

# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

June 1997

Vol 16 #11

## Growing Roses in the Champlain Park Area by Jack Holliday (Pt 1 of 2)

### Background (or rather, Underground)

As many of us have discovered, we don't have very much soil. Some lots, like mine, had only a few inches of soil on top of the shale rock. Many of our homes were built in the days of "make do" with what was on hand. The rock excavated for the foundation and basement was spread around, more or less levelled, then covered with a few inches of sub soil, or sand, or what-ever. Many truck-loads of soil have been purchased, and brought in to our area, as and when we could afford it. After 50 years I still don't have enough. Some of the buried rocks I excavated, and constructed rock walls behind which I piled soil to make raised beds. These work well, giving a decent depth (2 ft.) of soil in which to grow.

There is another problem: we have trees, some native and some we planted. Because of the shallow soil, the tree roots, being unable to penetrate the underlying rock, grow far and wide on top of the shale layers, and effectively remove all of the moisture and nutrients from the soil.

### Now To The Roses

Roses are very demanding. They require: (a) a good depth of soil (b) soil free from roots of trees or shrubs (c) full sun (d) good drainage (e) adequate water and fertilizer, and (f) one or more humans to care for them.

If you attempt to grow roses in heavy shade, (north side of a house or under trees) you won't be successful.

If where you dig to plant your rose is full of tree roots, then find another place.

If your rose is planted in a low area, where water gathers in the spring, the plant will freeze to death during the winter.

Assuming you have a sunny southern exposure and free from roots, you can grow roses.

Every packaged rose has planting instructions supplied, so we won't go into that.

### Choose Your Plant Carefully:

The Central Experimental Farm Dept. of Agriculture has developed a number of hardy shrub roses which are ideal for our area, but they grow into substantial plants, too big for most of our gardens.

If you have the space, by all means, plant some of

the "Explorer Series"; they should last "forever".

Floribunda roses are the most forgiving and give masses of bloom.

Multi flora roses are somewhere in between Floribunda and the Hybrid Tea roses.

Hybrid teas are everyone's darling: big flowers, long stems, brilliant colors, wonderful perfumes, just the thing to impress the neighbours.

Roses, being the highly bred aristocrats of the garden, demand a lot of attention. Be prepared for an almost daily examination of your plants to insure they are "happy" and not under attack from their many enemies: insects and disease.

Usually the first sign of enemy attack is that of small, usually green, caterpillars which eat into the growing tips, especially the developing flower buds.

The more particular gardeners search out these little pests and pick them off by hand. A dusting, with "Rose Dust", or some such preparation, every 5 days keeps your plants free of these caterpillars and other insects.

In late May, early June, expect aphids to suddenly appear on the stems of the developing buds. These can be easily wiped away with the thumb and first two fingers of the hand, stroking gently upward of the stem.

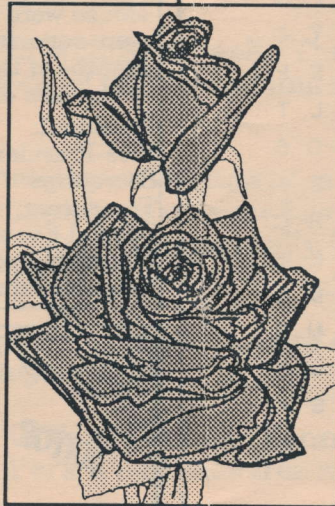
If you don't want to get your fingers "dirty", then don't neglect the dusting, every 5 days.

Be prepared to make daily examinations of your rose plants to control the successive attacks of caterpillars and aphids throughout the season.

Watch for another small caterpillar which lives (and eats) under the leaves. It removes the bottom layer of the leaf while remaining undetected unless the leaf is turned over. Powder Mildew, a type of fungus, appears in my garden in early August. If you have been dusting every week, it may pass on your rose. (Rose dust contains insecticides and fungicides.)

I suspect the "syrup" expelled by aphids is the "culture" for the start of the powdery mildew. The Aphids in nearby trees expel zillions of small drops which land everywhere (the newly polished car for example). I suspect the accumulations of drops on the leaves of the rose gives the mildew a place to grow.

