



January  
2023

# GEORGETOWN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

---

### President's Message

Hello January, Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone has enjoyed a happy holiday season with family and friends. I wish you all a very happy, healthy and safe New Year 2023.

As we start this New Year, we are still navigating several health concerns and viruses in the province, but we are gardeners...we can adapt.

Your GHS executive has been working to bring a full calendar of events back to the group. I am looking forward to the photo contest at the January meeting (details on page 21 of the 2022 Yearbook) and speaker on the subject of houseplants. I started collecting houseplants when I was away at school in my youth. It was wonderful to come home to a welcoming green space and it kept me connected to nature, even in a large city and even in the winter. So now we fast forward to current media that supports "Clean air is just a houseplant away!" One of the healthiest things that you can do for your home is fill it with houseplants. Not all houseplants are created equal, so I hope you will join us on January 18th.

In the past we have done surveys with our members. Today we are asking you, the members if there are any topics that you would like to see discussed. Please let us know by phone, email, or in person at the meetings. Always happy to chat!

Let's keep in touch.

-Carol Mathison

**Meeting- January 18 7:30 PM**  
**Norval United Church - 14015 Danby Rd.**

### "Houseplants"

-Cheryl Discenza



Cheryl Discenza lives in Georgetown, is a Halton Master Gardener and is a new entrepreneur. Cheryl worked in healthcare for 13 years before opening Foliage, a houseplant store located in downtown Georgetown in March 2022. Specializing in tropical plants, succulents, cacti and other air plants, Cheryl's goal is to help every customer find the right plant for their space. Along with houseplants, Cheryl has a passion for native wildflowers and carries Ontario native plant seeds, to help provide and encourage her community to add native plants to their gardens. Cheryl will discuss how she opened Foliage, perform a repotting demonstration and share a few tips on keeping our houseplants happy and thriving.

## Photo Contest- January 18, 2023

- Class A- Winter Garden
- Class B- Climbing All Over
- Class C- My favourite Hosta
- Class D- Garden Buddies
- Class E- Up Close
- Class F- Garden Party



See Yearbook for contest rules and regulations.



We have the following positions available. We need volunteers in order for these events to continue. Please consider volunteering and contact Carol for further information.

- Garden Tour Coordinator(s)
- Summer/Fall Show Convenors

### Looking for Seeds?

The Canadian Seed Catalogue Index lists all the seed companies in Canada. View the list by following this link.

<https://seeds.ca/diversity/seed-catalogue-index/>





# DISTRICT SIX SPRING BREAKFAST MEETING

HOSTED BY  
**BRANTFORD GARDEN CLUB**

(BRANTFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY)  
171 years and growing!

**FAIRVIEW UNITED CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTRE**

49 WAYNE DRIVE, BRANTFORD, ON

1 block north & east of Highway 403 & King George Rd (Hwy 24)

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023**

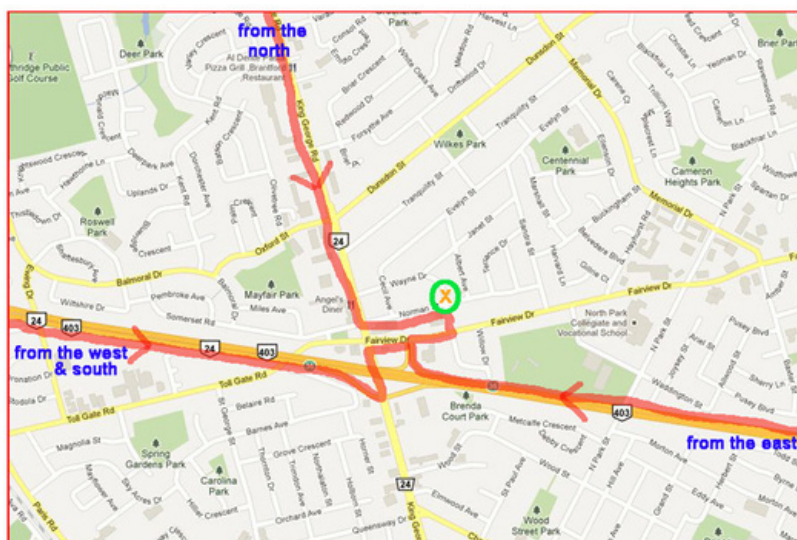
Doors open at 8AM for breakfast refreshments.

