

Bath Gardening Club Meeting

June 16 2025 2:30 pm

St Johns Hall, Bath Ontario

Welcome

Sylvia Whalen welcomed members and guests

Approval of the minutes of May 26, 2026

Moved by Kim Bonner, seconded by Roxanna Beddington the motion to accept the minutes was approved

Members Questions:

- Questions and comments about Fire Ants were raised. Please click on the link for a CBC report.
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/european-fire-ants-gatineau-population-boom-1.7263891>
- Pots and containers drying out quickly.
 - Janice Firth shared some strategies for dealing with this problem. Her email is janice_firth@yahoo.ca for more details
 - How to make DIY Oils <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRiLhrY2CMc>
 - Making wicking buckets <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BeP7FxU61q4>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Msih-3dORI>

Treasurer's Report Joanne Pearce

- Bank account balance is \$17541.63
- Bank account adjusted balance = \$17,386.82 \ 1 cheque for \$154.81 is outstanding
- Year - End is August 31st for Club
- Please present your receipts or invoices asap
- Full-time & part time vendor Sunday Market in Bath stall rentals to date is \$8586.60

Sunday Market in Bath: Linda Cohen Gift Cards

- On signing in, members were given a gift card for the Sunday Market in Bath for two reasons:
 - Firstly, as a thank you for their help and support for the Bath Gardening Club.

- Secondly, to encourage those who have never attended the market to spend some time there on a Sunday morning or afternoon and get to know all the wonderful vendors, both food and artists we have this year.
- Linda signed the cards on behalf of the Club and asked members to put their name on them and/or email address as well
- If you know you will not be using this card we ask that you pass it to a friend or neighbour who may use it. And if you do this we ask you to ask them to provide the same information if possible.
- These gift cards are a wonderful marketing tool for the market, proven to work by the crowds that are in the village on a Sunday, crowds like these never seen before. The merchants in town are experiencing an uptick in their sales as well I am told. So this is good for the village as well as the garden club.

Speaker Purchase Request

- The Market Manager has requested the purchase of a speaker to play music at the market when we don't have entertainment and when the vendors are setting up and taking down. It is welcoming as well for customers to the market. Tarra has been lugging one that Frontenac has back and forth each Sunday.
- The executive of the Club discussed this purchase thoroughly and it was felt that this purchase could be put to use in other ways as well, Merry Little Main Street and the caroling at the Gazebo at Christmas and would come in handy for these meetings as well.
- Research has been done and we have decided that Best Buy has a Sony speaker on sale that would be perfect for our needs. The cost is \$449. plus tax.
- Motion to approve the purchase of a speaker made by Linda Cohn
- Second by Pat Chown
- Motion carried

Programming: Janice Firth

Summer Outing

- Two gardens located near Maitland have been approached: Van Berlo Gardens and Maitland Garden of Hope. The date is July 21st.
- A donation of \$100 to each garden
- Plan would be to carpool and pay mileage to drivers
- Lunch at a nearby restaurant to be arranged by Linda and Janice. Members buy lunch.

Location/day and format of future meeting

- Janice requested that members forward suggestions for future speakers and workshops to her as soon as possible.
- She outlined the on-going difficulties with using Mondays for the monthly meetings namely: late start - 2:30 and lack of audio visual support at St. John's Hall.
- There are no standing bookings at the Hall on Thursdays so the Club could switch and start at 1 or 2 pm if the administration agrees. Some interest was expressed in moving to the third Thursday for meetings.
- Another possibility is to use the facilities at the Loyalist Clubhouse for those meetings with speakers and St John's Hall for other member oriented activities. Set up, AV assistance and coffee/tea are provided at the Clubhouse. There was some interest in this option.
- Some members voiced concerns that this would be seen as lack of support for a community based facility and give the impression that the Bath Garden Club is a Loyalist based group.
- The first meeting of the 2025-2026 will be held at St John's Hall

Action

Follow up will be done with both St John's Hall and Loyalist as to cost and availability.

Information Items:

Planting: Val Behm

- More vinca plants needed as rabbits have been feasting. Bobex spray purchased to deter them
- Val is tracking the watering of barrels and beds
- The beds at Schell's, Post Office and Fast Freddie's are garnering positive comments
- Maintenance teams in place, a few extra volunteers would be welcome.

Membership Initiative Update

- Over the summer Pat Chown, Lynne McDonald and Diane Nolting will review the feedback received, make recommendations for going forward and report to the Executive at the next meeting.

Ontario Horticultural Association Fall Bulb Sale

- Garden Ontario has created a speciality mix of tulips, narcissus, muscari and leucojum which is especially attractive to bees and butterflies. It is being offered through the OHA to sister organizations by case sale at a cost of \$525.00 per case. Each case has 15 packages containing 50 bulbs which must be ordered by July 1.

- The Executive decided to order 2 cases for sale to members and the public at the Sunday Market in Bath.

Constitutional Review

OHA is encouraging members to review and update their constitutions. Resources are available through OHA to do this. Sylvia asked for a volunteer to help do this before the AGM in October.

Bugtel, Memorial Garden and Pollinator Garden Update

- The Parks and Recreation Event took place on June 7th in the Church Street Park. Carol reported that three events were part of the BGC presentation. One table displaying all things interesting about Monarch Butterflies; One table of a range of pollinator friendly information, items and take-aways which included colouring sheets and a scavenger hunt; and one helping children make their own seed bombs. All children and families enjoyed exploring the garden and bugtel up close with many pollinators entertaining them. Many photos at the new photo board were taken!
Marg Wheatley, Carol Cartier added to the festivities with their colourful costumes.
- Kim presented a slide show illustrating the Bugtel refresh
- Donna Mills has refreshed the palette painting originally created by Bonnie Fredenburg.
- Brian Nilsson created a stand up photo board which Sue Hewko painted. This is now located in the Pollinator Garden area for families to utilize
- The Memorial Grove has two new gardens with plantings to encourage pollinator visits
- Pollinator Week Bioblitz will be held at the Bugtel during the week of June 16 to 22

Executive Positions

A slate of officers needs to be ready for the AGM in October. Anyone interested in volunteering for a position, especially the Vice President, should connect with Sylvia.

Speaker:

Master Gardener, Andie Wiens did an excellent presentation titled "The Ground Beneath My Feet". members are encouraged to review her talk at

<https://bathgardeningclub.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/groundbeneathmyfeet.pdf>