(part 2 continued next month)



**Champlain Speaker Newsletter Staff**

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**Champlain Community Association Executive**

President: Lynne Bankier 729-0955  
 Vice-president: Elizabeth Mundell 728-7598  
 Secretary: Amy Kempster 722-6039  
 Treasurer: Kay Young 722-7955  
 Special Events: Laurie Fagan 728-1945  
 Membership: Jim Cocks 728-7881  
 Neighbourhood Watch: Michael Cheng 722-3344

**Sue's Word Find**

C A M P I N G N U F E G A T T O C D  
 N O E U Q E B R A B M S T N E T R O  
 S T S I R U O T P A R K R E D A H S  
 S W I N G S H T O U V A H S G E E P  
 E D I L S E I N S E C T S O A E C Y  
 N S C M R S E T A K S E N I L N I K  
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 I V D R W I B S N P O O L S A I S I  
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 L O O H C S F O D N E R E C C O S M

Dragon Boat Festival, Election, Tents, St. Jean Baptiste Day, Barbeque, Campsite, Summer Solstice, Ice Cream, Insects, Thunderstorms, Shavuot, Soccer, In-line-Skates, Camping, Shade, Skateboard, Ballots, Swings, Report Card, Humid, Boat, End Of School, Sticky, Golf, Father's Day, Park, Mow, Graduation, Pools, Lawn, Vacation, Heat, Hot, Slide, Tourists, Hat, Beach, Vote, Bicycles, Sun, Exam, Baseball, Sunscreen, Trips, Swimming, Cottage, Fun, Alban Heruin.

Answer to last month's puzzle was:  
**Queen Victoria's Capital Choice**

**New Executive of Champlain Park Elected**

A small but interested group of residents was present for the Annual General Meeting of the Champlain Park Community Association on May 22. President Tim Frank provided a report of the year's activities mentioning the social events, the contribution to Community Before Cars Coalition legal fund, the traffic calming study and the issue of Mosque parking. Treasurer Kay Young reported on our financial situation, which is generally good. She noted that the fabric sale had raised \$800.00, which may be used to spruce up the Field House. She stated that the rink funds from the city had declined and later in the meeting it was noted that this declining city support may require more effort from the community next year to maintain the rink.

Regional Councillor Linda Davis spoke about the traffic calming plans and the meetings she has been having on this. She hopes that the first action on a Regional Road in this ward will be at Churchill and Scott. She felt that Neighbourhood Watch may be helping our area as it seems to have fewer security problems than most sections of the ward. There was some discussion later in the meeting of the traffic calming measures proposed for our neighbourhood, with some residents opposed to some measures, especially the narrowings on Northwestern.

Mike Cheng and Nick Montero reported on the Neighbourhood Watch. Residents were warned to check the credentials of persons soliciting donations door-to-door, as there were some recent instances of fraud artists pretending to solicit for flood relief. Users of the Field House were reminded to lock up after use. Four break-ins were reported in our neighbourhood in the first four months of the year.

The new executive elected at the meeting follows;

President: Lynne Bankier 729-0955  
 Vice-President: Elizabeth Mundell 728-7598  
 Secretary: Amy Kempster 722-6039  
 Treasurer: Kay Young 722-7955  
 Special Events: Laurie Fagan 728-1945  
 Membership: Jim Cocks 728-7881  
 Neighbourhood Watch: Michael Cheng 722-3344

*from the*  
**EDITOR**

It seems that spring has bypassed us altogether and we have gone straight into summer. It must be summer, my lawn has been transformed from brown to green to yellow. Let us applaud those in this neighbourhood who are taking an organic approach to weed and pest control. We must

take the time now to think of what we are doing to our planet and take the necessary steps to preserve and rehabilitate it for our future generations.

Congratulations to the new members of the Champlain Park Community Association Executive: Lynne Bankier your new President, Elizabeth Mundell your new VP, and Amy Kempster your new Secretary. We trust that you will serve the Community with the integrity, enthusiasm, and commitment of past President Tim Frank, VP Amy Kempster and Secretary Laura Muldoon.

