



# Nepean Allotment GARDEN ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS' BULLETIN ~ SPRING 1997

## WE'RE NOW KNOWN AS THE NEPEAN ALLOTMENT GARDEN ASSOCIATION

Yes, we've undergone a name change. At the Annual General Meeting on March 26, the members present approved the change in name of the Association that had been proposed by the Directors. By adding the word "Allotment" into the Association's name, it is hoped that it will make our purpose clearer to those who see the Association name in the Access Nepean brochure and other publications.

## REPORT ON ANNUAL MEETING

The 1997 Annual Meeting took place on March 26 at the Nepean Sportsplex. A very encouraging number of members were in attendance. Those members heard the minutes of the 1996 meeting, a review of the past year's activities by Chairman Ron Black and Maintenance Director Ian Reid and the presentation of the 1996 financial statement by Treasurer Janice Schroeder.

This report again showed the

Association to be in a solid financial position. The bank balance as of February 28, 1997, the end of the Association's fiscal year, was approximately \$3200, although about \$1500 was still owing for the compost bins. *(That invoice has since been received and paid).* The 1997 Budget was approved, allowing for the purchase of a trailer to pull behind the lawn mower and materials to construct another large wire compost bin. Also approved was the change in name of the Association. Plans for 1997 were reviewed particularly with regards to maintenance chores. More details appear elsewhere in this Bulletin.

All in all it was a good evening and I sensed that many members were happy to have a chance to once again chat with each other.

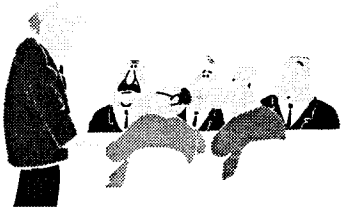
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## NEW OFFICERS

At the Annual Meeting, the Officers of the Board of Directors for 1997 were elected and there are several changes. Jim Bird has assumed the office of Vice-Chair, succeeding Roy Casorso, who will be moving to B.C. in June (*after he harvests his asparagus*). Mary St. Jean volunteered to take on the role of Registrar, and her husband Denis is returning as a Director. Denis was one of the original Directors in 1991 and 1992, and we welcome him back. Also serving as Directors will be Bill Nye and Barbara Hale, both of whom have been very active in the Association. The willingness of these people to come forward and serve the Association is appreciated and I look forward to working with them.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Although as I write this message to you there are still a few traces of snow left here and there, the signs are all around us that a new gardening season is not very far away. Garden centres are springing up in the parking lots of various stores, and advertising flyers arriving at our door each week offer us all manner of gardening supplies. All we need now is a little good weather and we'll be under way.

At this time I wish to extend a friendly "welcome back" to all our returning gardeners and a special welcome to all new members. I am happy that each one of you has joined us, and I sincerely hope that each of you has a very successful and rewarding gardening season in 1997. We have already started our year with a very successful Annual Meeting in late March. I was pleased to see so many members come out on a quite stormy night. A report on the meeting will be found elsewhere in this Bulletin.

As always, I want you to know that if you have any questions or comments about the Association this summer, please feel free to contact myself, or any of the Directors. You will find our phone numbers listed on page 4. In the meantime, Happy Gardening!

*Sincerely,  
Ron Black*

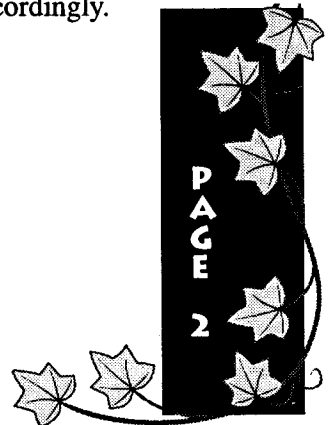
## KEITH HIRD

Keith Hird, who had served as a Director for the Nepean Garden Association from 1992 until last fall, passed away on March 5, 1997 while he and his wife Lila were on vacation in Cuba. Keith was a very willing person who gave very generously of his time to many tasks around the gardens - particularly care of the lawnmowers, repairs to the water system, grass cutting, and cleaning and repainting of the marker stakes. He was a good friend to many, and will be missed! The Association extends its sincere sympathy to Lila and the family.



