

From: Lianne d.6director@outlook.com
Subject: Spring Edition of District Dirt
Date: March 31, 2023 at 9:07 AM
To: catm@rogers.com

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[View this email in your browser](#)



District 6 Dirt Newsletter Spring Edition



Spring I thought was coming fast until 'snowmageddon' buried my emerging snowdrops, daffodils, and flowering hellebores. Thankfully everything is melting fast in the direct sun and the flowers will soon be here.

Welcome to the spring edition of the District Dirt.

As the temperatures warm up, all our Societies are busy starting their years' activities. With reports and AGMs behind us now, Society events are in full swing. The first big activity for most is their Seedy Saturday or Sunday Celebrations. We will share a few of the events held so far and this will continue in the summer edition. Please note that Purple is the c

We will also be saying goodbye to three very special ladies.

Catherine McGill, Marian Heil, and Rabiya Azeez. Rabiya is heading back to University and we thank her for being an alternate ADD and for her contribution to our board.



Marian is busy as the OHA Treasurer, with a tremendous amount of work. Cat is retiring after 10 years on the board. 5 years as an ADD and 5 years as our enthusiastic Director. She is a tough act to follow and her guidance has been so appreciated.

Both of these ladies will be missed and we thank them whole heartily for their service to the board and the District

We Need To Replace These Positions.

Please consider stepping up. It is a very enjoyable volunteer position and not a huge time constraint. The job is as follows...

1. You will be assigned 3 Societies close to where you live.
2. Pass along their emails and notifications as they come up.
3. Attend their AGMs and swear in their new executive. We even give you the script to use:)
4. visit them at least one other time.
5. Your mileage is paid for by the District
6. We have about 5 board meetings a year by zoom.
7. You are expected to attend all 4 District events...Spring and Fall Breakfast, AGM, and Fall Dinner.
8. Be helpful and encouraging to your Societies and the District.

Plus you get to spend time with some really nice folks who will treat you with kindness and respect!

Please consider joining our team.

Thank you
Lianne Krane
District 6 Director

DISTRICT 6 is migrating all email to OUTLOOK. Here are

the addresses to use. The primary email address for all members of the District 6 Board of Directors is:

district.6@outlook.com

Other email addresses that can be used (don't forget the placement of the "."):

Specific to District 6 Director Lianne Krane you can use:

d.6director@outlook.com

Specific to Treasurer and Assistant District Director Bob Heil you can use:

d.6treasurer@outlook.com

Specific to Secretary and Assistant District Director Susan MacMillan you can use:

d.6secretary@outlook.com

Specific to Assistant District Director Liz Chapple you can use:

d.6lizchapple@outlook.com

Specific to Assistant District Director Marie Decker you can use:

d.6mariedecker@outlook.com

Specific to Assistant District Director Sandi Remedios you can use:

d.6sandiremedios@outlook.com

We are working diligently to create additional email addresses for all other assistant district directors. Please continue to use the email you have on file for Cat McGill, Marian Heil and Rabiya Azeez.

District 6 Dues Announcement

à Invoices for dues owed by each Society will be going out shortly however, you will receive a credit on that invoice for new members since last reported in 2022.

Example:

150 members @.50 = \$75.00

30 new members @.50 = <\$15.00>

Total dues owing are \$60.00

à 2024 District 6 dues will be increasing to \$1 per member but the same credit will apply.



Trees Interact With Each Other Through An Underground Web. Full story [HERE](#)



Live The Garden Life

🌱 **Garden Educators:** These individuals educate and inspire others about the joys of gardening. They may teach classes, offer workshops, or write gardening books and articles. Their dedication to spreading knowledge and promoting the benefits of gardening help to ensure that future generations have access to fresh, healthy food and luscious, green gardens.

🗣️ **Do you know a Garden Educator?** Someone who chooses to Live the Garden Life. Think about who this may be and get ready to nominate them as a #GardenHero in 2023. As our community continues to grow, we want to hear about and celebrate the gardeners in every community in Canada. Stay tuned for how you can nominate your Garden Hero this year!

Who is your local Garden Educator? Tag them here in the comments.👇

#Livethegardenlife #gardenheroes #canada #canadagardens #gardens #gardener #gardeners #gardeneducator #communitygarden #communitygardens

Stoney Creek Horticultural Society

WE ARE GROWING

WELCOME TO:

22 NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH

Benefits of Membership:



- Great garden speakers every month
- Refreshments
- Strawberry Social
- Garden Tours
- Discounts at: Roubos Greenhouse, Satellite Florist & Garden Centre, Winona Gardens
- Available tickets to: RBG

Congratulations on the Outstanding membership growth!

Georgetown Horticultural Society





Georgetown Horticultural Society Promoted a Local Horticultural Business by having them as a Guest Speaker. She was so Knowledgeable.

