

# WINONA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



## Newsletter January 2024



### 2023 In Review



Winona Horticultural Society started the year with our annual Holiday Decoration Workshop followed by our Christmas Dinner and Board Installation.



Our speakers taught us about bees, regenerative farming, black garlic, chemical free rose maintenance and Kokedama. Cat McGill and Paul Knowles brought us garden inspiration and magic. Joy documented it all with 10 beautiful newsletters.



WinHort distributed 10 Environmental Awareness Awards to deserving students and our members renewed the plantings at both St John's and the post office.



The Winona Peach Festival, was a huge success even with wet ground. Looking forward to a terrific 2024!

Hélène  
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17 January 2024



## Notices and Events

### ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

680 Plains Road, Burlington

#### **Garden Shop Clearance Sale – continues until January 21, 2024**

Drop in for great deals on exceptional merchandise. Admission not required.

#### **Nature's Superheroes: Life at the Limits – January 27, 2024 to April 21, 2024**

Life is full of unexpected wonders. Over billions of years, living things have evolved from simple cells into an awe-inspiring array of life forms—a spectacle of colours, textures, behaviours, specialized parts and exacting skills.

Some species are familiar, while others are so amazing that they test the limits of our imagination. Get to know some of these incredible creatures at RBG's Winter Exhibit. This is a time-ticketed exhibition, pre-registration is required. For details visit <https://www.rbq.ca/things-to-do/by-season/special-events/winter-exhibit/>

#### **Wintertide – Thursdays to Saturdays, February 8 to March 16, 2024 5:30 to 10pm**

Experience the brilliance of Canadian white winters like never before as the Rock Garden turns into the season's most elegant indoor *and outdoor* jazz lounge experience. 19+ event; ID required. More information coming soon. <https://www.rbq.ca/things-to-do/by-season/special-events/wintertide/?on=2024-02-08>

RBG offers a great lineup of fun, and educational programs for all ages. Call 905 527-1158 or visit their website [www.rbq.ca](http://www.rbq.ca) To borrow the WHS member's passes contact H el ene or Krys.

### NIAGARA ICEWINE FESTIVAL 2024 – January 12 to 28, 2024

The Niagara Grape & Wine Festival has a series of events that allow you to explore Icewine. Purchase a Discovery Pass and uncover the wonders of Niagara's winter wine country, January 19-21 and 26-28. Or, witness local wineries and restaurants engaging in a spirited competition to craft mixologist-approved icewine cocktails at the Sparkle and Ice Celebration January 26, all while enjoying live entertainment and fireworks.

For information on these and other events go to <https://niagarawinefestival.com/icewine-series-events>

### WHS BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, January 24, 2024 7pm

At Anne's.

### HAMILTON SEEDY SATURDAY – Saturday, February 3, 2024 10am to 3pm

Central Library Branch, 55 York Blvd., Hamilton

Presented by Green Venture, this free event is open to the public and includes a seed exchange, workshops, speakers, kids' activity area, and garden-related vendors. Volunteer and sponsorship information is available at <https://greenventure.ca/seedysaturday/>

### SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY ORCHID SHOW AND SALE – Sat., February 10, & Sun., February 11

Toronto Botanical Garden

Thousands of orchid flowers to enjoy! General admission to the show and sale has changed to noon to 5pm on Saturday, and remains 11am to 4pm on Sunday. New this year is the **Early Bird Shoppers' Hour**. One hundred visitors will be allowed into the sales areas from 11am to noon on Saturday. These **online** tickets are selling fast at \$30 each (plus a processing fee). General admission is \$10, available online or at the door. Online tickets at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/soos-show-feb-10-11-2024-2789869> More information at <https://soos.ca>

### GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT – Friday, February 16 to Monday, February 19

Birds are everywhere, all the time, doing fascinating things. Join the world in connecting to birds, as we come together for the love of birds. Identify them, count them, and submit your findings to help scientists understand and protect them. Information on how to participate at <https://www.birdcount.org/>

### WHS NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, February 21 7:30pm

St. John's Anglican Church Hall, Winona

David Wood, from Burlington's Wild Birds Unlimited store, will help us better understand the needs of our fine-feathered friends, in winter.