It is hard to believe that school is almost over for another year. It appears that the renovations to Hilson Avenue Public School will start this year. Hilson students will be put up in Fisher Park Public School for the 97-98 school year. As for the Children's Centre Daycare, we are still awaiting word on relocation. There are many other students moving onward and upward to new schools, colleges, universities, and the work force. To those many students who are graduating this June, congratulations. Have a safe and happy summer.

*Sue*

## ARE LAWN PESTICIDES BAD FOR KIDS?

Now that spring is here, it is the perfect time to think about the consequences of using chemicals on our lawns.

The use of pesticides to control weeds and pests has become widespread. Many people use these chemicals because their neighbours do without thoroughly checking out the pros and cons and without examining their options.

Most people tell themselves that pesticides would not be available if they were not safe. They are wrong. Pesticides are poison, or they would not kill.

Of the 36 most commonly used lawn pesticides: 13 can cause cancer, 14 can cause birth defects, 11 reproductive effects, 21 can damage the nervous system, 15 can injure the liver or kidneys, and 30 are sensitizers or irritants.

The worst affected are our children! Childhood brain cancer, childhood leukemia and soft tissue sarcomas are associated with homes that use pesticides. According to the Journal of the National Cancer Institute in the U.S., the risk of developing leukemia is increased 6.5 times in children in homes where pesticides are used. Furthermore, exposure to chemicals can cause permanent damage to their tiny developing organs and nervous systems.

The current methods for determining exposure risks are based on the average human adult male, but infants and children differ from adults in their ability to deal with these toxic chemicals. Pound for pound of body weight, children eat more, drink more, and breathe more air. Children's hand-to-mouth behaviour increases their ingestion of toxins, and their proximity to the ground increases their exposure to chemicals in the soil, on lawns, in carpets, and in low-lying layers of vapour that result from some pesticides.

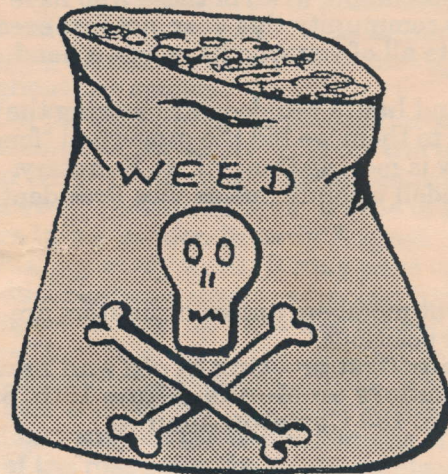
Pesticides are dangerous to pets and wildlife as well. The incidence of lymphoma in dogs whose owners used pesticides was twice as high, according to a study reported in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

Weeds and insects are a part of a healthy environment, and should not be viewed as enemies. If you still cannot stand the sight of dandelions on your lawn, look for organic alternatives to pesticides. There are companies that use environmentally friendly methods to control weeds, you just have to look in your yellow pages.

Remember you are not only spraying your lawn, you are exposing your family, your pets, and your neighbours and their children to pesticides.

Information courtesy of the Sierra Club of Canada. For more information about pesticides or if you want to help make Champlain Park a pesticide free zone call Adrienne Scott 728-0337 or Don Monet 728-1750.

Don't kill our neighbourhood!



## "Presidential Prose" Lynne Bankier, incoming President

Ten years ago, when our first child was one year old, my husband and I decided we needed a house larger than our small row house in Ottawa South. We were very attached to the Ottawa South neighbourhood, as I had lived there as a child, Mike had lived there as a university student, and we had lived together there since we'd met. That's a lot of attachment. However, when we began our search for a new home, we just couldn't find the right house in the old neighbourhood. So we pulled up our roots and moved here, to Champlain Park. We've never regretted the decision.

This small neighbourhood has a very large sense of community, almost a "small town" atmosphere. The field house, park, and pool give us a central focus, and the well-defined boundaries give the neighbourhood a "cosy" feel. It seems easy to meet one's neighbours. All this is, I suppose, an explanation of my motivation for joining the executive as president. I think this is a neighbourhood worth working for.