Simcoe and District Horticultural Society



Great Photo collage of the Before and After Garden transformation
Norfolk Art Centre Lynnwood National Historic Site Gardens

Acton Horticultural Society

MEMBERS 10% OFF

PLANT SALE

Saturday May 21, 2022
Starts at 9:00am

DONATIONS FROM LOCAL NURSERIES

Acton Horticultural Society

SATURDAY MAY 21 2022. 9:00 AM | PERENNIALS, SUN & SHADE HOSTAS AND MUCH MORE | KNOWLEDGEABLE GARDENERS ON HAND

Location: Bethel Church, 365 Queen st. Acton, L7J 2M6

Fantastic Deal for Your members.

Brilliant idea Acton!

We all have busy lives and a friendly reminder is what we need so a meeting is not missed. This is a Fantastic meeting reminder! Very thorough indeed.



GARDEN HAMILTON
Mt. Hamilton Horticultural Society



MEETING REMINDER **Friday March 17, 2023**

At Immanuel Christian Reformed Church, 61 Mohawk Rd. West. Doors open at 7pm, meeting starts at 7:30. There will be NO Zoom available for this meeting.

The generation that has already flown down to Mexico and overwintered there arrives back in Texas (the primary generation), lays 300-400 eggs on the milkweed, and dies. They usually lay one to two eggs per plant. The next generation continues heading north but now there are many more butterflies and they are spreading out in all directions. Some head straight up Interstate 35 from Laredo, Texas to Duluth, Minnesota (which just happens to be in the central flyway, but the monarchs did it first). This route is straight through the Midwest Corn Belt which is the predominant breeding grounds of the monarch. Others head more north-westerly or north-easterly as they chase spring. At this time, it is only the female that is interested in milkweed on which to lay her eggs. It is her grandchildren that will eventually reach Canada.

A favourite slogan is, "When the lilacs are in bloom, the milkweed is up, and the monarchs will be arriving
This meeting is this year's "Creative Expressions" – and a continuation of last meeting's popular seed exchange.

Diane Naiker notes there are still seeds left to be claimed after last month's meeting. Besides the seeds saved by our members, other commercial seeds will be available. Members don't have to bring seeds to exchange but may pick some up.

"Creative Expressions" is a show of arts and crafts done by members who want to show off their work.

Paintings, photos, textiles ... any expression of your personal creativity. No points are awarded.

Coffee break: If possible, please bring your own mug.

Speaker: Elizabeth Schleicher on "Growing Beautiful Roses"

Question:

A member asks: "Can I bring my neighbour to a meeting? He would like to see what we are all about before joining."

Answer: Yes! Tell the membership / entrance folks you have a guest and he or she will be welcomed in. Guests can enjoy the meeting, the coffee-and-goodies break and just might go home with a door prize!

Covid policy: We want everyone to feel at ease attending. We encourage people to wear masks if it makes them more comfortable at the meeting. We look forward to seeing you again!!

The Mount Hamilton Horticulture Board.

Bronte Horticultural Society

Bronte is celebrating 98 years young this year and have faced many challenges in 2023 but a small team of dedicated members have pulled things together and have seen to it that they will be around for 100 years plus!

New technologies they have embraced are:

Mailchimp (the free version), Etransfers and migrating all their Society emails to Outlook.

They utilize the talents of Master Gardener members for their newsletter articles and seasoned gardeners for other Bits & Bytes.

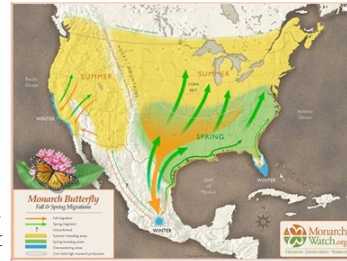
They have a Greeter Committee and a Social Committee and they both add to the friendly environment that welcomes you at their monthly meetings. Every meeting this year has been embraced by new members at their venue [The Sir John Colborne Centre](#).

The Sir John Colborne Centre is certified as a Monarch Way Station

Journey North with the Monarchs

by Margaret Larson
(Master Gardener)

Most North American monarchs spend about three to four winter months in the Sierra Madre volcanic mountains of Mexico. There are fifteen areas where they congregate high on the isolated mountains from November to February in the Oyamel fir tree forests. It is from here that they will start their journey north, and eventually, after two to three generations, Canada will be repopulated. They do not venture far into Canada. Milkweed grows no further than 51 degrees North latitude and that is where most egg-laying females stop.



When the butterfly emerges from its chrysalis in Canada in late August, it is now in a state of suspended development (diapause) which prevents it from mating until conditions are right, sometime in February, in Mexico. Because of this long life, the monarchs by this time are usually tattered and appear dull from losing many scales. Then it starts the long repopulation of the milkweed/Monarch range all the way back to Canada. It will take two to three generations of monarchs to do this.