### DISTRICT 6 SPRING BREAKFAST MEETING – Saturday, February 24 Doors open at 8am

Hosted by Flamborough Horticultural Society, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 715 Centre Rd., Waterdown

Guest speaker: Darrell Bley (Winner of the Outstanding Educator of the Year, 2020) will speak on The Coniferous Forests of Canada Register at [flamhort@hotmail.com](mailto:flamhort@hotmail.com) or let H el ene or Krys know, and we'll go as a group.

### OHA 116TH CONVENTION 2024: The Heartland of Gardens Growing and Rivers Flowing – July 12 to 14

Hosted by Districts 7 & 8, at the Delta Hotels Conference Centre in Guelph

It's not too early to start thinking about this year's convention. It's a great way to meet other garden lovers, and make new friends, or reconnect with old. Enter or at least take in the competitions, and learn what's new from a variety of speakers and vendors. Details on the competitions are at [gardenontario.org](http://gardenontario.org), and updates are forthcoming, as they become available.



## **Tonight's Program**

We'll begin the evening with our **2023 AGM**. This is our chance to review the activities of 2023: what we did, how much we spent, and what were the rewards. We'll hear short reports by the treasurer, Krys Moraal, and our president, H  l  ne Br  l  -Besner, followed by a vote to approve (or not) and support the actions of the Board, and give them the nod for the new year.

**Next up**, we are looking to our own **members** to **lead us** in an informal evening of gardening know-how. Everyone is encouraged to participate: whether it's sharing a story about their garden, showing a photo, asking a question, or just making a comment about gardens or horticulture. After the extreme weather we've been experiencing this week, it will give us all a break to think about being out in the garden again – afterall, sharing tips and stories (as well as roots and cuttings) is what we gardeners do best!

Just to get things started ... here's a picture of what happened when I went to plant the new *Yukon Sun* rose my daughter gave me for Mother's Day. (Quite a few weeks later.) As I dug the hole, I hit a rock – not unusual around our place. However, as I tried to remove it, I found that it wasn't just one rock, it was part of an old foundation wall from an outbuilding long since gone! After a lot of digging, mostly by my hubby, Scott, there were so many rocks! ... all to plant one little rose bush. Joy



The work of a garden bears visible fruits - in a world where most of our labours seem suspiciously meaningless.

(Pam Brown, b.1928)

**Knock, knock. Who's there?**

**Orange. Orange who?**

**Orange you glad that orange is the garden colour of the year, 2024?**



That's right, OHA, in collaboration with Communities in Bloom (<https://www.communitiesinbloom.ca>), has announced orange to be the official garden colour for 2024. They encourage everyone to plant orange in honour of our Indigenous communities, and celebrate love in our gardens, by adding the warmth and energy of orange to our green spaces. And the good news is there's lots of time to search out plants and flowers that sport the colour.

Orange flowers look great mixed with yellow, blue, or purple, in containers or in pots and planters. Shades of orange vary from pale hues such as honey, melon, and carrot, to bold, darker shades such as clay, rust, and bronze. Good colour combinations for orange flowers include purple, yellow, silver, and white.

It seems that Communities in Bloom stands alone for its colour choice. While top picks for flowers, plants and shrubs of 2024 feature many beautiful pinks, purples, and greens, the only orange selections I could find were some of the National Gardening Bureau's lilies, and squash! The Perennial Plant Association's Perennial of the Year, 2024 is *Phlox paniculata* "Jeana" – with fragrant lavender-pink flowers, in case you were wondering.

Outside the gardening world, home d  cor and paint brands have also unveiled their pics for 2024. World trend setter Pantone, hopes to encourage warmth and understanding in the new year. The company, best known for its colour matching system, selected an amiable and cozy tone called "Peach Fuzz" – officially "Pantone 13-1023 Peach Fuzz" – as its colour of the year.

Along the same lines, Sherwin-Williams colour choice for 2024, is "Persimmon," a shade that balances the energy of tangerine with grounded neutral undertones, for an earthy terracotta that's both calming and cheerful.

Whatever your preference, a splash of orange will surely brighten your space. And you can feel good about supporting Communities in Bloom's pick!

JB

## **Mission Services**

Many thanks to all those who participated in the collection for Mission Services, at December's Pot Luck Dinner. We collected a little over \$60. As in previous years, we will continue to accept donations tonight, from anyone who missed the dinner, or are just feeling generous. The Society will then add to the amount, to bring the total donation up to \$100.

