



February  
2023

# GEORGETOWN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

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### President's Message

Hello February,

For the shortest month in the calendar year, it sometimes seems like the longest! Probably it is that anticipation of spring just around the corner as I am reminded the countdown has begun. Just six more weeks until spring. So what are you doing to get rid of those winter blahs? To be honest, I am not one to embrace the cold weather and outdoor sports. On a clear, bright day though, I do like a long walk in the forest or snowshoeing on local trails. That beauty I can enjoy. Recently, a friend sent me a Zoom link to a presentation on "Winter Sowing". Happily, I joined in as it looked really interesting. The title of the Zoom meeting went something like "How to Start Seeds Outdoors in Ontario, in February, When It Is Minus 20!" There were many benefits discussed such as this is a good method if the seeds need stratification, or if you are space challenged or maybe it is just a good way to use up all those plastic water and milk jugs. They called it winter sowing but it is really sowing seeds in clear, closed but ventilated containers that can act as mini greenhouse. With the seeds sown, the jug is placed outdoors to experience all that winter has to offer. The seeds will remain dormant until the weather improves (heat and light) and that triggers germination. The presenter was using organic seeds but with all the Seedy Saturdays and seed exchanges posted on social media, it looks like a fun trial and maybe a way to save money too. If you happen to have too many plants (silly, who ever has too many plants?) you can always donate to our plant sale in May. Let's keep in touch.

-Carol Mathison

**Meeting- February 15, 7:30 PM**  
**Norval United Church - 14015 Danby Rd.**

**"Top Plants for Pollinators"**

**-Melissa Creasey**



Pollinators help plants to bloom and thrive. Join Credit Valley Conservation's Melissa Creasey to learn more about the best native flowers, trees and other plants you can grow in your backyard to support butterflies, bees and other pollinators. Learn to create beautiful, healthy habitats even in the smallest spaces.

With a Master of Science, Melissa has researched songbird ecology and conservation in Ontario. As the Coordinator for the Sustainable Home Landscapes at Credit Valley Conservation, Melissa connects people with the plants and animals found in their backyards. While helping them to create healthy, climate-resilient landscapes.

## In Memoriam

Hugh Tomkinson

January 2023

Hugh, a Life Member, was involved in GHS photography contests in the past both as an entrant and as a coordinator.

He will be missed.

## 2023 Plant Sale

This year's Plant Sale will be held on **Friday, May 11th, 2023, 6 pm to 8 pm.**

Gellert Community Centre

Here is your opportunity to assist us by participating in our main fundraiser of the year. This provides our meeting place rental, monthly speers, workshops, maintaining community gardens and donating to the library.

Be a part of this worthwhile cause through the following means:

- VOLUNTEER Sheets-Sign up for various tasks. They will be located on the side table near the membership table. There are two pages: **Before Sale duties** and **Day of Sale Duties**.
- DONATIONS for Silent Auction- Through business and family connections.
- CHAIRPERSON to oversee Silent Auction and canvassing.
- PLASTIC WINDOW BLINDS to be used as plant labels.
- POTS- 5 inch (1 gal) size, square preferred.
- PLANT MATERIALS- What do you have in your gardens? What better thing is there to think about during the cold weather!

Please send replies to Plant Sale Chairpersons  
Mary Megelink- [mary.megelink@sympatico.ca](mailto:mary.megelink@sympatico.ca)  
Cheryl Strachan-[healthyessentials@sympatico.ca](mailto:healthyessentials@sympatico.ca)





# Oakville Horticultural Society

Presents

## "We Lived the Garden Life!"

### OHA District 6 AGM and Flower Show

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Doors open at 8 am for flower show entries

Business meeting: 9:15 am



Sir John Colborne Centre  
Southeast Corner of Lakeshore Blvd. and Third Line  
1565 Old Lakeshore Rd., Oakville L6K 1S8

Speaker - Catherine Kavassalis

"The serious impact of invasive plants in gardens and flower shows"

Tickets - \$20 and prepaid - space is limited so purchase early  
Cheques made to "Ontario Horticultural Association District 6" and mailed to:  
Bob Heil at 56 Glen Cannon Dr., Stoney Creek L8G 4E1  
Etransfer to [ohadistrict6treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ohadistrict6treasurer@gmail.com) stating name, society and email address .

# Spring Container Workshop and Presentation

Double the Fun! A two part morning on Wednesday March 29th, 2023  
Join us at Red's for one or both parts...register now

At 10:00 am Walkers/AllTreat are presenting a talk about compost, environment, soil health etc. followed by a Q& A. They have an initiative to create awareness about these issues. I've been assured its an educational program, not a sales pitch.