## PERENNIAL PLOTS

In the fall 1996 Bulletin, we spoke about the care of perennial plots. Another issue that must be addressed is "invasive perennials" such as mint, which, if not controlled, can quickly and abundantly spread to neighbouring plots. Mint, for example, is recommended to be planted in an old pail sunk into the ground, so that the roots will be contained. If you are growing other plants that spread readily by way of their roots, please be considerate and contain them in some way. Couch grass, or twitch grass, is also spread by way of its root system, and must be kept under control. When weed inspections are carried out by the Directors, plots with heavy covers of this grass will be considered to be weedy, and members renting those plots will be warned accordingly.





# PLANT EXCHANGE

**WHEN:**

Saturday May 24, 9 a.m.

**WHERE:**

Beside Storage Shed

**WHAT:**

Bring any surplus plants you have and trade them with fellow gardeners. If you can't be there Saturday morning and have plants to share, just leave them beside the shed on Friday. For more information contact Barbara Hale at 225-7585.

### *Hints Passed on by Members for More Successful Gardening*

1. Place 1 "Tums" tablet in the ground with each tomato plant that you transplant. These tablets, rich in calcium, assist in plant growth, increase the sweetness of the fruit, and aid in reducing blossom end rot.
2. When transplanting broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and brussels sprouts. Cut a frozen orange juice can in half and slip it over the roots of the plant. This very effectively keeps the cutworms away from the roots until they are very well established.
3. Opaque plastic placed between the rows helps to increase soil temperature more quickly, prevents weeds from getting a start, and slows down the drying out of the soil.
4. You can get the soil in your plot tested at ACCUTEST Laboratories, 8-146 Colonnade Road South, phone 727-5692. Tests take about a week, cost \$10-15, and will tell you which nutrients are low or high levels in your soil.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This year, three members have volunteered to each be in charge of one aspect of maintenance under the direction of Ian Reid. These three members and their areas of responsibility are:

*Grass Cutting:*

Bill Nye - phone 723-0320

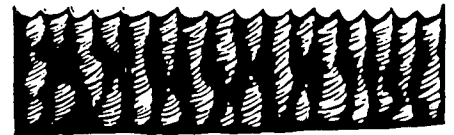
*Compost Bins:*

Gus Wegelin - phone 224-5824

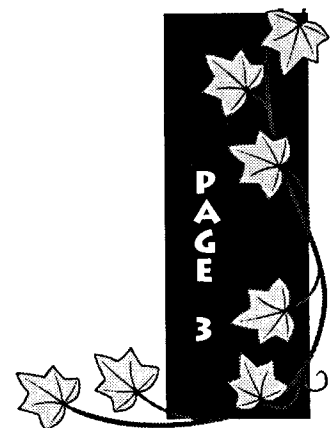
*Water Systems Care:*

Carl Vuylsteke - phone 820-4458

Help is needed in each of these



areas. Please phone one of these men and offer your services. Many hands mean that the required tasks will not be a burden to anyone. Your assistance is appreciated. Again this year, everyone's co-operation is requested in keeping rocks, weeds, and other debris off the pathways so that those cutting the grass can do their job unhindered. The ploughing of the plots last fall did unearth some additional rocks. Most of these have now been removed but if you do encounter any in your plot, please deposit them on the rock pile near the storage shed.



## BITS AND PIECES

1. If you didn't order mushroom compost through the Association, there are lots of other materials to use to add organic matter to the soil.

a) Manure is available free of charge at the National Capital Equestrian Park, Corkstown Road at the Queensway.

b) Compost will be available in our own compost bins for the use of all gardeners.

c) Use the contents of your backyard composter.

