

Members' Bulletin ~ Fall 1995

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I am pleased to again greet you, the gardeners and members of the Nepean Garden Association by way of the Members Bulletin as we draw very near to the end of the 1995 gardening season. Having just returned from a visit to Gatineau Park with visiting relatives as I write this on Thanksgiving Day, I realized anew how beautiful our country is at this time of year and how much we have to be thankful for. I trust that each of you has had a rewarding and productive year in the gardens, just as I have had.

We all know that we had to deal with some very hot and very dry weather this summer. No doubt our yield of some vegetables has been lowered as a result, but on my many trips to the plots, I certainly observed lots of wonderful looking produce that you nurtured along and were, no doubt, ready to enjoy eating or preserving for the winter ahead. As always, I was truly amazed by the great variety of crops that our members collectively grow.

The gardening season has also been a successful one for your Association. The new riding lawn mower that was purchased in the spring certainly did help to make the job of cutting the grass much easier for those who so freely gave of their time to that task. The bills for water and tilling are not yet in, but it appears that the Association will end the year with a healthy bank balance as no other major expenses were encountered.

Now that the season is just about over, I hope that all of you have a very enjoyable winter season, wherever you may choose to spend it, and that we will see many of you back in the plots in 1996. In the meantime, enjoy those veggies!

Sincerely, Ron Black

WHAT'S INSIDE Vote of Thanks page Fall Cleanup Procedures page 2 Going South For the Winter page 2 Advance Notice page 3 Our Garden Plots Hit the Airwaves page 3 New Compost Bins page 3 Board of Directors page 3

AND NOW, A BIG VOTE OF THANKS TO:

All the members of the NGA at this time for the splendid cooperation that the Directors have received from you, particularly in keeping rocks and debris off the pathways and in keeping the plots well weeded. There were only a few problems with regard to weeds and these will be dealt with on an individual basis. Considering that Viewmount Gardens is a city park site that the Nepean Parks and Recreation Department has now designated as a Garden Park, it is important that we, the members, strive to keep the entire site looking well maintained and create a spot which the community will perceive as being an asset to the City of Nepean.

The Board of Directors for all of their efforts on your behalf. These people, who you will find listed in this bulletin, give very freely of their time to insure that the affairs of the Association are carried out efficiently and professionally. In particular, thanks go to Keith and Lila Hird for coordinating all the grass cutting and doing much of it, to Keith, as well, for keeping the water system in good repair, to James Bird for painting the trim on the storage shed and to Roy Casorso for planting the herb garden. By now, most of you know our Maintenance Director, Ian Reid, who does a super job getting all those little things around the gardens that we take for



granted done and takes on the major responsibilities of arranging to have the plots tilled in spring and fall. Ian and Keith also look after staking out the plots and gathering in the stakes in fall, both of which are big jobs. Janice Schroeder, our Treasurer, and Wendy Millar, our Registrar, also have done a great job keeping the Association's records in order. I believe that registration proceeded very smoothly in the spring thanks to the organization of Wendy and our past treasurer Marjorie Harris.

The City of Nepean for all of their support and for the invaluable assistance we receive from Nancy Rooyakkers, who serves as our Secretary and directs many queries received at City Hall about the garden plots to the correct people.

FALL CLEANUP PROCEDURES

The leases on the garden plots expire for the year on Tuesday, October 31st. After that date, your Maintenance Committee will proceed to clean up the garden area and ready the plots to be tilled for winter.

All gardeners are requested to remove all remaining produce, tools, tomato cages, stakes and any other non-compostable materials from all plots no later than October 31st. Any diseased plants and vegetables should be removed and placed in the garbage receptacles at the site or taken home to be placed in the garbage. Do not put such material on the compost pile. Weeds and seeds should also be pulled and placed in the garbage. All gardeners are encouraged to leave all other plants in the gardens for mulching as it will help to increase the organic matter in the soil next year which is something the soil at Viewmount needs.

The Directors have arranged to have the plots mulched and then rough-tilled by personnel and equipment from the City of Nepean. This work will be performed as soon as possible after October 31st. The water will also be turned off as of that date unless cold weather has made it necessary to do so earlier.

Before October 31st, the marker stakes must also be pulled, cleaned

and put in storage. If you can assist with this job, please call Ian Reid at 225-4510 or Keith Hird at 225-1863 to volunteer.

GOING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER?