At 11:00 am, you can create your spring and summer container(s). There is **no fee for members**, just the cost of your plant material. Non members fee is \$10.00 (this is an insurance requirement). Red's will keep your container(s) healthy and happy until they're ready for pick up in May.

## Location:

Red's Garden Centre  
12771 Highway 25,  
Acton, ON

## Material:

Bring your container(s) - or even buy one there  
Soil will be provided

A trowel

A large selection of plants will be available for you to choose from



## To Register contact

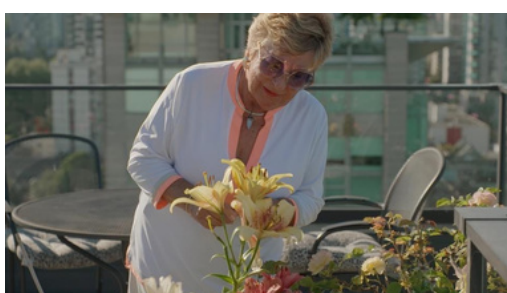
Lil Taggart, 416-809-9036 or [liltovey@hotmail.com](mailto:liltovey@hotmail.com)

## 2023 Garden Tour CANCELLED

Unfortunately, despite reaching out to our members through the newsletter and at our last meeting, we still do not have a coordinator(s) for the garden tour. As a result, we have to cancel this years tour. We are now looking for a coordinator(s) for 2024.

If you are interested, please contact Carol Mathison.

Season 4 of Ageless Gardens airs Mondays at 9pm ET starting Feb 13 through March 13.  
[visiontv.ca/shows/ageless-gardens](http://visiontv.ca/shows/ageless-gardens)





# Gardening World Records

Want to try something different? Feeling adventurous? Think you need some new gardening goals?

Maybe it is time to try to break some Guinness World Records for gardening.

Here is a list of some records you can try to beat.

- The largest garden is at Versailles, France created in the late 17th century for King Louis XIV. It covers 1,976 acres of which the formal garden covers 247 acres.
- The most awards won at national and international gardening shows is 1,135 medals achieved by Gartnerei Thommen (Switzerland) in gardening shows in Germany and Switzerland between 1980 and 2011.
- The longest flower box measures 3,996 ft 9.72 in and joins the villages of Unterretzbach and Mitterretzbach (both Austria), measured on 28 July 2010.
- The most blooms on a hellebore (Helleborus) plant is 66, as counted on 4 May 2006 on a plant grown by Anna Maclean in her garden in Richmond, Greater London, UK.
- The record for the floral arrangement with most types of different flowers is 1,010. Created on 21 July 2002 by 34 designers at Floridai, Vijfhuizen, The Netherlands.
- The most flowers picked up with the mouth in a contortion back bend in one minute is 21 and was achieved by Emerald Gordon Wulf (USA) in Milan, Italy on 21 February 2022.
- A Dahlia grown by R. Blythe of Nannup, Western Australia, in 1990, grew to a height of 25 ft 7 in.
- The most flower bulbs planted in one hour (individual) is 2,019 and was achieved by Steve Thorpe in Bradford, UK, on 27 October 2018.
- The largest garden gnome measures 25 ft 11 in tall and was created by Ron Hale. It was built in 1998 and measured for the record in 2009 in Nanoose, BC Canada.

## Time for Renewal

Our membership year is from January to December.

You can renew 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 geohort2020@gmail.com

Single-\$15

Family-\$20

Senior-\$10

Senior Family-\$15



# Georgetown Horticultural Society

## Financial Summary for 2022

Reviewed 26 Jan 2022

Income Statement 2022.			Balance Sheet 2022	
		Expense Income		
<b>Events</b>			Bank Balance	8,870
Plant Sale		1,017 5,336	Petty Cash	16
Yearbook		877 550	<b>Cash Assets</b>	<b>8,886</b>
Workshop		327 90		
Raffle		129 135	<b>Pre-Paid Assets</b>	<b>240</b>
Misc. Income		126	<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Other Income</b>			GIC	4,603
Provincial Grants		1,000	Jubilee GIC	2,178
Membership Dues		972	<b>Total GICs</b>	<b>6,782</b>
<b>Donations</b>			<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>16,308</b>
Fall Fair Awards	30			
<b>Other Events</b>			<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>
Speakers	2,157			
Flower Shows	865		<b>Equity</b>	
Christmas Meeting	195		GIC Interest	836
Gardens	680		Retained Earnings	16,428
			Net Income	- 956
<b>Operations</b>			<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>16,308</b>
Facilities and Equipment	1,798			
OHA Dues and Fees	877			
Operations	213			
<b>Totals</b>		<b>9,166 8,209</b>		