2. All members are reminded to read the "Terms and Conditions of License" on the back of the form that shows your plot number. These are the rules that all members must adhere to.

*Please note in particular:*

a) Watering to be by hand only, no sprinklers

b) Only organic pesticides may be used.

c) Weeds must be kept under control and diseased plants are to be removed.

3. Congratulations go out to our Treasurer Janice Schroeder and husband Jeff on the birth of their son Michael James on April 16.

4. The New Leaf potatoes mentioned in the Fall 1996 Bulletin are available this spring at Ritchie Feed and Seed.

5. Anyone who would be interested in helping Ian Reid carry out the weed inspections (mid-August) is invited to do so. Call Ian at 225-4510 for more information.

**IF THE ANNUAL PLOTS HAVE BEEN TILLED AND STAKED PRIOR TO MAY 15, GARDENERS MAY OCCUPY THEIR**

**PLOTS AS SOON AS THOSE JOBS ARE COMPLETED.**

## NEW T.V. PROGRAM - CHANNEL 22

Beginning on Sunday May 4, Rogers Community Channel 22 is airing a weekly gardening program called "Planting Ideas" that will be of interest to NAGA members. The program will cover a variety of gardening topics during the 24 episodes to be aired throughout the gardening season, according to Larry Stewart, of Rogers.

The program will air at 3 different times each week.

Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Monday at 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday at 6 p.m. (*except May 14*)

with the Sunday program being repeated on Monday and Wednesday.

## NEPEAN GARDEN ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1996 - '97

### Chairperson

Ron Black  
7B Hadley Circle  
Nepean, ON K2H 6P1  
(H) 820-3689

### Treasurer/Interim Registrar

Janice Schroeder  
32 Brockington Crescent  
Nepean, ON K2G 4K2 (226-2875)

### Directors:

Denis St. Jean  
8 Assiniboine Drive  
Nepean, ON K2E 5R7 (224-9169)

Bill Nye  
4 Assiniboine Drive  
Nepean, ON K2E 5R7  
723-0320

### Vice Chairperson

James Bird  
4 Charkay Street  
Nepean, ON K2E 5N2 (225-4699)

### Registrar

Mary St. Jean  
8 Assiniboine Drive  
Nepean, ON K2E 5R7  
224-9169

Barbara Hale  
20 Aurora Crescent  
Nepean, ON K2G 0Z7 (225-7585)

### Maintenance Director

Ian Reid  
919-20 Chesterton Drive  
Nepean, ON K2E 6Z7 (225-4510)

### Secretary & City of Nepean Liaison

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

# 1997 BUDGET NEPEAN GARDEN ASSOCIATION

*\*Revised after 1997 Annual General Meeting*

	1996 BUDGET	1996 ACTUAL	1997 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Rentals:*			
Annual Plots	\$2800	\$2715	\$2700
Perennial Plots	\$600	\$735	\$700
Lockers	\$50	\$50	\$50
Interest	\$0.00	(Bank error) \$30.26	\$5
Compost Sales		\$690	\$600
Grants & Donations re Compost Bins	\$750	\$960	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$4200</b>	<b>\$5180.26</b>	<b>\$4055</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Insurance	\$325	\$378	\$400
Tilling	\$400	\$512.64	\$600
Water	\$1000	\$601.75	\$1000
Gas for Mower	\$50	\$77.54	\$100
Purchase of Compost		\$514	\$525
Purchase of Equipment		\$114.99	\$500
Purchase of Compost Bins	**\$1350	\$161.96	\$250
Stationary & Postage	\$25	\$13.49	\$25
Maintenance	\$300	\$543.55	\$500
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$3450</b>	<b>\$2917.92</b>	<b>\$3900</b>

\* Based on: 68 annual plots at \$25.00 = \$1700  
25 annual plots at \$20.00 = \$ 500  
20 annual plots at \$30.00 = \$ 600

\*\* Net Cost after 66% subsidy from Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton.

