As summer approaches, everyone’s gardens are bursting with color! Maximize your enjoyment this summer and join us on the 6th annual “Treasured Garden Tour”. We will tour 4 Fredericton area gardens and then finish the day with a garden party at the Botanic Garden complete with live entertainment by the Don Bosse Jazz Quartet, refreshments and fancy sandwiches, desserts, and guided tours of the Fredericton Botanic Garden. Tour the private gardens from 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm and then join us at the Botanic Garden between 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm for an old fashioned Garden Party.

If you are interested in attending the Garden Tour, the tickets are $15.00 each and will be on sale June 14, 2004 at Westminster Books, Trites Flower Shop, Main Street Floral Gallery, Botinicals, and Green Village Garden Center. Please pay with cash or check only. All proceeds go towards future development of the Fredericton Botanic Gardens.

The organizing committee has been hard at work making the initial arrangements. We would like to invite the membership to participate in this upcoming event. A meeting will be held at 7:00pm, Wednesday June 30, at the Resource Center to co-ordinate volunteer activity and to finalize the day’s activities. If you can volunteer to help out in any of the following areas please attend the meeting or contact us:

- Information Officers at the host gardens (at least 8 individuals)
- Set-up activities at the Botanic Garden (raising large tents, set up tables etc.)
- Servers for the afternoon garden party (at least 10)
- Clean up at the Botanic Garden
- Food donations- sweets, sandwiches, and
fresh fruit and vegetables
- Individuals to help in the preparation of the food platters and punch
- Donations of fresh cut flowers for arrangements

For all of those helping out on the day of the tour, a pre-tour of the four gardens will take place during the week of July 5, 2004. All those working on the day of the tour will be able to enjoy the “Treasured Gardens” in advance as a special treat at no charge.

Please attend the next meeting or call Andrew at 450-3388 to register as a “Garden Party Volunteer”. Everyone on the registered list will be invited to the pre-tour as a special thank-you.

You may contact Andrew Lawson at 450-3388 or alawson@greenvillage.net if you require additional information or wish to help out.

Thank you for your continued support.

Andrew Lawson
Committee Chair

2004 Plant Sale and Raffle a Success

Thanks to the help of the membership and the generous support from local, regional and national business our Spring Plant Sale and Raffle was another great success! The final figures are not in yet, but we are anticipating net profit of approximately $14,000. The weather again this year was cold and cloudy, but we were blessed with a large number of regular customers whom the Sale has become a yearly, not to miss, event. We were delighted with the number of out of town visitors as well as the number of locals. Your co-chairs Bill Hall and Bill Seabrook would like to thank most sincerely all the volunteers who donated so generously of their time. In particular we would like to recognize Miriam Sifton who ran the raffle and Jim Nicholson and his crew who took care of the potting up of the plants. Thanks to all!

Peonies have been late this year, but they put on a wonderful show anyway.

The Canadian Peony Society held their 7th Annual Peony Show at Rideau Hall in Ottawa as guests of Hon. Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada on Saturday June 19. It was be a magnificent display of several species of peony, including the fernleaf peony, herbaceous peonies and tree peonies.

The Canadian Peony Society publishes an informative Newsletter and holds root and seed exchanges and sales every year. Several nurseries specialise in peonies and one of the best is La Pivoinerie D’Aoust in Hudson Heights, Quebec (www.paeonia.com).

Peonies should be divided and transplanted in the fall when the foliage has died down and the new buds are dormant.

Did you know that Dr William Saunders, the developer of “Marquis” wheat was the father of Percy Saunders, a peony breeder. One of Percy Saunders’ introductions, “Montezuma”, has a beautiful single red flower with a yellow centre and blooms happily in my garden in Fredericton.

A new book published by Timber Press (www.timberpress.com) is a great addition to our knowledge of this hary plant and is getting raw reviews from Europe to Australia:

This fall, why not plant some new peonies in your garden and enjoy this tough, hardy plant. Peonies like full sun and require little fertilizing or after-care. They will reward you with a wonderful fragrant show in June next year.