If you are one of those snowbirds who likes to exchange the snow and frigid temperatures of Ottawa for more garden-like climes elsewhere, then we would appreciate having a record of your address where we may forward mail concerning registration for 1996, or you might even want to consider pre-paying your plot rental fee for 1996 before you depart, especially if you will not have returned before the end of March.

Please send notice of your address and your cheque, if you wish, to Wendy Millar, Registrar, Nepean Garden Association, 91 Benlea Drive, Nepean, Ontario K2G 4A3. Telephone 225-6760 (evenings). The 1996 fees will be the same as for 1995:

Annual Plots:

Nepean residents \$25.00 Nepean seniors 20.00 Non-Nepean residents 30.00 Non-Nepean seniors 25.00

Perennial Plots:

Nepean residents, 12.50 Nepean seniors, 10.00 Non Nepean residents, 15.00 Non-Nepean seniors, 12.50 Please make cheques payable to Nepean Garden Association.



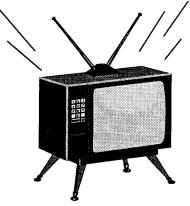
ADVANCE NOTICE

You can't say we didn't let you know ahead of time!

The 1996 Annual Meeting of the Nepean Garden Association will be held on the evening of Tuesday, March 26, 1996, most likely at the Nepean Sportsplex. At that time, the financial statement for 1995 will be presented, as well as the budget for 1996. Officers and Directors of the Association for 1996 will also be elected at that time. Notice of the meeting will be sent to all members well in advance advising of the exact time and location, but mark those calendars now so that the date will be free. We hope to see all returning members as well as prospective new members at that time.

If any member is interested in serving on the Board of Directors in 1996, please make your interest known by contacting either the Chairman, Ron Black at 820-3689 (evening) or the Secretary, Nancy Rooyakkers at 727-6640 (daytime).

OUR GARDEN PLOTS HIT THE AIRWAVES



Our Viewmount Gardens and several of our NGA members were featured in a segment called "Digging In" with Corey O'Kelly on the news on CBOT-TV Channel 8 in mid-June. The segment focused on various gardening techniques. Included in the segment were members C.A. Wheatley and his Dutch hoe, Barbara Hale, who explained her use of landscape fabric, Cirano

NEPEAN GARDEN ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1995 - '96

Chairperson

Ron Black

7B Hadley Circle

Nepean, ON K2H 6P1 (820-3689)

Vice Chairperson

Roy Casorso 255 Compton Ave.

Ottawa, ON K2B 5A8 (722-7113)

Secretary & City of Nepean Liaison

Nancy Rooyakkers 101 Centrepointe Drive Nepean, ON K2G 5K7 (727-6640)

Treasurer

Janice Schroeder

32 Brockington Crescent

Nepean, ON K2G 4K2 (226-2875)

Directors:

Lila Hird

66D Chesterton Drive

Nepean, ON K2E 5S1 (225-1863)

James Bird

4 Charkay Street

Nepean, ON K2E 5N2

225-4699

Registrar

Wendy Millar 91 Benlea Drive

Nepean, ON K2G 4A3

225-6760

Keith Hird

66D Chesterton Drive

Nepean, ON K2E 5S1 (225-1863)

Maintenance Director

Ian Reid

919-20 Chesterton Drive

Nepean, ON K2E 6Z7 (225-4510)

Martines, who talked about his methods of growing tomatoes and Ian Reid who discussed the use of opaque plastic. The Association wishes to thank these members for participating, as well as those others who had agreed to participate but were unable to because the filming crew was somewhat late in arriving. We apologize to those involved: however, the circumstances were beyond our control.

NEW COMPOST BINS PLANNED

A proposal has been put forth to the Nepean Garden Association by the Park Planning and Development section of Nepean Parks and Recreation regarding the provision and placing of several compost bins in the Viewmount Gardens to help improve overall appearance of the site, avoid organic materials being thrown into the areas adjacent to the gardens and to provide valuable composted material for the use of the gardeners. The Board of Directors has endorsed the proposal in principle and will be looking into it further with the aim of having the bins in place for next season. The Board will be exploring various avenues of funding for environmental projects which will keep the Association's cost to a very reasonable level.

The Board also will take steps to better co-ordinate the acquisition and delivery of mushroom compost to the site for use by those members who indicate that they wish to purchase it. More details will follow with the Notice of the Annual Meeting next March.

