



**Fredericton Botanic Garden
Association Newsletter**

**Bulletin du Jardin Botanique
de Fredericton**

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Summer 2011

President's Message

Fall is here! The season of active gardening is coming to an end. It's time to clean up the garden, trim and tidy, and get ready for winter.

Here are a few things to think about while you are in your garden:

Mark a few of your successful perennials you will be dividing up – save the extra plant material for next year's Plant Sale hosted by the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association on May 27, 2012. The Association depends in part on your donations of hardy proven plants.

The Fredericton Botanic Garden Association's work continues through the winter. Maybe you would like to volunteer some time with us on one or more of our committees or planting projects or the Plant Sale. Our first Plant Sale meeting is on November 2 at 7:00 pm. at the Resource Centre. All are welcome. (Bring a friend or two.)

While your garden is slowing down, the Association's work continues. We are looking for sources of funding, grant applications to be completed, discussions with the City of Fredericton, promotions and publicity, website development and planning for the future. The Board of Directors can always use your skills and your willing hands.

The Board of Directors is presently engaged in a visionary process to determine our future course and evaluate our progress. The Association has achieved so much in the development of the Fredericton Botanic Garden however we still have much more to do. With your help we can achieve great works.

If you have any suggestions or ideas, if you would like to be an active volunteer, if you would like to serve on a committee or even on the board, please contact us:

Norah J. Davidson-Wright – President 450-2848
norahd@nb.sympatico.ca

Brian Parker – Vice President 450-3898
rootb@nbnet.nb.ca

Michael Dillon 447-8207
mjdillon@rogers.com

Heather Connor-Dunphy 459-7702
actea08@yahoo.com

Ruth Muldrew 455-1828
rmuldrew@rogers.com

Bill Seabrook 459-7862
seabrook@nb.sympatico.ca

George Strunz 453-1113
gstrunn625@rogers.com

Ian Veach 363-5183
veach@unb.ca

Graham Allen - Executive Director 452-9269
fbga@nb.aibn.com

Donate to the Garden

Donations to the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association are like the plants in the garden, they require annual renewals. The difference is the plants must wait until spring but we can renew our donations any time. Please consider a donation to help speed up the rate of growth of the Fredericton Botanic Garden. If you are not yet a member of the Association please consider joining and donating toward the development of an "oasis of beauty, tranquility and knowledge" in the heart of Fredericton.

Michael Dillon, Treasurer

Hello, FBGA members.

As the fall closes in on us again, here is a reminder of spring. The 2012 Plant Sale is May 27, 2012.

The Plant Sale committee is looking for members. Most of you know that this is one of the largest fund raising events of the year and that attendance has become a tradition among Fredericton area gardeners.

This year's planning begins with a meeting November 2 at 7pm at the Resource Centre on Cameron Court.

David Seabrook will be our guest speaker. Please bring your ideas and your enthusiasm.

The Annual General Meeting is again at the Marysville Heritage Center on Saturday, February 4, 2012



The Dream Lake Garden

My husband and I visited the Montreal Botanic Garden in mid August. Our visit focused on the Japanese and Chinese Gardens. In this article I want to share some ideas and images of the Chinese garden, The Dream Lake Garden.



Friendship Hall

The 2.5 hectare garden was designed by Le Weizhong and constructed in 1990 and 1991. It is the result of the relationship between the City of Shanghai and the City of Montreal. The garden represents the architecture along the southern Yangzi River during the Ming period (1368-1644). Activity in the garden is supported by the Society of the Chinese Garden.

Chinese gardens generally depend on four elements: architecture, water, stone and plants. The components are metaphors for the earth and man, i.e. stones are the earth's skeleton and water, the earth's arteries. Stone is a distinctive element in Chinese gardens. In the garden, the grey stone was imported from China and the yellow stone is from the Montreal area.

You approach the garden down a long path. Vistas of the lake and pavilions unfold as you walk along. There are seven structures in the garden. The centerpiece of the garden is the Friendship Hall. This is where many of the courses and cultural activities such as the weekly Tea Ritual, occur. All the buildings have exotic, upturned roofs.

There are about 200 varieties of perennials and 100 trees on the site. Scotch pines *Pinus sylvestris* ring the site. They are there as symbols of longevity and the struggle to survive. There are large plantings of tree peonies, *Paeonia suffruticosa*. Mid August to mid September is the time the

sacred lotus *Nelumbo nucifera*, blooms. There is a magnificent planting which was in bloom when we were there.



Sacred Lotus

Another feature was the “penjings”. The word means “landscape in a pot”. They are trees whose growth is controlled between heights of 10 and 150 cm. This art form is called bonsai by the Japanese. Many of the specimens are 50 plus years old.



