



WINTER-SPRING 2022

# THE BLOOMING NEWS

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## UPCOMING PROGRAM EVENTS

🌀 **Thursday, February 17, 2022** 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

**Bees and Pollinators**

**Jessica Forrest**

🌀 **Thursday, March 17, 2022** 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

**Dancing Dahlias**

**Olivia Chuchryk**

🌀 **Thursday, April 21, 2022** 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

**Welcome to Roam Flora**

**Laura Langford**

🌀 **Thursday, May 19, 2022** 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

**Annual General Meeting**

🌀 **Thursday, June 9, 2022**

**Day outing to *Canadensis* and the  
Heritage Peony Collection**

## WELCOME TO THE OTTAWA GARDEN CLUB

We are delighted to welcome these members to our club:

Karima Eboo – Aga Khan Development Network

Alma Muca – Albania

Lulu Yee – Iceland

Nezi Kryeziu – Kosovo

Monika Rode – Slovenia

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good heavens! Winter is upon us again! I don't know if you feel the way I do, but the days and weeks rush by so quickly! Here we are spending another winter with Covid as our companion. Who would have thought we would still be having our meetings on Zoom? Despite our fervent hope that we would be able to meet in person at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club for our much-loved January luncheon, the recent rise in Covid cases due to the Omicron variant has meant that this is no longer feasible. Instead, we will tune in from the safety of our homes, and be highly entertained by our very talented speaker from England, Bridget Elworthy, of the Land Gardeners. Then, if all is well, in February, we will be able to meet once again in person at the Rockcliffe Community Centre. Right now this is just a distant wish. We have all learned that being flexible is the only way we can move forward.



Our Fall program began with us wandering through Lisa Cogan's magnificent garden, where the beds are a tribute to her love of gardening. She has spent many years planning, planting and adding new areas. It was wonderful to feel a little "normal" as we gathered in person for a brief time. Fortunately, we have been able to enjoy excellent speakers and beautiful gardens on Zoom, which has enabled us to obtain knowledgeable presenters from around the globe. C.L. Fornari, from Sandwich, Massachusetts, took us on a virtual garden tour, showing both private and public gardens in Canada and the United States. I was really intrigued by the presentation by Dr. Annise Dobson, of Yale University, on Asian jumping worms.

As I look over the past year and see all the incredible writeups and pictures of members' gardens, the spectacular YouTube videos, and Mary's interesting blog entries, I realize how very lucky we are to have one another during these difficult times. Sharing our interests, marvelling at the creativity of our members, and always enjoying the camaraderie, makes me very proud to be one of such a wonderful group of ladies. Here is a quote I love:

## THE BLOOMING NEWS

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**Advisors:** Heather Brown  
Helen Clark  
**Photographer:** Mary Murphy  
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Friendship  
Is like a beautiful garden.  
The more you put into it,  
The more it grows.

At this time, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy, healthy and fun-filled 2022. Let's hope that the new year will be kind to us all.

*Christine Edwards*

# PROGRAM SPRING 2022

**Thursday, February 17, 2022 12:30 pm**  
Rockcliffe Park CC

## **Bees and Pollinators** **Dr. Jessica Forrest**

Dr. Jessica Forrest is an Associate Professor in the Biology Department at the University of Ottawa, where her lab conducts research on the ecology and evolution of wild pollinators, especially native bees, and their interactions with plants.

(<https://forrestlab.wordpress.com>)

She will describe her research, which includes examining the factors limiting wild bee populations, the effects of climate change on plant-pollinator intersections, the role of wild bees in crop production, and the natural history of pollination.



Jessica also teaches upper-level ecology courses, including courses on plant-animal interactions. She and her students (and her dog, Oscar) do field work in Gatineau Park, in the Colorado Rocky Mountains, and in the agricultural landscapes around Ottawa.

**Thursday, March 17, 2022 12:30 pm**  
Rockcliffe Park CC

## **Dancing Dahlias** **Olivia Chuchryk**

The remarkable variety of available dahlias makes them an ideal plant for any sunny, well-drained location. They inject colour and drama wherever they are grown, in mixed borders and containers, on patios and balconies. Did you know that dahlia petals and tubers are edible?

Olivia Chuchryk will talk about all aspects of growing dahlias, from planting, fertilizing, pest control, mulching, staking and pruning, to digging tubers and dividing and storing them. By the end of this talk we should all be knowledgeable about the ever-desirable dahlia that blooms and brightens our gardens late in the season.