Jane Seabrook

Welcome new members

Ann Dunn  Bonnie Roddy  Catharine Sharp
Donna Leggatt  Gail Allaby  Jill Bateman
Julie Audette  Madeleine Ly  Margaret Wicken
Marjorie Chalifour  Michelle Lafrance
Sandra Byers  Philip & Melanie Duchastel
Yolande Gagnon  Jill Fletcher
John Argall  Marie Claire Pitre
Notes from the FBGA Membership Committee:

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to the eight new members (in addition to twenty seven renewing members!) who joined (or rejoined) the Association during the Plant Sale. Thank you all for your support - it is much appreciated. The raffle prize for a new member, a basket filled with items of appeal to a gardener, was won by Gail Allaby, and the raffle prize for a renewing member, a second filled basket, was won by long time member Jim Nicholson.

Congratulations to both! We hope that the new members will take full advantage of the many benefits of membership in FBGA (listed elsewhere in this Newsletter - and including a new outlet offering 10% discount - Kent’s Building Supplies’ garden centre). Many membership forms were handed out (along with the map of the layout of the Plant Sale), and we hope we can welcome more new members as a result over the coming weeks as the forms are mailed in. If you have recently received a renewal reminder in the mail, please do not forget to send it in right away, or if your prefer, you could renew at the Treasured Garden tour.

New this year at the Plant Sale was a small gift Boutique area. For those who did not see it in the Membership area at the Plant Sale, the items will be displayed again in the Entrance Garden during the Treasured Garden Tour’s Garden Party, and at other events in future.

Be sure to visit us!!!

CUT OUT THE TOP PORTION AND INCLUDE IT IN THE BIRTHDAY CARD; SEND THE BOTTOM PORTION TO FBGA
Découpez la partie supérieure et l'adjoindre à la carte de fête; postez la partie inférieure à l'Association du jardin botanique de
Summer in the Garden

Richard Tarn
Site Development Committee

The spring bulbs, mostly daffodils, nodding their golden heads in groups in several parts of the Garden were a welcome addition to our spring garden. They were followed by a magnificent display of lilacs, probably our best so far, and then the rhododendrons. The latter, with vibrant colours and sweet scents, and always beautiful against their background of evergreens, had less bloom than last year, perhaps because of the difficult winter.

Some of our volunteers have also been busy improving the appearance of some of the beds. Joe Harrison's group has again been working on the three beds along the lower part of the road and has now gained good control of the weeds that had invaded them. We welcome this volunteer effort. If you would like to help with these or other jobs, please contact me at 450-8885, or leave a message at the Garden Centre (452-9269).

Our student staff this summer are Chelsey Burns, Cory Mallory and Melissa Macpherson. We acknowledge the NB SEED program and the federal SCP program for grants towards paying our students. They are working with City employee Danica Logan and all report to Jeff Graham, Parks and Trees Division, Fredericton Community Services Department. Please welcome them when you see them.

Primulas and hostas are among the plants now establishing themselves in the Hal Hinds Memorial Garden, created last year by a volunteer group under the leadership of Brian Parker. This special garden also includes some more uncommon shade plants which we'll write about in the future. In the meantime, we plan to have the material in this garden named.

The pond below Hal's garden, is full of attractions and never dull. An occasional stop for visiting ducks, it has a noisy population of frogs and soon will be home base for several species of dragonflies. Towards the end of summer we expect to further enlarge the pond to pick up additional water that keeps the ground higher up the hill very wet in most years.

The re-aligned upper section of the road now has a topping of crusher dust to provide a much easier walk up and down the hill that before. Changes in the lower part of the road will be made this fall. Also coming later this year is new and improved signage. This includes a new location sign on Prospect Street that will feature our new logo, and new direction signs and interpretive signs in the Garden. The interpretive signs will include text in English and French and images, and follow the standard used by the City of Fredericton on the Trail System.