The generation that has already flown down to Mexico and overwintered there arrives back in Texas (the primary generation), lays 300-400 eggs on the milkweed, and dies. The next generation continues heading north but now there are many more butterflies and they are spreading out in all directions. Some head straight up Interstate 35 from Laredo, Texas to Duluth, Minnesota (which just happens to be in the central flyway, but the monarchs did it first). This route is straight through the Midwest Corn Belt which is the predominant breeding grounds of the monarch. Others head more north-westerly or north-easterly as they chase spring. At this time, it is only the female that is interested in milkweed on which to lay her eggs. It is her grandchildren that will eventually reach Canada.

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Garlic Mustard Weed information

Provided by Gardeners of Burlington

(aka The Burlington Horticultural Society)



A glimmer of hope fighting garlic mustard infestations

Submitted by Joyce Vanderwoude

I recently attended a zoom session put on by Watersheds Canada that provided new insights into the ecology and management of an old adversary, garlic mustard (*Allaria petiolata*). Dr. Michael McTavish, the keynote speaker, reviewed the biology and impacts of this invasive species and the current practices for control; physical (hand pulling, cutting, clipping and burning), chemical and **new** biological agents.

The biological agent I learned about was a root-mining weevil (*Cueterhynchus scrobicollis*), native to Central and Eastern Europe, whose larvae mine garlic mustard leaf stalks, shoot bases, roots and crowns which weakens the 1st year rosette of this biennial plant so that it may not survive over winter. It also damages the main flowering shoot the second year plants produce causing fewer seed production. Field tests were approved in Canada in 2018 and show promising results giving a glimmer of hope in fighting this invasive plant.

You can watch the YouTube video presentation at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcZim_RnMbE

or review the literature from the Invasive Species Centre <https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/invasive-species/meet-the-species/invasive-plants/garlic-mustard/>



Winona Horticultural Society

Forcing Branches to Bloom Indoors

Need a touch of Spring to brighten your home? Maybe the age-old practice of "forcing branches" will do the trick. There's no special expertise required just a pair of clean, sharp pruners and a spring-flowering tree or shrub. This time-honoured custom is about bringing

blossom indoors, but if you have a woody bush or tree that sends out blossoms in the spring before it leaves out, you can try forcing it. It's easy to do. Choose a day when the temperature is above freezing. This helps ease the transition coming in from the cold. Select healthy branches

flowering branches of trees and shrubs indoors in late winter. The branches are budded but they haven't bloomed yet. When you bring the branches inside, the buds will gradually open and blossom, filling your room with the lovely flowers of spring. Common branches to "force" are tulip magnolia, quince, forsythia, and pussy willows. Don't worry about harming your shrub or tree, you're just taking off non-essential branches, and that's okay. January to early February is a great time to force forsythias and witch hazels. By mid-February, try eastern redbud, cherry, and red maples. Later, consider lilacs, honeysuckle, willows, and mag-

that are non-essential to the form of your shrub or tree: from a crowded section, or towards the back. Prune 1 to 2 foot lengths, with lots of buds, preferably ones that are beginning to open. Remember to cut branches sharply, on the diagonal, to ensure water uptake. Once inside, recut and set the branches in a tall vase of lukewarm water. It helps to "bruise" the ends (with a hammer) or cut slits up the branch for several inches to promote water uptake. Keep the vase in a bright location, away from heaters and direct sun. Recut the ends again the next day, and change the water every few days, so the branches don't rot. Winter air inside the home can be dry, so it helps to mist the branches once or twice a day. Flowers should appear in a week or two, depending on the plant. Enjoy!



<https://gardenerspath.com/how-to/indoor-gardening/>

[force-branches-bloom/](#)

<https://www.almanac.com/forcing-branches-bloom-indoors>

"We have forgotten what rocks and plants still know – we have forgotten how to be – to be still – to be ourselves – to be where life is here and now." Eckhart Tolle

Rock Your Garden World

[OHA 115th Convention](#)

July 21-23, 2023

District 2 - Ottawa Valley

There is so much to see in Ottawa and the folks in District 2 have uncovered so many hidden gems that they will provide you the opportunity to see and explore. This has the makings of the best [Convention](#) yet!

The hotel is more like a resort with something for everyone with 2019 pricing still in effect.

registration will be open soon and details will be provided right away when it is.

[Start Preparing your Competition Entries](#)

Your members are using their creative talents and creating Yearbooks and Flyers.

Honor them by submitting their work to the OHA Publication Competition [Here](#)

Below are ALL the Categories and include the criteria, cash prizes, and deadlines.

District 6 has always been a force to reckon with!

Show Off your dedicated members' work.