Olivia is the owner of Charing House Gardens, a Bed and Breakfast establishment located in a quiet community in Nepean.  
([www.charinghousegardens.ca/gallery](http://www.charinghousegardens.ca/gallery))

She is a retired schoolteacher with an interest in quilting and fabric arts. Olivia previously operated a commercial business, selling dahlias online and to florists.



**Thursday, April 21, 2022 12:30 pm**  
Rockcliffe Park CC

## **Welcome to *Roam Flora*** **Laura Langford**

*Roam Flora* began in 2017 in Laura's back garden as a part-time job/passion project. It was born of a strong desire to be outdoors, to connect with nature and a wish to share the beauty of locally grown flowers. Now spread across two acres, *Roam Flora* is an off-grid, solar-powered flower farm on the western edge of Ottawa, specializing in unique varieties of cut flowers and foliage. Laura will share the birth and progress of the flower farm and how she and co-owner Dawson Hamilton have shaped their business model.



Dawson Hamilton and Laura Langford

Laura will describe the flower varieties they grow and will share the many interesting stories of the challenges they faced while growing the farm, not to mention some of the hiccups, such as the day the cows spent grazing in the dahlia field, or the time their delivery van was stolen, fully loaded with wedding flowers! Join Laura as she shares with us how she went from 'occasional' florist to full-time flower farmer.

**Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:30 pm**  
Rockcliffe Park CC

## **Annual General Meeting**

**Thursday, June 9, 2022**

## **Day Trip to *Canadensis* and the Heritage Peony Collection**

Join us for an outing to the future site of *Canadensis*, The Garden of Canada/Le Jardin du Canada. We will meet with G rald (Gerry) Lajeunesse, chair of *Canadensis*, who will report on the progress being made in the effort to bring a unique world-class botanical garden to Ottawa. We will take a leisurely stroll around the *Canadensis* grounds, enjoy the art installations, and feel the creative energy waiting to burst out at this 34-acre destination. **Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on site after our tour.**



Next on the agenda is a visit to the award-winning heritage peony collection at the Central Experimental Farm, a short distance away. There we will meet peony consultant Blaine Marchand, and Bill Wegman, long-time leader of the peony team for the Friends of the Farm. They will take us on a guided walk through the twelve planting beds displaying over 400 named species and over 600 individual plants. With peonies offering a bloom period of seven weeks, you are sure to see some beautiful specimens, so don't forget to bring paper and pen to jot down the names of your favourite blooms, and to note some tips on how to keep your own peonies happy and healthy.

**Further details to come.**

# HIGHLIGHTS OF FALL MEETINGS

## September Coffee Morning

Miraculously, after a week of sudden rain squalls and looming thunderstorms, the morning of Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup> dawned sunny and clear. The weather gods must have sensed that this was a particularly special occasion for members of the Ottawa Garden Club – our first opportunity to gather in person since the start of the pandemic. Lisa Cogan's beautiful and spacious garden provided the perfect setting, allowing us to mingle happily with friends and catch up on news while doing our best to observe social distancing rules.



Miho Kawamura, Ināra Eihenbauma and Sarah Harvey.

that she had brought along the wonderful tribute book compiled by Ann Goldsmith for members to browse through and thanked all those who had made such touching contributions.

Lisa Cogan gave a brief history of her garden and how she had developed it into the gorgeously lush place it is today – sweeping



Miho Kawamura's winning entry for "No Masks Allowed".

New President Chris Edwards welcomed us and gave an overview of upcoming fall events, which for safety's sake must still be held on Zoom, although the possibility of an in-person Christmas celebration was raised, depending on the Covid situation. A January luncheon at the Ottawa Golf Club is also on the agenda, fingers crossed. She then introduced the three diplomatic members present: Miho Kawamura from Japan, Ināra Eihenbauma from Latvia, and our new Diplomatic Representative, Sarah Harvey from New Zealand. Past President Heather Brown stepped up to tell us

perennial beds that seem to embrace the house, punctuated by cones of box surrounded by still-flourishing phlox, slug-free hostas, sedums on steroids and much more. Chris Edwards thanked her most sincerely for hosting the club, and presented her with a beautiful bouquet created by Sue McNee.