Meeting starts at 9AM 'til approx 12 noon

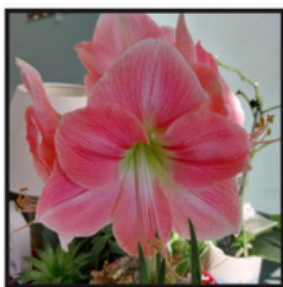
**Limited seating: email your **RSVP** by **Feb 1** to [robin.brennan234@gmail.com](mailto:robin.brennan234@gmail.com)**

**GUEST SPEAKER: DIANE HUTCHINSON**

of Walter's Greenhouse & Garden Centre







Submitted by Penny Stewart

## *Christmas is over. Your beautiful Amaryllis bulb is nothing but green leaves. Can you make it rebloom? Yes! You can.*

Taken from articles written by Paul Pietsch, Lanark County Master Gardeners (with his permission) and notes from Linda Bartlett.

**Reblooming Amaryllis –a worthy challenge!** Strange how Amaryllis always shows up around Christmas. With built-in clocks and mechanisms, these bulbs can easily be available to flower any time of the year. Bar none, these are the easiest plants to flower...and showy flowers they are!

Amaryllis are available at almost any big box store or grocery store in colours of red, pink, white, and combinations of all three. If you want some unusual varieties or extra-large bulbs, the best place to purchase them is at the local floral shops or garden centres.

Amaryllis are well worth the investment, especially if you intend to reflower them, and they are worth the challenge.

By now, your Amaryllis have finished flowering or possibly still have a few more blooms, but the leaves have started to grow. Remove the faded petals leaving the green stock as this contains chlorophyll.

This greenery will now begin to replenish the bulb so it can flower again. Water the bulb every second week and fertilize with a water-soluble fertilizer (30-30-30) with each watering. The amount of fertilizer to use is less than a quarter of the suggested amount because you are applying it often.

Here is how you can determine when the Amaryllis will bloom again.

- ▶ The amount of time you keep the leaves green. As a guideline, two months is a good minimum.
- ▶ And the important part – dormancy. Where Amaryllis grow naturally there is a wet season and a dry season. They must have the dry season to reflower. To create this, stop watering. Let the leaves turn brown and die off. Again, the minimum dormant time is two months.

As I said earlier, you can determine when the bulb will rebloom by lengthening the leaf period and the dormancy period. When you decide it is time for the bulb to wake up, it will take two months for it to grow and bloom. Plant the bulb in a container without drainage holes that contains loose, well-draining soil, fill the pot three-quarters full with soil and place the bulb into the soil, until it almost covers the bulb, but leaves an inch of the bulb tip exposed. Water to make the soil moist. Let it dry a bit between watering. Fertilize once the leaves appear at less than a quarter the full strength. And voila you should get a new set of blooms. Often the leaves will come on first the second time around. Enjoy and repeat the process to get it to flower a third time!

**Note:** In recent years, you can purchase Waxed Amaryllis bulbs. They require little to no care and can produce multiple large blooms. They prefer cooler temperatures and grow best when kept indoors away from direct sunlight. Most people say that due to the nature of how they are prepared in wax and grown without water, soil or roots, waxed amaryllis are only good for one season. But a true gardener will experiment to see if they can get these bulbs to rebloom. It could be successful or not, but you will have to remove the spent blooms and wax around the bulb. Then plant the bulb in soil and treat it the same way as you would a regular bulb. Here are two videos on how to get a Waxed Amaryllis bulb to rebloom.

**Waxed Amaryllis bulbs, what to do after blooming** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lBB95ouaUH8>

**Waxed Amaryllis Update & Aftercare!** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDgYwyzalT8>



Submitted by Linda Bartlett

## 'Innovation'

Sandra Williamson

The Garden Club of Toronto  
Canada

Class 9 - 'Celebrating the Art of Nature'



Sandra Williamson entered this arrangement in an event in December that won.

## Upcoming Events

**SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY**  
**ORCHID SHOW & SALE**  
 Toronto Botanical Garden  
**FEBRUARY**  
**11 & 12, 2023**  
**SAT & SUN 11-4**  
**General Admission:**  
**\$10.00**



*Celebrating the Fringe*

**soos.ca**

**Climate Action ... Climate Action ... Climate Action**

**The Seeds of Vandana Shiva**  
 A film by Camilla Becket and James Becket

**Halton Hills Eco Film Fest**

**Wednesday, January 25 at 7 p.m.**  
 John Elliott Theatre, 9 Church St, Georgetown, ON

Tells the remarkable life story of Gandhian eco-activist Dr. Vandana Shiva, how she stood up to the corporate Goliaths of industrial agriculture, rose to prominence in the regenerative food movement, and inspired an international crusade for change.

**The Issues**

- Food And Climate Change
- Industrial Agriculture
- Ecological/Regenerative Agriculture
- Biodiversity
- Seed
- Ecofeminism

**Adult Admission: \$10.00**  
**Student Admission: \$5.00**

Purchase tickets at the John Elliott Theatre Box Office or online at: [www.haltonhills.ca/theatre](http://www.haltonhills.ca/theatre)

**Climate Action ... Climate Action ... Climate Action**

## 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

