



**Fredericton Botanic Garden  
Association Newsletter**

**Bulletin du jardin Botanique  
de Fredericton**

Vol 17 No4

Fall 2005

**President's Report**

The summer is usually a quiet time for the Board of Trustees of the Garden, but this summer has been a busy one. We have been involved with John Robison Company in production of a business plan for the Garden. This plan was approved at our August board meeting and covers a five year period commencing with the opening of our Children's Garden and the Rose garden.

The business plan became a necessity when City Council requested a such a document prior to their approval of our \$1,000,000 ACOA grant. As there was only three weeks between the request and the closing of the ACOA grant period on March 31 we were unable to meet the deadline and thus the ACOA grant was not approved. We are fortunately under consideration by ACOA in their present program.

We will hope to be presenting the business plan to City Council early this autumn.

The Board has also established several "task forces" to look into some current issues. One chaired by George Bastin will review our formal relationship with the City through the interface of the Botanic Garden Local Improvement Association. A second group chaired by Lucy Dyer will look into possible Corporate Memberships. A third group chaired by Joel Richardson will consider the possibility of hosting cultural events in the Garden. A final task force chaired by Brian Parker will look into the role of memorial gifts to the Garden

All in all its been an active summer and busy autumn lies ahead.

Bill Seabrook, president



*Monarda-didyma*

**Who is the real Bergamot? (see page 2)**

**Fredericton Garden Club**

The Fredericton Garden Club founded in 1970 is still going strong to-day. This group of keen gardeners meets every second and fourth Wednesday at the Stepping Stone Centre on Saunders Street in Fredericton. The Fredericton Garden Club has an active programme of talks, demonstrations and garden tours. New and old gardeners are welcome. For more information, watch the *Daily Gleaner* or call: Tricia Hawkins at 457-9316.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TALKS IN THE GARDEN "The 'Tulip Business' with Johannues Schotanus" Thursday September 29**

**TALKS IN THE GARDEN October 27th, 2005-Daryl Hunter - New Brunswick's own Apple Expert**

**TALKS IN THE GARDEN November 24, 2005—Wreath Decorating Workshop**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Saturday February 11, 2006**

**SEEDY SATURDAY -February 25, 2006 PLANT SALE— May 28, 2006**



Continuing with the column for the Fredericton Botanic Garden Newsletter:

## Plants That Changed the World:

### Cassava - Manioc

- Michael Dillon

One of the more common but less nourishing of tropical foods is cassava, variously known as manioc, yucca or mandioca, and in Canada as tapioca used for puddings and arrowroot for biscuits. Scientifically it is *Manihot esculenta* Crantz, of the family *Euphorbiaceae*. Cassava originated in Brazil and Paraguay and, like corn, is now a cultigen with no known wild form. Cassava is grown for its large root that is about 30% starch with very little protein. Cassava is a perennial woody shrub up to 2.4 Meters (8 feet) tall, with greenish-yellow flowers, grown as an annual, and propagated vegetatively as clones. It is a major source of low cost carbohydrates in the savanna and to a lesser extent in the wet, equatorial tropics. It is drought tolerant and will grow on marginal lands where cereal or other crops do not grow well. Cassava does not store well after harvest but can be kept in the ground for two to three years and can be stored after grating and drying.



*Manihot esculenta* Crantz

The roots may be prepared much like potato, peeled and boiled, baked or fried. Uncooked they contain potentially toxic concentrations of cyanogenic glucosides that are reduced to innocuous levels by cooking. It is not known how this was first discovered. The leaves, which have recently been shown to have protein value, may also be consumed as a green vegetable. In addition to human and animal food they are also used to make starch-based products and alcoholic beverages. In Asia the starch is used as a binding agent in the production of paper and textiles and in monosodium glutamate an important flavouring agent in Asian cooking.

FAO estimates 172 million tones were harvested worldwide in 2000, with 54% produced in Africa, (Nigeria, which is the world's largest producer, Sudan et al), 28% in Asia (mostly Thailand which is the world's largest exporter) and 19% in Latin America and the Caribbean. Research to improve the

quality of cassava (manioc) is being undertaken at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria, and in laboratories worldwide, including the NRC labs in Saskatoon that have had long-term projects on cassava funded by FAO and CDRC.

