

January
2024

photo: Carol Mathison



GEORGETOWN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Hello January,
Welcome to 2024!

I hope that you are snuggled away somewhere warm and comfortable . . . away from the rain/snow mix that we have been experiencing for the past few days. I do miss the sunshine, no matter what the temperatures are outside. As I write this message, we are about seventy days to spring time. Here in the Northern Hemisphere, spring is March 19th to June 20th, 2024. Is it too soon to think of spring??? To brighten the duller days of winter, I have been looking at a few websites, starting with ours. The GHS website has had a 2024 beautiful and informative update. **Thank you**, Sandra Williamson. The website is colourful, easy to use, and best yet. . . . full of sources and resources. (Sandra also produces our yearbook. Now is the time to renew your 2024 membership if you have not already done so and received your yearbook.)

At our 2024 AGM in February, we will be welcoming Carol Zarb to the Executive group. Thanks Carol! Your GHS executive have been busy planning events, speakers and workshops for the year ahead, but there are still a few committees that need a few more volunteers and a few more ideas for the New year!

Wishing all of our GHS members and gardening community a joyful, healthy and Happy New Year!
Let's keep in touch.

-Carol Mathison

Next Meeting-Tuesday, January 16, 2024

St. John's Church, 11 Guelph St. Georgetown

"Insects in the Garden- Ecological Stars"

-Don Scallen



Don Scallen has spent much of his life outdoors, seeking knowledge about the surprising diversity of plants and animals found in southern Ontario. He is a nature writer for In The Hills. He also writes for ON Nature magazine, published by Ontario Nature. He is the author of the book *Nature Where We Live*.

January Photo Contest



These are the categories for the Photo Contest at the
January meeting-
Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

Class A- Early Arrivals in My Garden

Class B- My Native Plants

Class C- Favourite Visitor to My Garden

Class D- Bright Coloured Flowers and Foliage

Class E- Sudden Weather Changes- i.e. snow, frost, rain

Class F- Special House Plant

Complete details in yearbook

Yearbook Correction

Class F- should read Special House Plant

Seedy Saturday

Join us at the Georgetown Library Branch for our first Seedy Saturday! There will be a variety of drop-in seed-inspired activities for all ages, as well as workshops (registration required) that will inspire you to start thinking about your spring gardening plans. Our first seeds of 2024 will be available to browse at the Seed Library, including peppers, tomatoes, onions, and a selection of early sow herbs and flowers.

Workshops: Planning Your Food Garden with Seed Saving in Mind and
Winter Sowing: Upcycling Plastic to Get a Jump on Spring! Please register early. Join us for Seedy Saturday!

Georgetown Branch
Saturday, January 27
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



December Meeting

Last month, GHS members enjoyed creating holiday floral arrangements led by Cat McGill. Here are a few photos of everyone busy at work and some final designs.





Flamborough Horticultural Society

Invites you to bring your mug and join us for the

District 6 Spring Breakfast

Saturday February 24, 2024

At St. Thomas the Apostle Church,

rear Parish Hall

715 Centre Rd Waterdown

(North of Parkside Dr.)

Doors open at 8:00 am

Register at flamhort@hotmail.com

Guest Speaker: Darrell Bley

Winner of the Outstanding Educator of the Year for 2020

Topic: The Coniferous Forests of Canada



A Day in the Garden:

Garden to table: Planting and Harvesting Together

FRESH FOOD. HOW AND NOW!



Mike Smith
Planning a successful
community garden



Amy Bowen
Sustainable food
production



Stephen Biggs
Edible garden
makeover

Sunday, Feb 25th, 2024

8:30am - 3:00pm

Victoria Park East Golf Club

1096 Victoria Rd South,

Puslinch, ON

- **\$70 early bird ticket price**
- **Breakfast and lunch**
- **Vendors and door prizes**



Buy tickets on Eventbrite

www.gwmastergardeners.com

6 CEUs



Judges' Council



How to Ensure You are Writing a Good Schedule

Session 1 - General Rules and Horticulture Division
Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 7 pm on ZOOM

Session 2 - Special Exhibits and Design Divisions
Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 7 pm on ZOOM



Sessions are open to all judges, schedule writers, exhibitors and anyone interested in schedule writing.

Registration is required to receive the Zoom link and handouts.

*Register with Elizabeth Schleicher at:

roses4me@sympatico.ca to receive the ZOOM link and

copy Marie at ***mardecker12@gmail.com*** to receive the two printed hand-outs that accompany Session 1.

Time for Renewal

Our membership year is from January 2024 to December 2024.

You can renew by any of these methods;

-at our meeting

-by mail to Georgetown Horticultural Society, P.O. Box 74016, Marketplace P.O., Georgetown , ON L7G 5L1

-drop off a cheque to Christine Williams 7 William St. Georgetown

-Interac e-transfer to gehort2020@gmail.com

Single-\$15

Family-\$20

Senior-\$10

Senior Family-\$15



Yearbooks will be given out at meeting when re-registering.



All of the events that the Georgetown Horticultural Society host involve hours of planning. We would not be able to offer any of these activities without our volunteers. Many hands make light work, and the GHS is always looking for help. If you are interested in volunteering for a few hours for an event or on a committee, please reach out to any of our Board members.

We are currently looking for a few volunteers for the following committees for 2024:

Gardens Coordinator-**New Position** Members will meet weekly at Tims and then work on one of the three gardens that the GHS maintains

Flower Show convenors for May &/or June &/or September

Plant sale Silent Auction