Then came the moment we had been waiting for – prize-giving for the virtual flower arranging competition! Cynthia Hoisak was the only one of the three judges able to



Sue McNee, Lisa Cogan and Chris Edwards.



be present – June Norgaard and Renée Smith sent their regrets – but all three had worked hard on the difficult task of choosing the winners (in a blind competition) amongst an array of excellent entries. Cynthia presented the prizes - Marianne Feaver's pretty hand-painted bookmarks – as follows; in the "Hugs Welcome" category, the winner was Pauline Yelle, the runner-up Charlotte Ward; in "No Masks Allowed", Miho Kawamura won first prize, with Cindy Boucher as runner-up, and in "Only Gatherings of Three", our champion Miho won first prize, and Susan d'Aquino was the runner-up. All the entries were beautiful, and can be viewed via this link: <https://youtu.be/740S0UXGhDE>

One final event had been planned for the morning – a self-guided walking tour of Rockcliffe created by Pat Sylvester – but it seemed that people were reluctant to break off their long-missed conversations and lingered on in the sunshine until it was time to leave this very special gathering. Thanks to all who made the arrangements and of course to our gracious host, Lisa Cogan.

*Felicity Garrard*



A warm and winning arrangement by Pauline Yelle in the "Hugs Welcome" category.

## Diplomatic Luncheon

On October 5, we breathed another collective sigh of relief as the day promised to be perfect for our annual diplomatic luncheon. Normally held indoors, the event was organized as an outdoor picnic because of Covid restrictions. At noon, members of the executive and some 20 diplomats gathered in Marianne Feaver's lovely garden. It was a perfect setting for the event, with small tables scattered around the expansive property, each adorned with a checkered tablecloth and seasonal flowers, all created by our President, Chris Edwards.



Abeer Al Jassim (UAE), Karima Eboo (AKDF), and Lulu Yee (Iceland).



Sarah Harvey (New Zealand) and Lucie Kabagwira (Rwanda).

Chris extended a warm welcome to new and returning diplomats and thanked our new Diplomatic Representative, Sarah Harvey, for encouraging so many to attend. Before long, diplomats and OGC members were mixing and mingling, filling the air with sounds of laughter and chatter. Once everyone was seated, the lunch was served picnic-style in individual brightly coloured containers. Vice President Ann Goldsmith had organized the menu and even recruited special spousal kitchen help for serving up the food! It was a very enjoyable event, although punctuated with a few bittersweet moments as two of our active



members announced they would soon be leaving the country. Ināra Eihenbauma (Latvia), who has attended many OGC meetings and even given a presentation about her passion for mushrooms, thanked the garden club and presented Marianne with a mango plant she had grown from seed. Leticia Herberg Carrera (Spain) also gave a heartfelt farewell speech and thanked the OGC for its warmth and hospitality and especially for welcoming her into our homes. Leticia, who had hosted two of our Christmas parties, as well as a memorable garden party, will be missed by us all.

And the final surprise was a birthday cake for Marianne who was celebrating that day. After a rousing chorus of Happy Birthday, Chris thanked Marianne for hosting and presented her with a beautiful white orchid. We then all departed happily after a very successful day.

*Heather Brown*



Leticia Herberg Carrera (Spain).



Marianne enjoying her birthday cake.



Yong Suk Suh (Korea), Olga Kamaldinova (Kazakhstan), Vikki Eriksson (Finland) and Dianne Breton.

## There is Treasure Everywhere

C.L. Fornari, artist, garden consultant, radio host, author, and all-round garden promoter, spun garden magic on a dark, cold, and rainy October afternoon. She promised "Treasure Everywhere" - and boy did she deliver! C.L. took Ottawa Garden Club members on an illustrated and informative tour of more than 13 North American gardens - some public, some private, some she called "Bucket List Destinations." As well, she described some trending ideas in garden design.

She began her talk with the Coastal Maine Botanical Garden in Boothbay Harbor. It was started by the Garden Clubs of Maine, which found the property and raised the money. Four garden club members even put up their own homes as collateral to get bank loans! We next jumped to a Dale Chihuly blown-glass exhibit at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, located right in the middle of downtown Atlanta. We touched down briefly in Quebec City, where pots of tomatoes, lettuce and kale decorated the steps to the Parliament Buildings. Then off to Michigan State University Garden which featured a Weed Display Garden.







The Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami, once the winter home of the American Harvester Co. family, beautifully melded elements of Venetian and Florida design. And last on her list of private gardens was The Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California, which featured sculptural plants "with attitude" in a desert environment.

In her view, the most outstanding gardens, which she dubbed "Bucket List Destinations," are Chanticleer, Pennsylvania, the Cape Cod Hydrangea Festival, Buffalo Garden Walk, and Martha's Vineyard's Great Illumination.