Lianne & ADDs can drop off and return your entries and awards.

2023 Competitions:

[OHA 2023 – Convention Flower Show Schedule](#)

[OHA 2023 – Creative Writing Competition](#)

[OHA 2023 – Competitions – Photography Criteria](#)

[OHA 2023 – Youth Competition](#)

[OHA 2023 – Arts Competition](#)

[OHA 2023 – Publications Competition](#)

Youth Group Info:

[Spring Youth News Letter](#)

Here are some other Groups you might like to join:

[Ontario Regional Lily Society](#)

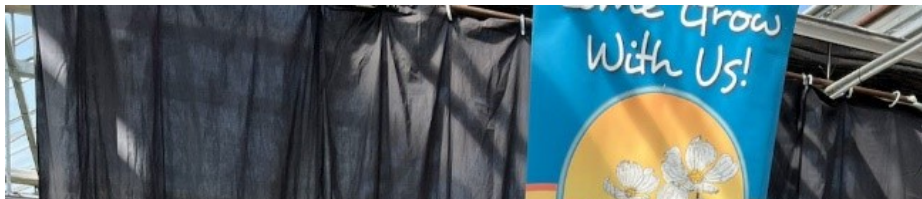
[Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum & Dahlia Society](#)

[Ontario Hosta Society](#)

[Canadian Rose Society](#)

[Master Gardeners of Ontario](#)

Spring Tide Bulb Show – Cottage Life march 10-19 2023





An old tradition resurrected. The Spring Bulb Show returned this year just in time to lift our spirits. District 6 had a table at this year's event, manned by volunteers from many of the societies. Many thanks to all who volunteered this year. Your time and enthusiasm are much appreciated.

Huge

Thank you to Sandi Remedios and all who volunteered for keeping our District front and center at these shows in Hamilton

We had a great District 6 Spring Breakfast hosted by the Brantford Garden Club. ALL 21 Societies were represented!

The guest speaker was Diane Hutchinson from Walter's Greenhouses & Garden Centre.

The food was amazing, and the vendors were such a great touch for our gardeners just inching to shop for something new for their gardens and homes. The prize table was outstanding with so many people happily taking home so many great prizes. Brantford, you did a fabulous job, and congratulations and thank you from all of us in District 6!





Oakville Horticultural Society



Presents

"We Lived the Garden Life!"

OHA District 6 AGM and Flower Show

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Doors open at 8 am for flower show entries

Business meeting: 9:15 am



Sir John Colborne Centre

Southeast Corner of Lakeshore Blvd. and Third Line

1565 Old Lakeshore Rd., Oakville L6K 1S8

Speaker - Catherine Kavassalis

"The serious impact of invasive plants in gardens and flower shows"

Tickets - \$20 and prepaid - space is limited so purchase early

Cheques made to "Ontario Horticultural Association District 6" and mailed to:

Bob Heil at 56 Glen Cannon Dr., Stoney Creek L8G 4E1

Etransfer to ohadistrict6treasurer@gmail.com stating name, society and email address

Tickets are going fast so don't be disappointed and get yours today. E-transfer \$20 to Bob Heil @ d.6treasurer@outlook.com...maximum is 130 People!

1. **At the AGM in May, we will be awarding a trophy to the Society that has the highest increase in membership reported on their OHA report since January 2022.**
2. **\$100 will be awarded to the society that has the most members attending the AGM excluding the host society of course.**
3. **The District Service Award will be presented**
4. **The District 6 Rejuvenation Grant will be awarded**
5. **We will be displaying to Catherine Kavassalis our support to CCIPR.**

The colour of the Year debate rages on...

Pantone Colour of the Year 2023 is Viva Magenta

[RSS](#)



What is Viva Magenta?

"Pantones Color of the Year, Viva Magenta 18-1750, vibrates with vim and vigor. It is a shade rooted in nature descending from the red family and expressive of a new signal of strength."

- Leatrice Eiseman, Pantone Color Institute

The Pantone Colour of the Year is Viva Magenta, a great hue for gardeners to incorporate into their plantings for 2023 (and beyond!).

For those of you looking to work this vibrant shade into your pots, planters and landscapes for this coming season, we have picked a few of our favourite plants [HERE](#)

Meanwhile....

WGSN (Worth Global Style Network) is the global authority on change, using expert trend forecasting combined with data science to help you get ahead of the right trends.

They say that the Colour of the year Digital Lavender:

Conveying calmness and cheerfulness in 2023. The colour and textile experts at the international trend forecaster WGSN and the creators of the Coloro colour system have jointly predicted that Digital Lavender will be the colour of the year in 2023. Read more about this [HERE](#).



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District 6 Dirt Newsletter*

Our mailing address is:

9520 No. 5 Side Rd., Milton, Ontario L9T 7K8

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