Trident Maple Penjing

Later this year the garden will host a Lantern festival. Given the lanterns that we saw there, I can imagine the festival will be quite a sight.

Heather Connors-Dunphy





In the Garden Photos by Owen Washburn

Garden Update, October 2011

A major step towards identifying and naming the rhododendrons and azaleas was taken this summer. Photographs of many of the flowers and foliage were taken by member and photographer, Owen Washburn. These photos will be used by Garth Nickerson to match with the records when the material was grown at the former NB nursery at Hoyt and to make the identifications. Garth is an FBGA member, NB Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries nursery and tree fruit specialist and former curator of the rhododendrons and azaleas when they were at the Hoyt nursery. As a result of this work name labels should be on many of these shrubs next spring.

As we go to press we are waiting for the company doing the landscaping for the ponds to finish shaping the enlarged ponds and surrounding area so that at least some of the plants being held for this area can be planted before freeze-up.

Richard Tarn
Site Development Committee

Tomatoes

Well the growing season is over and the harvest is in-at least for tomatoes. I would appreciate receiving your comments on the Heritage varieties that we offered this year. I grew several of the varieties including Brandywine, Aunt Ger-tie's Gold, Believe It or Not, Mennonite, PinkThai Egg and Neves Azorean Red. I also grew Coustralee and the Earl of Edgecomb in pots.

The Earl of Edgecomb and Coustralee did not do well in pots though they both ripened tomatoes, the yields were low. My earliest tomato was a Coustralee which ripened well and weighed a bit over one pound. The other varieties which I grew in my vegetable garden did exceptionally well. They all grew vigorously and bore fulsome loads of large firm fruit.

I only ran into one problem. The week before they would have been fully ripe, they all got hit with blight. The entire crop was wiped out. This was a perfect season for blight, cool and wet, next year has to be better.

I would appreciate hearing from others of you who planted our heritage varieties. What were your best varieties? What varieties would you like us to have at next year's Plant Sale. What, if any problems did you run into? You can contact me at seabrook@nb.sympatico.ca I look forward to hearing from you....Bill Seabrook



Fredericton Botanic Garden Memorials

In response to public requests, the Fredericton Botanic Garden is offering memorials in order that loved ones or very special events may be remembered. There are two types of memorials being offered, memorial benches with a bronze plaque inscribed as requested by the donor(s) and a memorial grove of magnolias and Japanese maples. In the centre of the Garden is a large boulder. The names of those memorialized are engraved into the face of the boulder.

Memorial Benches



The memorial benches are located throughout the Garden. The inscription is placed on a bronze plaque attached to the back of the bench. The plaque size is 2" X 10" and may contain up to 4 lines of text.. A proof of the plaque is provided to the donor(s) for approval prior to being cast. The benches are permanently mounted on a concrete base to prevent theft. These memorial benches are available for a donation of \$4000 to the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association.

Memorial Grove

The memorial grove consisting of magnolias and Japanese maples is located just to the south of the future Rose Garden. It is accessible from the main road through the Garden. This small garden is a place of peace and tranquility surrounded by the mature forest. In its centre is a large split granite boulder. Engraved on this face is "In Memoriam" followed by the names of those persons being memorialized. This memorial is available for a donation to the Botanic Garden of \$500.



As the Botanic Garden is registered as a charita-

ble organization with the Government of Canada, all donations are tax deductible. In many cases the total donation is from several persons. Each donor will receive a tax receipt for their portion of the donation.

For further information please contact:
William Seabrook, Fredericton Botanic Garden Association
Email: seabrook@nb.sympatico.ca



The Fredericton Botanic Garden Association Newsletter is published four times a year by the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association, Inc. The FBGA is a registered charitable organization for tax purposes. The objectives of the FBGA are to guide the establishment of the Fredericton Botanic Garden and to foster an awareness and appreciation of plants. To obtain information on membership and to become involved in FBGA activities please contact us: 506-452-9269 PO Box 57, Stn. A, Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y2 or fbga@nb.aibn.com Web: www.frederictonbotanicgarden.com

Fredericton Botanic Garden Association Board of Directors
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Heather Connors-Dunphy Valerie Hillier Ruth Muldrew
Bill Seabrook George Strunz Ian Lee Veach
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Join us on Facebook



The Fredericton Botanic Garden Association now has a Facebook page. If you're one of the one in three Canadians on Facebook, you can join the FBGA group page by entering "**Fredericton Botanic Garden**" in the search bar on Facebook, and then selecting "Join this group." We'll have announcements about events and pictures of the Garden. There's also a discussion page for messages.

Winter Hours of operation of the Resource Centre;
Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Thank-you to Jane Tarn for her expertise in editing the Newsletters.

