

RED DEER AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

**Thursday September 16, 2010
7:00PM
Kerrywood Nature Centre
Annual Membership Drive
Speaker**

Announcements:

Executive Meeting: Wednesday September 8, at 7:00PM. The meeting will be held at Carole Scott's house and all garden club members are welcome to attend. It is a fun evening with beverages and snacks. Come and see what goes on "behind the scenes".

September Meeting: Thursday September 16, 7:00PM at Kerrywood Nature Centre. Erin, from Blue Grass Sod Farms, will be the speaker for the evening. Annual membership dues for the 2010-2011 year will be accepted at the September meeting. Please remember to sign up at this time as it helps the executive plan events for the upcoming year.

Members whose last names begin with A – H, please bring snacks to the meeting.

Autumn Plant Exchange: Sunday September 26 , 2010, 2:00 - 4:00PM
Carole Scott's house:

This plant exchange is open to garden club members only. When bringing in plants, please label name, colour of flower, height, bloom time, and growing conditions.

Country Drive: Saturday October 2, and Sunday October 3, 10 AM-5 PM.
Phone 1-800-215-8946 for more details.

October Meeting: Thursday October 21, 7:00PM at Kerrywood Nature Centre. The speaker will be from Olds College. More information will be provided in the October newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Can you believe the summer we have had? It has been very challenging for gardeners! There has been lots of cool and wet weather but we persevered. I trust you all had a great summer anyway. September is a busy month for the garden club. Annual memberships can now be purchased for the upcoming 2010-2011 year, the Executive meeting is Sept. 8, the regular meeting is Sept. 16, and the Fall Plant share is Sept. 26. The executive and I look forward to seeing you this fall.

Barb Jopko, Co-President

BOUQUET OF FLOWERS TO: Myron and Brenda Gulka

Myron organized and taught a hands-on workshop on how to build rhubarb stepping-stones and Brenda provided coffee and cookies. We are grateful to have club members who volunteer their time and their knowledge to create events like this one.

BOUQUET OF FLOWERS TO: The Flower Show Committee

The Flower Show was a great success this year, as it always is. Thank-you to everyone who volunteered their time, donated an item to the silent auction, donated an item for prizes, entered the show, attended the show, or generally helped out with the show.

BOUQUET OF FLOWERS TO: Yard Tour Volunteers

Thank-you to everyone who volunteered to show us their yards this summer and for all those yard owners who provided snacks. There were some yards that did not belong to club members which means that the Tour Co-ordinators were working extra hard tracking down new places for us to view.

FYI CORNER

We are still looking for a **Beverage Co-ordinator** for the 2010-2011 season. If anyone is interested, please contact Barb or Carole (Co-presidents of the Garden Club). The other executive committee members will continue to volunteer their time for one more year in their respective positions. If you have any ideas for the upcoming year, please feel free to talk to any of the executive members. The phone numbers for the executive are on the last page of every issue of the newsletter.

The **deadline for any entries into the newsletter** is the 25th day of the month. You can give them to Karen at the meetings or e-mail them to her.

We are asking people to submit their **best tips for garden care** - maximum of 25 words - to be submitted by email or at the September Meeting. We will pick a few or these and include them in the October newsletter.

Prairie Sun Perennials is going out of business this year. The owner gave a presentation at one of our meetings and also allowed us a viewing of her premises one summer. I know many gardeners who will be disappointed that she is closing down.

BACKYARD BLUNDERS

My husband went on a 6-month hiking trip on the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine...quite an accomplishment for someone 69 years old! His absence left me with the intimidating tasks of mowing, weeding and maintaining our 3 acres of gardens. But I was confident I could handle it, and did fairly well until one late-summer day. Arriving at one of our gardens, I found a huge cluster of bagworms hanging in a tree close to my vegetable plot. I quickly went to the garden shed and retrieved the extension clippers to cut the branch. They wouldn't quite reach, so I drove up in the golf cart that we haul tools and dirt around the property with. I stood on the seat, reached up and cut off the branch. Down it came, knocking me off the cart and distributing the bag of caterpillars over my head! As they crawled and wiggled all over me, I started to laugh and cry at the same time. How ridiculous I must have looked!

- Betty Hoffman, North Carolina, Backyard Living Magazine

Answer to a few questions at my yard viewing in August::

The grass in my front yard is Tufted Hair Grass 'Gold Tall' from Prairie Sun Perennials (she still has some). The yellow rose is a floribunda named 'Honey Bouquet'.

Dad's Chewy Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

1/4 cup softened butter
1/4 cup canola oil
1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar
A good shake of cinnamon
1 large egg
1 tsp. vanilla
3/4 cup all purpose flour
1 1/2 cups old fashion oats
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp salt
1 cup of raisins or other dried fruit

Preheat oven to 350 F. In large bowl beat butter, oil, brown sugar and cinnamon until creamy, beat in egg and vanilla. Add flour, oats, baking soda, salt and stir. Add raisins or other dried fruit and stir until just blended. Drop large blobs on ungreased baking sheet and bake 12-14 minutes until set around the edges but still soft in the middle. Makes 1 1/2 dozen. This recipe is from <http://dinnerwithjulie.com>.

Anita Thomas