## **Membership Dues**

Did you know that our membership year goes from January to December? Which means it's time to renew your membership for 2024. Still a great deal at \$10 single or \$20 for a family of 2 or more, so why not take a moment and do it now? Please see Kry's.

## **Calling All Bird Lovers**

Next month, our guest speaker will be David Wood, from *Wild Birds Unlimited*. He's going to share with us tips on how to keep the birds happy in winter, as well as new products to help with that.

To reinforce the bird theme, I'd love to print member submissions in the Newsletter. Please send me photos, and/or short stories about your favourite neighbourhood birds. And if anyone is participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count, please share your findings with the rest of us. Thanks! JB

## **OHA Winter "Trillium" Is Here!**

Download the latest issue of Garden Ontario's "Trillium" and you'll be amazed at how many wonderful articles it contains. Besides many cheerful accounts of Society activities across Ontario, are two submissions of particular interest: competition results from the 2023 OHA Convention, including comments and photos (pp. 16-29); and an excellent article called *The Therapeutic Garden*, by Cynthia B. Lauer, PhD (Sociology); member, Simcoe County Master Gardeners (p. 37). Also not to be missed, is the story of Omeme Blooms Garden Club's whimsical Scarecrow 'Bloom' Family (p. 50).

Sure to provide interesting reading for the winter season, get your "Trillium" now at <https://gardenontario.org/wp-content/uploads/2023-24-Winter-Trillium.pdf>

## **Garden Ontario 50/50 Draw**

Garden Ontario (OHA) fundraisers are run in order to assist Ontario's Hort Societies and Clubs. They help to maintain dues, assist in putting on webinars such as Earth Day, and allow creation of new grants and awards, among other things. 50% of all proceeds from the 50/50 Draw goes to keeping Ontario beautiful. The next draw date is Friday, March 16, 2024. (Sales end March 15) For your chance to win, visit <https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>.

Who knows, you might be the next big winner!

## **More Seedy Saturdays**

**West Niagara: February 10 11am to 3pm**

Grimsby Public Library

The Grimsby Public Library, The Lincoln Public Library and the West Lincoln Public Library are working together to host a West Niagara Seedy Saturday free event with a focus on heritage seeds, gardening, native plants, and environmental concerns.

Contact: [rwaldron@grimsby.ca](mailto:rwaldron@grimsby.ca) , (905)-309-2086

**Thorold: February 10 9am to 3pm**

8 Carelton St., Thorold

Hosted by The Thorold Senior Citizens Centre, The Thorold Library, City of Thorold, Thorold Community Activities Group, The Thorold Garden Club, and the Age-Friendly Community to celebrate gardening, share knowledge, and promote sustainable practices.

Contact: [lyonstami@gmail.com](mailto:lyonstami@gmail.com)

Master Gardeners Niagara: Feb. 17 10am - 3pm 100

Meridan Way, Fonthill

Annual event for seed swap and for purchase (25¢ per pkg) Donations for local food bank appreciated.

Contact: [bevcampeau@hotmail.com](mailto:bevcampeau@hotmail.com)

**Haldimand Seedy Sunday: April 7 10am to 4pm**

151 Caithness St. E, Caledonia

More information coming soon!

Contact: [haldimandhorticulture@gmail.com](mailto:haldimandhorticulture@gmail.com),  
289-339-4219

Learn more at <https://seeds.ca/events/>

## **Members' Corner**

**We welcome your comments and suggestions. Who would you like to have as future speakers? What kind of topics or activities interest you? Share gardening tips or pictures of your yard or garden. Please, drop us a line, send an e-mail or talk to one of the Board members. This is the 2024 Board:**

President – Hélène Brûlé-Besner

905 977-9329 [hebrulebesner@gmail.com](mailto:hebrulebesner@gmail.com)

Vice-president – Mark Shufflebottom

905 226-3127 [shufflebottom.mark@gmail.com](mailto:shufflebottom.mark@gmail.com)

Secretary – position open

Treasurer – Kry's Moraal

905 643-4592 [krysm@yahoo.com](mailto:krysm@yahoo.com)

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905 643-3073 [potsherds@gmail.com](mailto:potsherds@gmail.com)

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