



Plantings in honour of the Liberation of the Netherlands

FOR THE LOVE OF PLANTS

The Horticultural Society Does It All

By Lorraine Payette

Roses are red, strawberries, too... Nothing could be more romantic than beautiful roses accompanied by fresh fruit delicately dipped in chocolate. Perhaps you prefer potted paper-whites or crocuses just bursting into bloom. Maybe you are a summer gardener, a spring gardener, a fall gardener, a winter gardener, or any combination of the above. You may like doing everything outside, you may like working in a greenhouse, or you might simply like to see what others have done – whatever you want to do with plants, the horticultural society will be delighted to help you get there.

“One of the primary aims of the Gananoque Horticultural Society is Community beautification,” says their webpage (gardenontario.org/site.php/gananoque). “This is accomplished by encouraging local residents to develop their own gardens through our educational speakers and seminars. Members and visitors have the opportunity to see what others have done on garden tours, as well as through flower exhibitions and competitions.”

“We are a really busy group,” said Joan MacKinnon (Business contact for the society). “We have so many activities it’s amazing. We have planters at the front of Town Hall, we have planted hundreds of red and white tulips for the Canada 150, and in our own garden on Main and Mill Streets. We have things like the garden tour in July, the outdoor garden

competitions which anyone may enter if they wish, they simply have to get in touch with us.”

Founded in 1920, the Gananoque Horticultural Society holds its meetings at Carveth Care Centre, accessed at the Herbert Street entrance at the corner of Herbert and North Streets, at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month (except July and August). They hold eight meetings per year featuring special speakers. A \$20 individual membership (\$25 for families) entitles people to learn about all kinds of new and interesting gardening related topics.

They hold a variety of activities throughout the year – from annual tours of gardens throughout the town, to flower shows open to the public, to helping with the planting and beautification of different gardens and areas throughout the town. There is a plant sale with lots of free advice available to anyone who wants to know how to grow the best gardens they have ever had.

“Our new brochure has the list of all of our meetings through the year,” said Joan MacKinnon. “We have eight speaker meetings and then two other meetings through the year. We try to bring in speakers on topics that are of interest to our members and keep us current with the issues like invasive species, controlling harmful insects, and new ideas on planting, propagation and care. It’s a varied programme and we’re quite excited about it.”

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There are several horticultural societies in Leeds and Grenville, Including...

Gananoque Horticultural Society
gan.hort.soc@gmail.com
gardenontario.org/site.php/gananoque

Kemptville Horticultural Society,
at Kemptville Pentecostal Church,
1964 County Road 43, Kemptville, On.
gardenontario.org/site.php/kemptville

Brockville & District Horticultural Society,
lower hall at Brockville Wesleyan Church, 33
Central Avenue West, Brockville
gardenontario.org/site.php/brockville

Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society,
Portland Community Hall,
24 Water Street, Elgin
[sites.google.com/site/
rideaulakeshorticultural](https://sites.google.com/site/rideaulakeshorticultural)

Each group will be more than delighted to have new members join them, and they can be reached through their websites. The sites also give dates and frequencies of meetings as well as dues, topics, and upcoming events.