



**RDHS May 15, 2023 Monthly meeting**  
**Location: Marionville Community Centre**

Pegi Holtz greeted all attendees and identified washroom facilities. Due to unforeseen circumstances, guest speaker Brian Carson's presentation on Wildflowers was cancelled. Grace Stapper graciously filled in with an open Q & A session. Many thanks Grace for filling in at such short notice.

Linda Duhamel continues to accept 2023 RDHS memberships for the unchanged cost of \$10/year. 2023 Yearbooks are available to all registered/current members. Bookmarks are also available upon request while quantities last.

February 17, 2023 minutes were acknowledged and accepted. Pegi reminded volunteers to keep record of their hours. She is always surprised as to how quickly the hours add up! March it on Out held on March 25<sup>th</sup> raised close to \$2,000. Congratulations to everyone who donated and participated in this event.

District 1 AGM 2024 is to be held on April 13, 2024 in Embrun. RDHS will be hosting/organizing this AGM and is awaiting confirmation on the venue. The theme will be 'Leaping into the Leap Year – 2024'. Diane Sharp and Christine Lanthier have been coordinating efforts on this event and have a good head start. They will be taking a break over the summer period, but will need volunteers down the road.

**2023 Plant Sale** is fast approaching and is on schedule for this Saturday, May 20, 2023. *Friendly reminder* that the location of this event is now at the fairgrounds. There continues a need for more tables and gazebos (if available) and all contributions will be most welcomed. *Suggestion* – bring along a lawn chair or two and water. An early 7 - 7:15 a.m. arrival for all those members who signed up to volunteer would be greatly appreciated. Louise has tags available for plant donations. If possible, please identify the plant, sun/shade requirements and initials of contributor (if comfortable to do so). The kids from the high school did start veggies for this sale; however, they did forget to label the type of tomatoes grown. Seems we will now have a 'mystery' tomato category! Despite this oversight, we are grateful for their support.

Anyone who has shown interest in volunteering their time in helping with the tree planting at the Burton Conservation area please note that the date of Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> has been changed (post meeting date). The delivery of the tree seedlings has been bumped back by the nursery and it appears that this task will be more onerous than previously anticipated. Therefore, planting dates will be Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> **and** Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. The media event with Pierre Leroux will be Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m.

Pegi made mention that the late Esther Bryant has created a quilt which she named 'Quilt of Belonging'. This quilt will be on view at the Williamstown fairgrounds from June 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>.

Connie Johnston shared with the group that the Russel Trivia event held May 13<sup>th</sup> raised in excess of \$25,000 for the Mural that will be erected on the South side of the Pronto building in the downtown core. The mural will consist of photos, not actual paintings, that are enhanced/

enlarged and moveable. This mural should be available on July 13<sup>th</sup> for the Meet Me on Main Street event from 5 – 8 p.m. Admission is free. T-shirts will also be available (black only), depicting the Russell old train station for \$15/each.

- A guided bus tour of Russell celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Russell will take place on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10/ppn.
- Harmony for Heroes will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> from 8 p.m. to midnight – Russell Arena slab. 100% of funds for the family of Sergeant Eric Mueller, killed in the line of duty on May 11, 2023 and the injured officers who were involved the same critical incident. Tickets will be available within the next week. \$20/ppn

Pegi mentioned a local small boutique flower farm in Russell called Nested Acres Flower Farm. Owner: Danielle Monroe. This farm is located on 1523 MacDonald Road, Russell. Phone #: 613-299-7939 For further details please visit the website: [www.nestedacres.com](http://www.nestedacres.com)

Clean up session at McDougall Park to celebrate Earth Day this past April was a success. RDHS volunteer members along with the Russell Scouts did an outstanding job. Cleanup only took an hour and a half thanks to all those who offered their help.

Russell Police Village 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary – celebration to be held on June 23, 2023 at the museum on Concession Street. The Russell Bell Ringers Choir will be performing the opening song. The Chesterville local paper will be highlighting this event next week. The event to be televised by City TV Ottawa News and will be live on July 13<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 p.m. Further details to follow.

Louise shared information on the upcoming 2023 Flower Show scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup>. She suggested that those interested in participating should review details on pages 16-17 of the 2023 Yearbook. Any questions and request for entry tags should be raised with Louise or Pegi.

Day Trips, detailed on page 20 of the 2023 Yearbook, are to be paid on the day of the event. Please register on the sign-up sheet available at the monthly meetings or by contacting Louise at [louhou51@gmail.com](mailto:louhou51@gmail.com). *Note:* the Ganden Gardens day trip has been **cancelled**.

All workshops, detailed on page 21 of the 2023 Yearbook, are to be paid in advance. Louise indicated that there are people who have signed up for the Glass on Glass workshop to be held on June 28<sup>th</sup> that have still not provided payment. There is a waiting list for this workshop and any registered attendees who have not paid, will forfeit their attendance to those on the waiting list.

Green Corners Farm, 1259 Yorks Corner Road, Edwards, U-Pick Tulip is open. Please note that you must purchase a ticket ahead of time. If interested in visiting this farm, it is suggested that you contact them at 613-898-1801. Last weekend in May 20-21.

RDHS received grants of \$13,000 each from the Police Village Fund and Russell Township. Dave Dyer was the driving force and project manager for the initiative to provide electrical power at MacDougall Park. Nick of Direct Bore Inc. provided the equipment and time for this initiative. Anticipated completion date is October 2023.

Pegi presented Grace with the Past President's pin from OHA. Junior Leader pins were also presented to Julie Keravel and Debbie Courneyea. Julie made mention that there will now be a possible 4 junior leaders. The Junior Gardeners will be hosting a flower show at the September 13<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting. The group is looking for judges. There are presently 29 junior gardeners registered. Junior Gardeners meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at 10:30, location: Russell Library, and will continue through the months of June, July & August. The group will gladly take any leftover veggie seedlings after the 2023 Plant Sale.

June 19, 2023 Meeting and Flower Show. To date, there are no scheduled speakers for this meeting.

Minutes taken by Christine Bourgeois, Secretary