I "got my feet wet", so to speak, this year, thanks to Amy Kempster, who offered up a menu of community things that needed some attention. From the "smorgasbord", I chose to represent our community at the Zoning Hearings, and also had some involvement with the Community Before Cars Coalition's efforts to oppose the building of a Third Lane on the Champlain Bridge. I also had the pleasure of working with Michael Cheng as a Neighbourhood Watch Block Captain. This may sound rather like a "community work resume", but my reasons for recounting this are twofold. The first, of course, is to let you know a little bit about me. But the second, and more important reason, is to give you a flavour of the kind of things that one can do to become involved in the community. Aside from these "issue-oriented" activities, there are also "events" that need to be organized and manned by volunteers, such as the annual Winterfest and Halloween party, not to mention the annual membership canvas and delivering the newsletter. Each person doing a little bit adds up to a lot of help in improving the quality of life in Champlain Park.

Which brings me to the last (but not least) point in this column. I want to extend thanks, on behalf of the Community Association, to all of those who have worked for the community this year, not just executive members, but to all of you who have lent a hand.

Tim Frank and Laura Muldoon are leaving the executive, and to them we bid the proverbial "fond farewell". Amy is moving from V.P. to Secretary. Elizabeth Mundell is joining us as Vice President.

### Welcome!

All other current members and co-ordinators are retaining their positions.

**We'll have our first meeting of old and new executive members on Monday, June 16th, 8:30 P.M., my house, 183 Carleton Avenue.**

## AMY'S CORNER

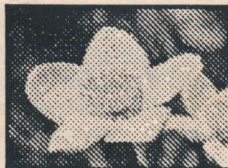
Amy Kempster 722-6039

This column will be a little different from my usual one. There are various items which will come before Regional and City Council in June but as yet, either the dates are not yet known, or the time for input has passed. These are discussed next. Watch the city ads on Fridays for the announcement of meetings which should inform us when the traffic calming plan will come before the Committee. If you are unhappy with the plan that will be your chance for input. I believe that, until measures are taken on Island Park Drive, only the two speed humps on Clearview between Cowley and Carleton are necessary at this time. Since we have no Regional Road in our community the meetings on this at the Region are of less interest. The Regional Official Plan will be discussed by Committees and the Zoning By-law by the city but the public hearings on these have now taken place. The NOSS study (Natural Open Spaces Study) may come before the city committee; again watch the ads on Fridays. Advertisements have been placed for persons wishing to be on the Citizens' Panel on Restructuring. Community Before Cars still needs to raise money to pay the lawyers.

I would like to take this opportunity to talk about what each of us can do to improve the quality of life in our community. Firstly, since we did not have a community clean-up this year, let me suggest that if we go for a walk we take along gloves and a garbage bag to pick up any litter we pass. Secondly, please let us remember to scoop the poop of our dogs in the park, near the water or on the paths through the woods. By the way beware of the poison ivy in the woods, your dog may pick it up. Thirdly, let us consider our own car driving in the community. Streets are for people as well as cars and there should be no need to travel at speeds over 40 kilometers an hour within our community. There are now a lot of younger children in the area and caution should be your watchword, particularly near the park. Fourthly, could we all reduce our use of our cars? Combine trips, take the bus, carpool, use our bikes, etc. Reducing carbon dioxide emissions is a goal of the city because of the effects on global warming of these emissions from cars. If each of us tries to reduce our use of our cars we can help to reduce these emissions.

Finally a suggestion to the avid gardeners in the area. The city has a program encouraging the naturalization of parks and perhaps we could look at the Clearview/Cowley corner of our park as a spot where we could add some wild flowers or perennial to reduce the grass that needs to be cut and beautify that corner. Perhaps this is a project the garden club might sponsor.

### NATURE CORNER



These lovely little yellow flowers show up along the road side in clusters, where there's water. You'll also find them in marshy areas. They sure add colour to the woods.

