phyllis Nickerson	613-574-0214
<b>E-Newsletter Editor:</b>	Denyse Becker	613-425-1157
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Gary Hall	613-821-7445
<b>Website URL</b>	<a href="http://www.greelygardeners.ca">www.greelygardeners.ca</a>	
<b>E-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:greelygardenersgroup@gmail.com">greelygardenersgroup@gmail.com</a>	