Chanticleer tops the list for its high level of horticultural innovation. The Cape Cod Hydrangea Festival, from July 8 to 17, features private gardens large and small and was launched in 2015 by C.L. herself to raise money for local charities. On one weekend in July, 400 private gardens are open free of charge at the Buffalo



Garden Walk. And on one day in August, at Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard, tiny Victorian cottages are lit up for Martha's Vineyard's Great Illumination.

Every one of these gardens is worth a visit. Maybe an Ottawa Garden Club trip? What do you think?

*Jane Panet*



One of the dazzlingly decorated cottages at the Great Illumination on Martha's Vineyard.

## Earthworms in Urban and Managed Forests: The Challenge of Alien Species

Lowly Worm, that charming Richard Scarry character, has turned. As gardeners, we are on the front lines against an invading army of the not-so-humble pheretimoid jumping worms. According to Dr. Annise Dobson's fascinating and alarming presentation on November 18, this invasive species is a growing threat in our area. Earthworms, which eat organic matter and turn it into



aerated soil, have always been considered beneficial. But in a sign of "global worming", three co-invading species of East Asian jumping worms, which could completely displace our European species, are gradually moving into Ontario, in rootstock and gardening supplies, and along waterways. First noticed in the New England wild in the 1980s, there have been thousands more sightings since then, including in Toronto. New York City parks, in particular, are being devastated. Jumping worms are voracious eaters that devour normally spongy, healthy soil and change it into crumbly sterile fragments, that look like coffee grounds or gravel. They can infest golf courses, lawns, gardens and parks, turning grass and soil to gravelly mud. They can undermine walls, patios, agricultural drainage and water reservoirs, causing floods, erosion and contamination. As they change the soil, they re-engineer ecosystems. In forests, they quickly devour the topmost layer of organic matter, removing moisture and nutrients for animals, plants and insects. Different



plants have different ways of dealing with a jumping worm invasion; however, many native species like trilliums are the hardest hit. Worms are hard to tell apart but jumping worms have a dark or metallic pigment, and the lighter clitellum (the raised band encircling the body) is very close to the head. Their

behaviour also gives them away, since they thrash around like snakes and leap into the air (hence their name). It has been said that they are "like nightcrawlers on steroids."

They are parthenogenic (can reproduce from an unfertilized egg), prolific, mature quickly, and live for a year, leaving tiny cocoons in the soil. Our friendly garden earthworms, on the other hand, (usually nightcrawlers, red wigglers or grey worms) are slow-moving, with flattened tails and a clitellum close to the middle of the worm. They are hermaphroditic, lay eggs in burrows and live for three to five years.

There are currently no viable management options for jumping worms, so the best ways to avoid an invasion in your garden are:

recognize the signs of jumping worm activity; cultivate deep-rooted species; plant bare root (you will be able to see their eggs on the roots); check plant roots before bringing them inside; check gardening equipment and boot treads; don't use worms as bait; shop for local products and ensure that your garden centre is aware of the threat; check florists' peat moss; and check that mulch has been heat-treated (or better still, make your own). Following Dr. Dobson's extremely well received presentation, there were many worried questions, and all were agreed that this was a very timely subject.

For more information, or to report a sighting, you can contact Dr. Dobson herself (preferably with a photo) at [annise.dob@gmail.com](mailto:annise.dob@gmail.com), Michael McTavish at [michael.mctavish@alum.utoronto.ca](mailto:michael.mctavish@alum.utoronto.ca), or your local Canada Food Inspection Agency. You can also post the location to EddMaps (<https://www.eddmaps.org/ontario/>), iNaturalist (<https://www.inaturalist.org/places/ontario-ca>), or contact the invasive species hotline at 1-800-563-7711. There is also a Master Gardener Facebook Forum that tracks them.

*Helen Clark*

## HOSPITALITY HELP WANTED!

Despite this latest Covid wave, we are still hoping that gathering in person will be a possibility for our Spring meetings. If this does indeed turn out to be the case, our Hospitality Chair, Margo Ledoux, will be looking for willing volunteers to help with organizing the coffee, tea, and delicious offerings that we all look forward to at our live meetings.

