



# Georgetown Horticultural Society NEWSLETTER

September  
2026



[www.geohort.com](http://www.geohort.com)



[geohortnews@gmail.com](mailto:geohortnews@gmail.com)



Georgetown Horticultural Society(Ontario,Canada)

## President's Message

Hello September!

Welcome to late summer. August just seemed to slip away too quickly, and I am not quite ready for my autumn reset.

It's been a while since we met, but I was happy to see many gardening friends at our four Summer Socials. Thank you to GHS members Sandra, Dorota, Elza and Wendy for opening their gardens and sharing the beauty that they all have created. I also hope you found a new garden to explore or maybe a new garden centre. It is always a fun day out exploring. I did take a few photos this summer to put on my wish list for next year because there is always room for just one more plant!

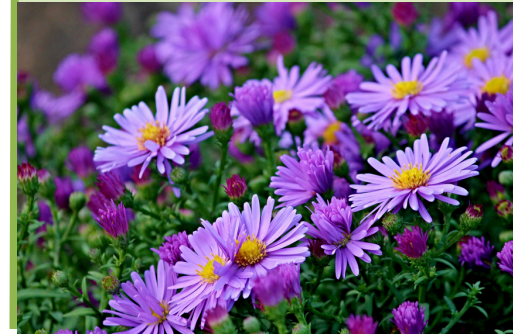
On Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, we will be resuming our monthly meetings at St. John's United Church with a speaker and the September Flower Show. Please check the flower show schedule on page 19 of the 2026 yearbook or the GHS website. I was away for a week or so recently, and when I returned, the gardens just seemed to explode with colour; a bit of a happy chaos. I wonder if there is a class for that in the September Flower Show.

Let's keep in touch.

-Carol Mathison

## In This Issue:

- President's Message
- Next Meeting
- Georgetown Fall Fair
- Monarchs in the Garden
- OHA District 6 Fall Meeting
- OHA Summer Newsletter
- Upcoming Events



**Next Meeting-September 16, 2026, 7:30 p.m.**

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



**Pat Vuurman**

**"Orchids"**

Pat has been growing orchids for over 30 years. He is knowledgeable about many types of orchids and has been a member of the Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens for many years. He is also an orchid judge.

179th Georgetown Fall Fair  
September 11, 12 & 13, 2026  
Theme: Bushels of Fun

**PLANTS AND FLOWERS - CLASS 24**

Convenor: Lucille Forth and Louise Milton – (519) 766-9674

**ENTRIES TO BE PLACED WEDNESDAY – from 4:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M. OR**

**THURSDAY – from 9:00 A.M. TO 11:30 A.M.**

**PRIZE MONEY:** 1st - \$4.00; 2nd - \$3.00; 3rd - \$2.00; unless otherwise stated.

**General Rules:**

- a. One entry per class is permitted
- b. All entries must be assembled before arrival at the Exhibit Hall
- c. The decision of the judge is final
- d. The show committee is not responsible for lost or broken containers
- e. All exhibits must be picked up on Sunday between 5:00-6:00 pm

**“PLANTS IN POTS”**

- All plants must be cared for by exhibitor for at least 3 months prior to the fair
- Plants must be potted at least 3 weeks prior to the fair
- No container to be larger than 30cm (12")
- No more than one plant per pot

**Sections 1-5**

1. Annual Geranium (Pelargonium), showing bloom
2. Succulent including Cacti, any species
3. Coleus, not over 45cm (18")
4. Any other species of potted plant not listed, grown for foliage
5. Any other species of potted plant not listed, grown for bloom

**“CUT FLOWERS”**

- No more, no less than the number of stems or blooms specified
- A bud showing colour is classed as a bloom
- Blooms should be of consistent size and the same colour, unless otherwise stated
- All blooms must be of the same variety or cultivar
- All stems, blooms or sprays should include attached leaves, unless otherwise stated
- Wedging is permitted
- Containers must be stable and not easily tipped

