

A WORMS EYE VIEW
FERGUS & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
FEBRUARY 2023



**SPRING IS JUST AROUND
THE CORNER!**

Meeting February 22, 2023, 7:30 doors open at 7pm. This evening Randy McLean will give us a presentation on maple syrup production on a small farm.

Come early to check in and pay your **annual dues**, now at \$15/member, cash or cheque. We may also etransfer *our payments to fergushorticulture@gmail.com, note name and details in the message box. *(If you would like more info on etransfer, ask Karen, kareneddie22@gmail.com).

“Lug a mug” to partake of refreshments after the meeting.

Masks are optional.

March 22nd meeting night will be about nuts with Elisabeth Burrow, from Jewels under the Kilt.

Fergus & District Horticultural Society
February 17, 2023 - President's message

We woke up to ice and sunshine this morning, making the fields and trees sparkle. However, the trees weren't very happy, hanging very heavily, one large branch broke in the front of the house, it'll be a job getting *it* out. Groundhog Day and the midpoint of winter is behind us now. Less than 5 weeks til Spring and the Vernal Equinox.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we will have a Sharing Table at the meeting available for folks to bring in garden related items to give away, this might be garden magazines, books, plants, tools, bird boxes etc.. If you bring in an item that doesn't get picked up, please take it home again. We will have two door prizes at each meeting. If you aren't interested in the prizes, no need to take a ticket. The door prize donation jar will still be available for contributions.

Hope to see you all next week! *Karen*

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second best time is today.



SEEDY SATURDAY 2023

Mark your calendars now! The Horticultural Societies of Fergus & District and Elora & Salem are jointly organizing the 4th Centre Wellington Seedy Saturday for Saturday, March 25th, 2023. The event will be held in the Aboyne Hall of the Wellington County Museum & Archives, 536 Wellington County Road 18, Fergus. Doors will be open to the public from **10:30am till 2:00 pm**. As in previous years, admission will be free of charge.



There will be something of interest for everyone, regardless of age, gardening experience and/or expertise as a seed enthusiast. The organizing committee, consisting of **Fred Mallett, Jude Dowling,** and **Sharon Leggett**, have lined up a diverse group of seed vendors, community groups, and advisory services to attend.

If any members are willing to donate seeds for the free exchange table, all donations will be gratefully accepted. Seed envelopes are made available at monthly General Meetings. Envelopes should be labelled to show the seed variety and the year the seeds were harvested.

Plan to join us, browse the vendor tables, exchange seeds, meet your neighbours, share stories and information about a huge number of topics such as genetic diversity, pollination, working with nature, etc. A Children's Corner will also be available for the youngsters in attendance. More detailed information will follow as we get closer to the date.

We are currently in need of volunteers to help with the following duties:

Advertising (before the date) - working with local media, distributing flyers and posters, etc.

Children's Corner - entertaining the children attending with various activities on the day.

(Note: a Criminal Records Check from OPP is required for volunteers working with children)

Reception Desk – greeting participants, giving help and directions, as required, promoting the benefits of horticultural society membership.

Set-Up - assisting vendors and advisors to move their displays into the building, as required.

Take-Down - assisting vendors and advisors to remove their displays from the building, as required.

If you are willing to help out in any way, please contact any of the Centre Wellington Seedy Saturday organizers, or by e-mail at cw.seedy.saturday@gmail.com or call **226-820-2910**.

The Guelph Wellington Master Gardeners are again putting on the Day in Garden event after 2 years of Hibernation

Sunday February 26th

You can participate at <https://www.gwmastergardeners.ca>

where you will find the button to the Eventbrite site

Please tell your friends and family of the Event so we can keep the Day alive

Thank you

Guelph Wellington Master Gardeners

The poster features a green background with a white wavy line separating the top and bottom sections. At the top, it reads 'GUELPH-WELLINGTON MASTER GARDENERS' and 'A DAY IN THE GARDEN HORTICULTURAL RESILIENCE'. The date and time are 'SUNDAY, FEB 26TH, 2023' and '8:30 AM - 3:00 PM'. A circular badge says 'REGISTER ONLINE BY FEB 15 EARLY BIRD \$10.00'. The location is 'VICTORIA PARK EAST GOLF CLUB, 1088 VICTORIA RD. E. GUELPH, ON'. Under 'ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS:', it lists three speakers with their titles and photos. The bottom section lists event details: 3 lunchtime workshops, a morning vendor & displays, breakfast and catered lunch (\$10 in advance & \$15 after Feb 15), loot bags, and 8 CE credits. Contact information includes the website and a Gmail address.

Guelph Arboretum Workshops

We are sharing this information as many of their workshops can be accessed via their website and your members may be interested..

arbworks@uoguelph.ca

BEAR THOUGHTS

As far as I know and for as long as I have been able to know things, I have been a bear. I have molded just about every aspect of my life out of my understanding of my own beariness, so everything about all of me reflects what I think being a bear means.

So I hope I am a bear.

When I really try to think about or feel my beariness, I do not have any doubts that I am what I have always claimed to be: a bear. However, there is a large, resting doubt sitting beneath any of the confidence I have ever been able to muster when it comes to my being a bear. What if, to the rest of the forest's understanding, I am not a bear? What if my understanding of what a bear is or what a bear is supposed to be is not correct?

I have tried to convince myself that, even if such a line of thinking is not true, it does not matter. If I know I am a bear, then I must be a bear. End of story. Yet, that does little in the way of easing the lingering questions and doubts. They persist, ever gnawing at my identity like I would gnaw a moldy branch I found under some leaves.

If you, or anybody for that matter, know that I am not a bear, please do not tell me. I have given this a lot of thought, and the mere idea of confirming my non-beariness is so incredibly unnerving to me that I truly believe ignorance would be a better course of action.

I do not need to know if I am not a bear. There is so little to gain from that knowledge yet so much to lose. If I stop being a bear, I have no idea how I will begin to understand me or my interactions with everything ever. These issues are already difficult to process even when I feel firmly about being a bear, so the stress and anxiety that would come with having to reconsider all of being me would be far too much, an overload of everythingness.

What would I gain from knowing that I am not a bear, though? Would I not just question the validity of being a different thing just as frequently and with just as much intensity? What if I am something that I do not like or want to be? What if I am a deer across the river or dirt? I would prefer to be dirt, but either way, what would I get out of knowing something like that? What would anyone get knowing something like that?

I would prefer to stay in the dark. I would prefer to keep being who I think I am rather than what I might actually be, even if it means ignoring the latter completely.