### Bergamot

- Jane Seabrook

Strangely, the bergamot flavouring of Earl Grey tea does not come from the North American native plant, *Monarda* which we call bergamot. The original bergamot flavouring comes from the Bergamot orange (*Citrus aurantium bergamia*), which has a sour pear-shaped fruit and is grown in orchards in Southern Italy. Thought to be a natural hybrid between the Seville orange (used for the best marmalades) and a Vietnamese lime, the Bergamot orange oil is used in Eau de Cologne such as 4711, which always reminds me of my grandmother, and to flavour black Indian teas such as Earl Grey. Early explorers and settlers to North America recognised a familiar scent when they came across *Monarda* and called it 'bergamot'.



*Citrus aurantium bergamia*

### Welcome new members

Jocelyn Oborn, Nicole McGraw, Bill Morrison, Sheila MacDonald, Lynn Gillies, Joan Burns, Pat Daley, Carmen Stuart, Norma Wright, Steven Crouse, Faye Cowie, Ann Wetheritt, Gail Kimm, Wendy Johnston, Christa Gunn, Gwen Martin, Grace Xiao

### Local Fredericton Garden

### Featured in Canadian Gardening Magazine

John Welling's Fredericton garden is featured in the July 2005 issue of Canadian Gardening magazine. Behind the lovely craft and gift store Botinicals on Shore Street, John has created small slice of paradise with winding paths, unusual plants, and water features. We are proud that one of the special gardens highlighted in the Fredericton Botanic Garden's 2004 Treasured Garden Tour has been recognized by a national gardening magazine.



# Treasured Garden Tour 2005

## A Blooming Success!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 7th Annual Treasured Garden Tour! I am sure everyone was truly inspired by all the gardens visited this year. Pricilla Sacha and Dino Gatto, Linda and Craig Glassford, Liz and Kenneth Whamond, Lucy Dyer, and Katie FitzRandolph were most gracious hosts to over 250 guests on the tour. Each of their gardens revealed their own design style and beauty. We all enjoyed taking ideas from each design to implement into our own gardens.

Being the gardener that I am, I was all too anxious to move and expand my garden as I always am after the tour. I immediately began planning which hostas I would incorporate into my expansion after seeing Whamond's garden and experiencing their love of hostas! I decided upon 'Frances Williams', 'Francee', 'Strip Tease', and 'Regal Splendor'. I also enjoyed the Gatto's trick of surrounding trees with Snow on the Mountain (*Aegopodium podagraria* 'Variegatum') instead on using mulch to keep the grass at bay. I started digging at once to cut down my mowing time. I like a natural look to my gardens so I learned lots about using brick and natural looking wood for boarders and meandering pathways from both Dyer's and Glassford's gardens. I always learn something new during every tour. As I learn more, my garden becomes more and more the

show piece that I envision.

Again, I want to thank all the garden hosts, volunteers, and all who attended the tour and garden party. Much planning and organization ensured success and could not be done without all of those who attend planning sessions all spring. Special thanks to all who donate their favorite sandwiches and sweets for all to enjoy. Thanks to everyone who toured through the Botanic Gardens during the garden party to appreciate the hard work and new designs recently implemented. We are very proud of the garden. I look forward to next year's tour and am anxious to get planning!

See you next year,

Andrew Lawson

## Canadian Tomato Project

Seeds of Diversity Canada (SODC) have initiated a project aimed at increasing the availability of tomato varieties of Canadian origin. In addition to growing and propagating Canadian tomatoes varieties, SODC plans to collate information on the origins of these tomatoes. While many of the commercially-grown tomato varieties originate in Agriculture Canada labs, other varieties were developed by 'backyard gardeners' or came to Canada with immigrants. For more information contact SODC at or P.O. Box 36, Station Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2L7. For more information: Call Jane Seabrook 459-7862