**Sections 6-29**

6. Coneflower (Echinacea), 3 blooms
7. Cosmos, 3 stems
8. Dahlia, under 10cm (4"), 1 stem
9. Dahlia, 10cm (4") and over, 1 stem
10. Gladiolus, 1 spike
11. Hardy mums (Chrysanthemum), 1 spray
12. Collection of Culinary Herbs, 5-7 different cultivars, named, 1 stem of each, shown in one container
13. Heuchera/Heucherella/Tiarella, 1 cultivar, in bloom, leaves not required, 3 stems
14. Marigold (Tagetes), double, over 7.5cm (3"), 3 stems
15. Marigold (Tagetes), single or double, under 5cm (2"), 3 stems
16. Nasturtiums (Tropaeolum majus), 3 blooms
17. Petunias, any variety - 3 sprays
18. Rose (Rosa), with own foliage, 1 specimen bloom
19. Rose (Rosa), with own foliage, 1 spray
20. Rudbeckia, 3 stems
21. Largest leaf, any variety, 1 stem

22. Snapdragons (Antirrhinum), one cultivar, 3 spikes
23. Sunflower (Helianthus), annual, leaves not required, 1 bloom
24. Tuberous Begonia, floating in a suitable bowl, 1 bloom, leaves not required
25. Zinnias, small flower not over 5cm (2"), 3 stems
26. Zinnias, large flower over 5cm (2"), 1 stem
27. Most unusual looking Flower or seed pod, 1 stem
28. Any other cultivar/variety/species not listed, growing Over 38cm (15"), 3 stems
29. Any other cultivar/variety/species not listed, growing Under 38cm (15"), 3 stems

**“DESIGN ARRANGEMENTS”**

- No artificial accessories, unless otherwise stated
- All arrangements must be under 38cm (15") in diameter
- Fresh material should be used unless otherwise stated

**Sections 30-40**

30. "Afternoon Tea", arrangement in a tea cup and saucer
  31. "Coffee with Friends" arrangement in a coffee mug
  32. Miniature arrangement no larger than 12.7cm (5")
  33. "Green with Envy" your interpretation
  34. "Lavender and Lace", shades of purple, mauve and white flowers, ribbon or lace may be used.
  35. Fun arrangement under 50cm (20") using all or part of fair theme. Up to 3 artificial accessories accepted - BASED ON FAIR ANNUAL THEME
  36. "Sweeter than Wine", any species of flowers in a wine bottle, under 64cm (25")
  37. "Tea for Two", a small arrangement, under 25cm (10"), in a small tea pot
  38. "Treasures from the Wild", use any or all of the following: foliage, berries, small branches, grasses, grains or leaves. No flowers.
  39. Arrangement made in a hollowed-out vegetable
  40. "Memories", an arrangement using a recycled container, with a one-line caption or small picture
- JUDGE'S SPECIAL #1:** \$25.00 donated by the Georgetown Horticultural Society for the Best Specimen in "Plant in a Pot" or "Cut Flowers" classes, plus a rosette
- JUDGE'S SPECIAL #2:** \$25.00 donated in memory of Jessie Milton for the Best Amateur Design as chosen by the judge, plus a rosette
- DIRECTOR'S SPECIAL:** Best entry chosen by the director to receive a rosette.

# Monarchs in the Garden

-submitted by Dianne Kayess

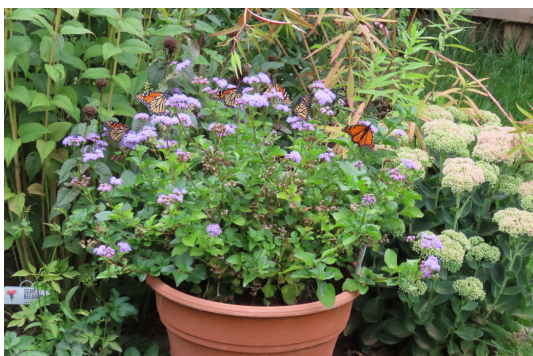
Nothing is more delightful than a beautiful Monarch butterfly visiting your garden. Early September, the Monarchs begin the long trek to Mexico where they will overwinter. There are many plants you can grow that will invite them to stop and spend some time in your garden. Native plants are a good place to start. The following are some of the beneficial plants that support the Monarch as well as the caterpillar.



- Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)  
Early summer nectar source.
- Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)  
Preferred variety of milkweed.
- Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)  
Flowers attract adults and caterpillars eat leaves.
- Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepius tuberosa*)  
Small milkweed that adults and caterpillars love.
- Dense Blazing-star (*Liatris spicata*)  
Midsummer nectar source.
- New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)  
Late summer blooms are a favourite nectar source.
- Pale Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*)  
Another late summer nectar source.
- Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.)  
An important nectar source for migrating Monarchs.