The old saying, "many hands make light work" definitely applies here, and the kitchen gossip is an added bonus! **If you'd like to pitch in, please contact Margo at 613-794-0940 or drop her a line at [maeledoux@gmail.com](mailto:maeledoux@gmail.com)**

## Christmas Celebration on Zoom with Irish Traditions and “Holiday Florals”

More than 50 members attended our Christmas Zoom meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>, some seasonally attired in antlers, elf hats and other festive items. After a warm welcome from Chris Edwards, Mary McGillis-McKee, wife of the Irish Ambassador to Canada, described a typical Irish Christmas, complete with plum puddings, iced Christmas cakes, jollity at the pub and a trip to the races on St. Stephen's Day. It is also traditionally the time for a swim in the icy waters of the Forty Foot, near Dublin! The Irish theme was continued in the floral presentation that followed, with the long, green Bells-of-Ireland (*Moluccella laevis*) being prominently featured.

The pre-recorded presentation, “Holiday Florals”, was given by Jessica Barrett, owner of Mill Street Florist in Manotick. Known for its innovative floral designs, Mill Street is a regular sponsor of and participant in Homes for the Holidays. Jessica and her co-owner, Sofiane Laib, created six arrangements from scratch in an instructive and interesting video, filled with useful tips on flower arranging.

The first was based on a Japanese Kokedama (moss ball) - a fern embedded in a ball of peat moss with red wool wrapped around it for a festive touch. On a white plate, it could be used as a centrepiece, surrounded with pebbles or pinecones. The second was a traditional long, low centrepiece, which included seasonal greenery, white roses, Bells-of-Ireland, lime-green *Anthurium* and white *Dendrobium* orchids. With the addition of a cactus, some limes and pinecones, it was a spectacular arrangement. A tall, dramatic vase wrapped in birchbark was next, featuring three amaryllis, heads tied together, one huge *Protea*, three Bells-of-Ireland, and three stems of *Ilex*, with twisted kiwi vines adding an airy touch. Mill Street makes special twisted grapevine “nests” or “armatures” for the tops of vases to hold stems in place.



A rectangular arrangement in a wooden box filled with oasis and cedar branches was topped with short-stemmed red roses, opened green orchids, blue thistles, pinecones and Christmas balls. Next, a classic posie bowl was featured, including half a pineapple wrapped with soft cedar and surrounded by red roses, long strands of ivy, red *Gerbera* and orange *Protea*. With a veil of local *Ilex* and a few clementines on spikes, the posie looked very seasonal and made us feel quite hungry! The final arrangement was an outdoor “Upside-Down Urn”, using bare branches anchored in floral foam in a large container and topped with an “armature” containing soft branches of BC cedar. A few pinecones hung from the little “tree” on long strings. As a bonus, Jessica showed us a new tip involving shredded and refrigerated amaryllis stems curling in a low glass vase and topped with a single amaryllis flower.

Altogether, a fascinating and beautiful afternoon, topped off with a draw for two of the featured arrangements, won by Jane Breen and Donna Chan.

*Helen Clark*



# MEET DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE SARAH HARVEY

When Sarah Harvey arrived in Ottawa in January 2020, she was determined to embrace all things Canadian. Her spouse Martin had recently been appointed New Zealand High Commissioner to Canada and they were both looking forward to spending several years in our country.

The first thing Sarah did was sign up for cross-country ski lessons so she could enjoy the new experience of a Canadian winter. And her 'get involved in all things Canadian' attitude led her to join the Garden Club the next month. She also joined HOMSA (Heads of Mission Spouses Association), helping this organization whenever she could.

When everything locked down in March 2020, she expanded her outdoor activities to golf and cycling, meeting new friends and enjoying life within the restrictions. But it hasn't always been easy. Sarah and Martin had left three grown-up children as well as parents back in New Zealand and were unable to return home for more than a year. However, in April they managed a trip, which included strict quarantines, but was very much worth it to see their families again.

A former Director of International Programs at Marsden Collegiate School, Karori, Wellington, Sarah's leadership skills soon led to her appointment this spring as President of HOMSA as well the new Diplomatic Representative of the Ottawa Garden Club. And when the Afghanistan crisis unfolded this summer, she quickly jumped in to assist the Afghan Canadian Support Network (ACSN), helping raise funds and needed provisions for the refugees temporarily housed in hotels in Ottawa.

I think we would all agree that we are fortunate to have such a capable and generous woman on our executive. But Sarah says she has also benefitted from being a member of OGC, enjoying new friends, learning about Canadian gardens through our programs, and getting advice from members as she revamps the garden at the New Zealand residence.

Welcome Sarah!

*Heather Brown*



*"Anyone who thinks gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year, for gardening begins in January with a dream."*

*Josephine Nuese*

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



The Perley and Rideau Veteran's Health Centre is now known as the Perley Health Community of Care. The name has been changed to better reflect the many facets of care carried out within this remarkable facility.

