

WINONA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Newsletter

February 2024



WinHort is
celebrating
95
growing years!

Such a monumental occasion calls for a birthday party filled with joy, laughter, gardening friends and good food.

Be sure to mark your calendar, save the date and join us

Sunday

27 October 2024

at Winona Vine Estates for the WinHort 95th and D6 Fall Birthday Dinner.

It's February, but today sure felt like spring... However, this is Canada, and I know that March might have something to say about that! ;) I am definitely enjoying all that sunshine though!



Have you started thinking about **orange**, 2024's garden colour of the year yet? Neil's hot pepper planter always has orange marigolds (his favourite colour) so clearly we're going to be on top of it!

We're **95!!!** A big thank you to you, our faithful members who keep WinHort growing by supporting us, bringing friends and volunteering.

Hélène

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Notices and Events

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

680 Plains Road, Burlington

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.rbg.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.rbg.ca/things-to-do/by-season/special-events/wintertide/?on=2024-02-08>

The Joy of Birding – March 16 9am

Have you already been out exploring birds in the field but would like to learn more?

Join instructor, Catherine Manschot, and other birders to explore the use of field marks, behaviour, taxonomy, timing, calls, songs, and habitat preferences to identify species in the field. Registration is kept to a small group size of 12 registrants, and takes place in a variety of habitats on RBG lands. Participants will be notified of the program's location via email at least 48 hours prior to program date. 2-3 hours long, for more experienced birders. \$20 (+ 1\$ Service fee & HST) Member 10% off Must pre-register by March 13

<https://www.rbg.ca/events/the-joy-of-birding-intermediate-2/>

Seed Library

RBG provides seeds that you borrow, grow, and then return. Whether you are new to gardening, interested in growing a greater diversity of plants, or invested in supporting a community of growers, the seed library will help you meet those goals. The seed library focuses on herbaceous perennials, grasses, annuals, and trees and shrubs although some food plants are also available. There are two lists: one containing only perennials and grasses, and the other with annuals, veggies and woody perennials. You may request up to 8 seed varieties, to make sure you get some of your preferred seeds, but only 5 will be supplied. Place your requests early as seed supply is limited. More at <https://www.rbg.ca/plants-conservation/science/library-archives/seed-library/>

RBG offers a great lineup of fun, and educational programs for all ages. Call 905 527-1158 or visit their website www.rbg.ca To borrow the WHS member's passes contact H el ene or Kryss.

ORCHID SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW (at RBG) – Saturday & Sunday, February 24 & 25

The 41st Annual Show, showcasing the beauty and diversity of orchids, is judged by the American Orchid Society, and features orchid displays from across Canada and the USA. There are also exhibits of flower arrangements, painting, photographs and plant sales. Go to <http://rbg.ca/events/orchid-society-annual-show/>, or call 905-527-1158 for details or to register.

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. Please let H el ene know if you wish to attend.

WHS BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, February 28 7pm

At Anne's.

SPRING TIDE BULB SHOW – March 8 to 17 9am – 5pm

Gage Park Greenhouse

Beautiful flower displays and the smell of Spring is a delight to the senses. Free parking and admission.

HAMILTON SPRING HOME & GARDEN SHOW – March 15 to 17

United Soccer Centre, 565 Seaman Street, Stoney Creek, ON (Formerly Players Paradise)

Presented by RE/MAX Escarpment Realty, features a wide selection of the provinces most trusted exhibitors & brands, and great Home Show Specials and Deals. <https://www.ontariohomeshows.com/>

WHS NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, March 20 7:30pm

St. John's Anglican Church Hall, Winona

One of our favourite speakers, Catherine "Cat" McGill, will share her tips and tricks to keep older gardeners gardening longer! Also, our member seed swap.

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. So much to see and do, including workshops and seminars, vendors, competitions, and more! Go to <https://gardenontario.org> for details.

Tonight's Speaker

An avid birder, and expert on the care and feeding of wild birds, **David Wood** is the owner/operator of the Burlington *Wild Birds Unlimited* store. He is a life-long nature lover, and has enjoyed birding in South Africa, Namibia, and Australia, as well as all of North America. He is retired from Stelco, where he worked as a Mechanical Supervisor for 35 years. In March 1994, David opened his *Wild Birds Unlimited* store, the place to go for bird supplies and to learn more about backyard bird feeding. Dedicated to the well-being of Trumpeter Swans, he worked on the restoration of these majestic birds, and was instrumental in bringing them back from extinction. For 35 years David has been involved at all levels with Scouts Canada, Ontario, and has helped to educate school children by giving nature and horticultural presentations in and around the Burlington area. He says he prides himself with "bringing people and nature together, and doing it with excellence", and that's just what he does!