### Consider a membership to the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association as a gift.

Membership privileges include - Newsletters;  
advance notice, by email of all events;  
10 % discount at  
*Capital Landscape and City Designers*  
*Co-op Country Store Corn Hill Nursery*  
*Green Village, Kent Garden Center,*  
*Scott's Nursery Wetmore's Nursery*



**Please give my gift Membership**

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**Individual \$20      Family \$35      Student \$15      Senior \$15**

Enclosed is my cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to FBGA, PO Box 57, Station A, Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y2



## Talks in the Garden

### Program 2005/2006

**September 29, 2005** Guest Speaker- **Joey Schotanus- "The Tulip Man" Johannes Schotanus** (Joey) and his brother Tim along with their father who was originally from the Netherlands, started their farm here in New Brunswick. The farm grew as the family grew, but as the farming industry changed the family farm became a booming "tulips" business. They started with 8000 blooms in the year 2000. By 2001 they had 24,000 varieties and as the blossoms improved the farm increased production, (they now have about a half a million tulips of different varieties and sizes.) Next year the brothers hope to have a Tulip Blossom Festival on the farm during the Victoria Day Weekend. They will hold tours to view their fabulous fields of tulips in bloom. ( 36 days of continuous blooms). They also grow glads. They produce an excellent quality tulip and their agricultural style is entirely environmentally friendly. On Thursday September 29th. Joey will also be able to answer questions and/or problem solve for those who are "into bulbs".

**October 27th, 2005-Daryl Hunter - New Brunswick's own Apple Expert** Daryl knows the history of apples from the time they were introduced into North America, and about the history of Francis Peabody Sharp of Woodstock who introduced many varieties and developed his own apple varieties for this climate. He is also involved in the apple project at Kings Landing. Daryl has also has published an electronic book on CD

about growing apples in your back yard that covers diseases, insects and other pests, pruning, and grafting, with over 100 varieties of apples described. We will update closer to the October date on the subject of Daryl's talk.

**November 24, 2005-Wreath Decorating Workshop** with Karen Cook, a Botanic Association member and our wreath decorating consultant.

The wreaths are beautiful hand tied, double-sided and lush. Each person to sign up for this workshop (pre-registration is required for this evening as there are limited spaces available ). will take home a personalized Christmas wreath. If you would like to do a wreath to suit your own home/colours/ or theme, it is possible to bring your own small decorations for this workshop. (these wreaths also make great gifts for that hard to buy for friend). Cost of workshop-\$12.00 per person per wreath. Call Janis at 458-2210

**January 27th, 2005- Brian Pike from Scott's Nursery-Talk to be Announced**

**March 30th, 2006- Dr. Jim Goltz- Attracting Birds to your Garden**

**April 27th, 2006- Dr. Wayne Albert on Gardening and Repetitive Stress Injury**

**May 25th, 2006- Tamsin Morgan-Wetmore Nursery-Talk to be Announced**

**June**-Possible field trip to the Shotanus brother's magnificent fields of Tulips

## Site Development

It has been a busy summer for our students and Jeff Graham. They did a wonderful job getting the Garden ready for the Treasured Garden Tour reception and tour of the Garden in July. Along with regular garden maintenance and mowing, here are some of the activities of note:

- Pruning rose beds by volunteers
- Removing some rose plants in preparation for planting a gift of daylilies from Red Lane Gardens in PEI
- Pruning of tree limbs in the Rhododendron garden to give plant more light
- Up-dating plant name labels
- Planning for the enlargement of the ponds
- Planning a white garden near the main access road (some will recall Vita Sackville-West's White Garden at Sissinghurst Castle in England)
- Planning a better access to Hal's Garden on the East side of the Garden

We thank all the students as well as Erin, who will be with us until the end of September, for all their hard work. Jeff Graham

and Harold Boone of the City of Fredericton Parks and Trees Department have been a great help to us and we thank them.

Jane Seabrook, for the FBGA Site Development Committee

The Fredericton Botanic Garden 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:

**452-9269, at PO Box 57, Stn. A, Fredericton, NB E3B 4Y2  
or fbga@nb.aibn.com**

**Web: www.frederictonbotanicgarden.com**

*Fredericton Botanic Garden Association  
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