Starting this fall, all volunteers needed to be double vaccinated, and so entry procedures were somewhat relaxed. We still had to answer the inevitable screening questions, but only had to be tested once a month, rather than each time we went in. Also, to our great relief, we were able to dispense with the face screens, we had previously been required to wear over our masks! In addition, numbers were increased to allow up to five members in the Courtyard at one time. This made it feel like pre-pandemic times, when we could not only weed and deadhead, but also socialize with our Garden Club friends!

We left the Courtyards in good shape for the winter, and after missing out on spring visits for the past two years we look forward to next spring and seeing the tulips and daffodils we planted in both the Rideau North and South Courtyards.

*Sally Hutchison*



On a drizzly day in late October, a well-disguised team of OGC members put the Perley Courtyard gardens to bed for the winter. Working in the garden were (can you guess?) Sonia Rajani, Karen Junke, Jana Clark and Sally Hutchison. Heather Brown was hidden behind the camera.



The talented designers of the Postal Cart excelled themselves this year with their lively depiction of a hayride complete with happy passengers!





And here is the Postal Cart transformed into a cosy log cabin for Christmas! Kudos to Dianne Breton, Cynthia Hoisak and Pat Padmos for bringing their creativity and warmth into the Perley lobby for residents to enjoy.



## Canadian War Museum (CWM) Beaumont Hamel Garden of Remembrance

We have ended the year 2021 on a very positive note. In late fall 2019, we had introduced a native wildflower mix of seeds, obtained from the Ontario Seed Company, to augment the plantings on three designated sections at the Beaumont Hamel site.

Two years later, on a blustery autumn day, our Garden of Remembrance Committee volunteers were finally able to reunite to revive the project. The site had been beautifully trimmed, weeded and raked for our arrival by the CWM maintenance team and our over-seeding proceeded very easily and quickly.



The intrepid seeding team obviously enjoying their work: Victoria Hutton, Charlotte Ward, Jane Panet and Cindy Boucher.

We noted that once they had been weeded, the five containers situated at the front of the Historical Archives, which had been the former pitcher plant 'bogs' were now available to seed. We augmented the peat with clean composted soil, and they were seeded with wild flowers as well. Our intentions to augment the original seeding had been postponed in both the Spring and Fall seasons of 2020. Early spring 2021 found that the Covid-19 restrictions had been extended, which prevented our group from accessing the Beaumont Hamel site for a third time. As a result, the shasta daisies have managed to dominate, at least in the summer season. We have been unable to determine whether the poppies and spring ephemerals have prospered. However, a very happy discovery was that our resident groundhogs appear to have been fully relocated, thanks to the ongoing efforts of the team at CWM. After a productive afternoon, the site has now officially been put to bed, seeded and made ready for winter, offering us a hopeful prospect for 2022.

*Victoria Hutton*

# HOW TO SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER

**If you have a friend who you think might be interested in joining our garden club, this is the procedure:**

- 1.** Any member may sponsor one new candidate each year after being a member for two full years.
- 2.** Invite your friend to attend a meeting. Make sure you tell the President Christine Edwards ([chrisee68@gmail.com](mailto:chrisee68@gmail.com)) in advance so she can introduce your guest to the Garden Club members - this is important so that there is a record of her attendance. Prospective members must attend a minimum of two meetings as a guest before they can be nominated for membership. Remember there is a \$10.00 guest fee.
- 3.** Be sure your nominee is aware that as a member of the club, she is agreeing to be actively involved - to participate in club meetings, activities and committees and to respond to requests from the Executive for assistance.
- 4.** Obtain a **Nomination Form** from Membership Chair Donna Chan ([chanrddj@gmail.com](mailto:chanrddj@gmail.com)). This should be completed and submitted to Donna (1746 Windflower Way, Orléans, ON. K1C5Y5) **AFTER** a candidate has attended two meetings and **BEFORE** the end of March. Note, each Nomination Form requires the signature of the sponsor and the candidate.
- 5.** The Membership Chair brings forward nominations to the Executive. New members are admitted by the Executive at its April meeting each year, based both on available space and operational needs. The Membership Chair will advise the nominee of acceptance. The new members will be introduced at the AGM in May. They will be honoured at a special luncheon later in the year, usually October.
- 6.** Nominations received after the end of March are held until the following year.
- 7.** The number of new members admitted each year depends on the total number of members in the club.

*Donna Chan*

*"Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace."*

*May Sarton*