Birdlore

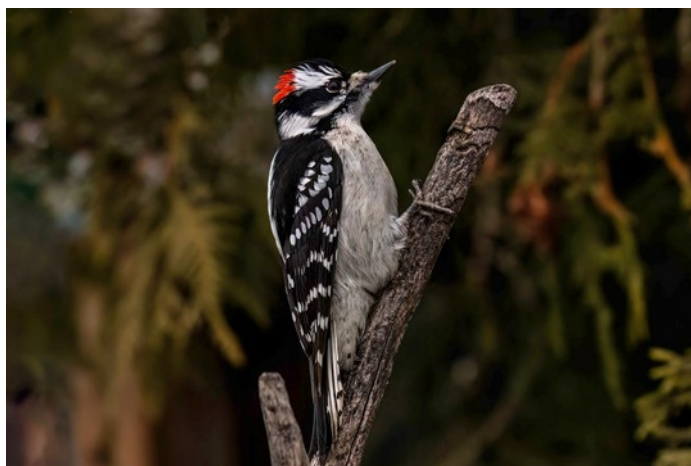
For cultures all over the globe, birds are probably the most conspicuous representatives of the animal kingdom, and our attention and imagination tend to settle on them—whether it's an eagle soaring above a mountain or a sparrow perched on a garden gate. They have featured in mythology since the very earliest times, serving as messengers to the gods, carrying blessings to humankind and prayers up to the heavens. Their movements, cries and migratory patterns have been widely studied.



Bluejays are often disliked because of their noisy, aggressive behavior. In Native American legends, bluejays often play the role of a nosy gossip, bully, or selfish thief, but in others, Bluejay is a more ambivalent trickster character - still selfish, greedy, and mischievous most of the time, but also clever, entertaining, and helpful to humankind.

Chickadees are viewed very positively in many Native American cultures. In Cherokee mythology Chickadee is associated with truth and knowledge,

and the arrival of a chickadee is thought to warn of danger or foretell the future.



Woodpeckers are considered lucky birds by many Native Americans, particularly in Western tribes, and are associated with friendship and happiness. Woodpecker is an important clan crest in some Northwest Coast tribes, and can sometimes be found carved on totem poles. (Downy Woodpecker pictured)



European bird lore sees the wren as a "fairy bird": a portent of fairy encounters, and sometimes a fairy in disguise. (Carolina Wren pictured)

Photos on this page by Art Ward.

Birdlore (continued)



To the natives of North America, cardinals (also known as redbirds) are considered good omens. The Cherokee people associate cardinals with the sun, while the Ojibwe admire the cardinal as an alert, watchful bird.

Photos by
Kathy Ward



Resources:

<https://www.native-languages.org/legends-bluejay.htm>
(and other birds)

<https://www.terriwindling.com/blog/2020/05/the-folklore-of-birds.html>

Membership Renewal

We love having you here, so please keep coming! Membership is still only \$10 per person, or \$20 for a family of two or more. Please pay Krys.

Mission Services

Thanks to the generous donations made at the December Pot Luck, and our January meeting, we were able to send a cheque for \$150 to Mission Services for the coming year.

OHA 116th CONVENTION 2024

Hosted by Districts 7 & 8, with the theme "The Heartland of Gardens Growing and Rivers Flowing", this year's Convention takes place at Delta Hotels Conference Centre, in Guelph Ontario, from July 12-14. There's so much to see and do, you won't be disappointed. If you're interested in entering the competitions, (flower show, art, photography, creative writing, etc.), check out the rules and regs at <https://gardenontario.org/convention>.



Haldimand Horticultural Society
Invites you to
Seedy Sunday

Riverside Exhibition Centre
151 Caithness St. E Caledonia
Location Sponsor: Caledonia Agriculture Society

April 7 2024
10 am to 4 pm
\$5.00 (12 & under free)
food bank donations appreciated

Ian Wagner Certified Arborist
(ISA International Society of Arboriculture)
ISA certified Tree Risk Assessor
35 years experience available for questions 10am to 12noon

Speakers
Kevin Kavanagh: Growing Importance of Gardening For Nature
Catherine McGill: Intro. to Plant Therapy
Kerry Royer: Benefits of Native Plants

Blinko game
Lunch available
Youth craft table

SEED SWAP
Large variety of vendors
Pine needle basket weaving demonstration

QR code
haldimandhorticulture@gmail.com

Good News!

WinHort's Facebook group is up and running. Thank you to Mike Guerin for giving it life. Here's the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/649077723770177>

Members' Corner

As always, 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

Vice-president – Mark Shufflebottom
905 226-3127 shufflebottom.mark@gmail.com

Secretary – position open

Treasurer – Krys Moraal
905 643-4592 krysm@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor &
Past President – Joy Brunel
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Directors:
Georgina Beattie
Anne Bono
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Maggie Martin
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Website: <https://gardenontario.org/society-listing/entry/553/>