Last month's answer: Pussywillows

# JUNE/97

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</i></p> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Fly Fishing 7:00 p.m</i></p>	4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Children's Step Dancing 4 to 5:30 p.m.</p>	6 <b>BLUE BOX</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hintonburg Community Day</b></p>

8	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</i></p> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> <p>Fly Tying 9:00 p.m</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Garden Club Meeting 7pm</p>	11	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>12</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Children's Step Dancing 4 to 5:30 p.m.</p>	13 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>14</b></p> <p>Hilson Ave. School Flea Market and barbecue from 10:00 to 4:00</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Westboro Day</i></p>
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15	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>16</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>17</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Fly Fishing 7:00 p.m</i></p>	18	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>19</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Children's Step Dancing 4 to 5:30 p.m.</p>	20 <b>BLUE BOX</b>	21
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22	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>23</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 p.m.</i></p> <p>Fly Tying 9:00 p.m</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>24</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p>	25	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>26</b></p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.</p>	27 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE</b>	28
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# JULY/97

29	30	1	2	3	4	5 <b>BLUE BOX</b>
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\*\*\*Playgroup will run every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
 \*\*\*Children's Step Dancing 4 to 5:30 p.m. for 12 weeks, April 3 to Jun 19, 1997.

TO ADD ITEMS NEXT  
MONTH - CALL 729-5439

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Local Teens Interested in Work:

Tom Arnason 729-6639 Yard Chores  
Rachelle 722-6303 Babysitting  
Jessica 728-8413 Babysitting  
Sarah 722-2687 Babysitting  
Paul Ratsch 728-2583 Yard Chores  
Rory Taylor 798-0036 Yard Chores

## **The Champlain Park Garden Club Meeting**

*Tuesday, June 10, 1997.* learn hands on with Cheryl Evens in this 2 hr workshop on Rustic Furniture.

**Flea market and barbecue** June 14, 1997 at Hilson Ave. School from 10:00 till 4:00

**Children's Step Dancing** started April 3 and will run 12 wks every Thursday 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Fieldhouse. Call 728-7881 for information.

**Becky Rynor and Don Monet** would like to announce the birth of Augusta on March 17, 1997, a sister for Emma. *Sorry we had the wrong date.*

## **Champlain Park Garden Club Extra Saturday, June 14, 1997**

Join us as we tour Dogwood Farms, the gardens of Audrey Bloedow,. Her incredible Iris display and meadow of perennials are a visual delight. The tour starts at 10:00 am. Maps will be available at the June meeting.

## **Hintonburg Community Day**

June 7, 1997

## **Westboro Day**

June 14, 1997

## **Charity Street Sale 1200 Wellington**

June 14, 1997

## **JUNE IS ADOPT A CAT MONTH**

### *Cat Adopt-A-Thon*

Date: Saturday, June 14th

Time: 10 am - 7:30 pm

Location: 101 Champagne Avenue South, Ottawa

If you are looking for a feline friend, young or old come on in. Volunteers will be available to assist you, provide information on responsible pet ownership and you and your new feline friend may even win one of our door prizes. See you soon!

### **Feline Adoption Fees:**

\$65 (already spayed/neutered) or

\$90 (with spay/neuter voucher)

## **Books, Books and more Books...**

The Friends of the National Library of Canada are busy collecting used books of any kind to sell at their upcoming Third Annual Giant Used Book Sale scheduled for October 3, 4 and 5 at the Carlingwood Mall.

Last year's sale was a tremendous success raising money to add to the valuable collection of the National Library of Canada.

The Friends need your help to make this sale even bigger. Your used books, of any kind, are needed. The following convenient locations are waiting to receive them. Please drop some by **TODAY!**

Prospero Books  
Carlingwood Mall

Smith Books  
240 Sparks Street

## **The Children's Aid Society of Ottawa-**

**Carleton** is looking for foster and adoptive parents to help teenagers who are separated from their families. Please call Sharon Moran at 747-7800 ext 2071

## **Malaika**

benefit concert for  
English Language Tutoring of Ottawa-Carleton  
(ELTOC)

Saturday, June 14, 8:00 p.m.

at the Bronson Centre  
(formerly Immaculata High School)  
211 Bronson Ave.,

Tickets: \$10.00 available by calling 232-8566