



RDHS June 19, 2023 Monthly meeting
Location: Marionville Community Centre

Pegi Holtz greeted all attendees and identified washroom facilities. Linda Duhamel continues to accept 2023 RDHS memberships for the cost of \$10/year. 2023 Yearbooks are available to all registered/current members. Bookmarks are also available upon request while quantities last. May 15, 2023 minutes were acknowledged and accepted.

The 2023 Plant Sale held on Saturday, May 20, 2023 was a success. The change from the usual location at MacDougall Park to the Russell fair grounds location turned out to be a welcome change as there was shelter from the menacing rain clouds that only produced rain a half hour before the projected end time. Approximately \$3,000 was raised. The school is on board again next year to provide us with vegetable seedlings for sale. Thanks to all the volunteers who came to help and a big kudos to Marilyn MacMillan who went back after the sale and cleaned off the whole cement pad for us!

The tree, shrub and understory planting at the Burton Conservation area was well attended. It was wonderful seeing many RDHS members on Monday, May 29th volunteering their time to plant. Big thanks to Grace Stapper, Jake Vedder, Rose Secord, Marilyn MacMillan and Cindy Saucier. Cindy made it back again on Tuesday, May 30th along with Christine & Peter Bourgeois.

Russell Police Village 125th anniversary – *friendly reminder* that the celebration is to be held on June 23, 2023 (i.e. date Russell became a Village) at the museum on Concession Street. The Russell Bell Ringers Choir will be performing the opening song. Strawberries and dessert will be served at the Fire Hall. Festivities commence at 7 p.m. and it is anticipated that parking will be at a minimum. It was suggested that those attending may want to park on Church Street.

It will be a busy end of week with a **guided bus tour of Russell** celebrating the 125th anniversary to take place on Saturday, June 24th at 1 p.m. It is anticipated that this bus tour will be a success as all seats have been spoken for. A big thank you to Connie Johnston and Cindy Saucier.

Meet Me on Main Street sponsored by Russell Township is scheduled for July 13th from 5 – 9 p.m. Admission is free. It would be lovely to have representation from RDHS during this celebration. Sign-up sheets are available for anyone interested in volunteering their time

Mention was made of an event taking place on September 16th where there will numerous activities including wagon tours, old time fiddling, etc. Keep abreast of what is happening in the village.

Beyond the House is hosting a **Bloom and Art Festival** on July 8th & 9th where past, present and future artists have an opportunity to showcase their work and promote art in the community.

Several RDHS members will be attending the OHA Convention in Kanata from July 21 – 23 and will give a report to members at the October meeting. Pegi suggested members look on-line at

the silent auction items and if anyone is interested, let her know and she can put a bid in on your behalf.

Louise commented on the amazing number of entries to the flower show. Phenominal!! *Heads up* that there will be a workshop planned for May 2024 on how to prepare entries for a flower show. There are still spots available for the Pine cone art board or frame workshop. The Painted Clay Pot Snowman Plant Holder, Christmas decoration workshop has been cancelled due to the fact that there will no longer be inventory of affordable clay pots available at local Dollar Stores. There will be an additional Glass on Glass workshop on October 4th.

Friendly reminder for day trips – July 7th, Green Corners Farm, 1259 Yorks Corner Road in Edwards. July 18th, La Chasse-Gardee du Marais, Chelsea Quebec (Remember to bring your own lunch/beverages). Sign up sheets on the table. Get there on your own and payment on premises the day of.

Please note that the teacher from St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Matt, is looking for 4 inch planting pots and trays for the 2023-2024 school year. If you have any to spare, please let Pegi know. Susan Barr & Christine Bourgeois informed members of their concern for the amount of trees that are being destroyed and sanctioned by the Township. Examples are trees that will be cut down on Craig Street for sanitation infrastructure and clear cutting on Eadie Road. Meet us on Tuesday night, June 20th at the Russell Tim Hortons to brainstorm on helping to keep Russell's tree canopy in tact.

Pegi introduced Danielle Munroe from Nested Acres Flower Farm located at 1523 Macdonald Road in Russell who spoke to members about growing Ranunculus.

September 18, 2023 – next monthly meeting. There will be an outdoor plant sale where members are encouraged to share any plants that they may want to bring. Please remember to pot up the plants early enough to mitigate any 'shock' and provide a description of the plant, light requirements, and anticipated sale price. Remember – any plants not sold must be brought home by its rightful owner.

September's meeting will be devoted to the Junior Horticulturalists who will be presenting their summer efforts and tell us all about their road trips that were organized by Julie Keravel and her great team of leaders.

Minutes taken by Christine Bourgeois, Secretary