A non-native annual flower that draws in hords of Monarchs is Proven Winners Monarch Magic (*Ageratum houstonianum*).

With the exception of Common Milkweed, I have all these plants in my garden. There has been as many as six Monarchs on this pot of *Ageratum* pictured below. This summer, I have had many Monarch visitors including one this week that has a micro-transmitter and I am able to track him on the Project Monarch App. (RMT26003). In five days he has flown from Toronto, where he was released to Chicago. I hope everyone considers adding a Monarch-friendly habitat for this at risk species.



-photos by Dianne Kayess

# OHA District 6 Fall Meeting

## Sunday, October 25, 2026

### Hosted by Stoney Creek Garden Club & Horticultural Society

### celebrating 100 Years

10:00 am TO 3:00 pm (doors open at 9:00 am)

Winona Vine Estates, 267 Glover Road, Stoney Creek

**OCTOBER 15 is the DEADLINE for  
PRE-REGISTRATION: \$50.00 each**

- Morning refreshments,
- Delicious luncheon,
- Live caricaturist - complimentary portraits,
- 100 Years of our Society - historical displays,
- OHA District 6 Updates, News, Changes,
- OHA District 6 Share-the-Wealth & Penny Sale,
- Special Prize Draws hosted by Stoney Creek,
- SWAG gift for every attendee,
- Bring cash

**EACH register and pay by Oct 15**

**Click this LINK to Register each  
one or use the QR Code below**



QR Code to Register

**MENU:** coffee, tea, juices; muffins; Danish; croissants; rolls; salad; penne; chicken; sausage; potatoes; pastries; soft drinks.

### FEATURED SPEAKER



**Paul LaPorte,**

**Owner Ephemeral Ark Nursery.**

**One of Ontario's leading advocates for native plants and ecological gardening, Paul's presentations on Ontario's native woodland plants, biodiversity, and ecological restoration are engaging, informative, and inspiring.**

**QUESTIONS: Contact**

**Bob Heil, bobheil56@outlook.com  
905-246-3933**



Summer edition of OHA Newsletter

Click on photo

## Upcoming Events



**ONLINE SALE ENDS SEPT 13!**

### \$10 Native Trees & Shrubs for Halton Hills!

Grow a greener community with up to 10 native trees and/or shrubs per property

Online orders are now open!  
Sale ends Sunday September 13, 2026 or until supplies last

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

30 YEARS



**GEORGETOWN FALL FAIR 179<sup>TH</sup> YEAR!**

**BUSHEL OF FUN!**

**SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2026**



**MUSIC AMONG THE TREES**

"A transcendent concert... a truly Canadian original" - CHRONICLE JOURNAL, Thunder Bay, ON

### ARB EXPO KICK-OFF EVENT

WITH Katherine Wheatley  
Canadian Folk Singer-Songwriter

Sept. 11, 2026 OAC ARBORETUM CENTRE SUNSET 6:30 - 8PM

**YOUR TICKET INCLUDES:**

- Plant Sale Preview
- 1 Early-Access Plant Purchase Allowed
- Live Folk Music
- Snacks & Beverages
- Raffle

Scan to Purchase

**\$20 All Included!**

This event supports the annual Arboretum Expo, celebrating nature, people, and the connections that bring them together.

## SEAN JAMES' Autumn Splendour

GARDEN TOUR & PLANT SALE

**Saturday, September 26, 2026**

OPEN GARDEN: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
GUIDED TOURS: 10:30 AM & 2:00 PM  
Limited capacity · Register online to reserve your spot.



Discover Sean James' garden in its autumn peak. Sweeping drifts of goldenrods, asters, autumn colour, and ornamental gardens at their finest.

If we're lucky, we may even spot the elusive Bottle Gentian.

**Catch Sean Among the Plants**

- Ask questions · Talk plants
- Discover new favourites

**Event Details & Registration**

<https://grownativehalton.ca/event/autumn-splendour/>

**Donations Welcome**

Supporting Sean's vision of creating more habitat for pollinators, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and other wildlife.

Hosted by Grow Native Halton

