

PINE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB

"Where Gardeners Come To Bloom"

March-April 2023 Newsletter

NESTLETON, ONTARIO

MEMBER OF DISTRICT 17 ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

President: Libbi Hood 416-455-5624

Membership: Carolyn Humphrey 905-985-9459

PineRidgeGardenClub.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nestleton Hall, 3967 Hwy 7A

Tuesday, March 14

7:30 p.m.

Sweet and Savoury Night!

Bring some finger food — enough for 10-12 people— to be enjoyed during the meeting. Please no foods that need to be heated on site. Coffee and tea will be provided—please bring your own mug.

Speaker: Libbi Hood

Topic: Scotney Castle and Gardens, Kent, England

Tuesday, April 4

7:30 p.m.

Speaker:

Katherine Mathewson
Durham Master Gardeners
Topic: Soil—It Begins Here

Membership is Due

Now is the time to renew your membership for 2023. Please bring payment to the March meeting. Membership fees are \$20 for a single person and \$25 for a family.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm so excited for another great year of gardening and Garden Club! The Board has put together a wonderful line-up of speakers and programming for 2023.

In April, Durham Master Gardener Katherine Mathewson will speak to us about soil... the literal foundation of our gardens. In May, Landscape Designer Joanne Shaw will take us through designing a low maintenance garden. I can use this for when the summer gets busy and there isn't as much time as I'd like to spend digging, weeding, watering, etc.

In June, for something a bit different, photographer Leif Petersen will present "Mother Nature... What a Show-Off!" Leif is the judge of our annual photography competition so he knows what is needed to take a great picture.

James Kamstra of North Durham Nature will speak to us about birds and their favourite landscapes in July. I love birding as much as I love gardening, so I'm looking forward to this immensely.

August will feature a floral design demonstration by OHA Judge Barb Twiner and our very own Past-President Norma Haney. September will feature outdoor succulents presented by Molly Shannon of Canadian Succulents, and our Dessert Night fundraiser in October features Paul Heydon explaining why we should garden with native plants.

We will also host our annual Plant, Bake and Yard sale on May 20, our members-only workshop in November and our Annual General Meeting in December. It will be a busy and fun year.

First up is our March 14 meeting, where we'll all enjoy a sweet and savoury snack while I take us on a walk through the gardens at Scotney Castle. See you there!

All the best, Libbi

Spring is Almost Here. Don't Overdo it!

When the weather warms up, remember to ease into your spring jobs. First, we need to be kind to our backs and knees, by taking things slowly and not doing too much physical labour at one time. Consider stretching and/or warming up your muscles before gardening, just like you would before a workout.

Second, as Norma told us in last March's newsletter, beneficial insects/larvae may be still be slumbering among last year's fallen leaves and plant debris. Wait a few weeks before diving into to clean-up, just in case.

District 17 Annual General Meeting

Embracing Diversity: A World of Variety for the Future

This year's District 17 AGM is Saturday, April 29, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Leaskdale, less than 30 minutes from Port Perry.

Hosted by the Cannington Horticultural Society, the event includes Flower and Photography Shows, two speakers, silent auction and lunch, all for \$30.

The speakers are:

- Lorraine Johnson, author/editor of fourteen top selling books on native plants, the environment and gardening,
- Jillian Bishop, Owner of Urbantomato, featuring heirloom seeds, seed saving and sharing

Registrations will be forwarded through the garden club so we will collect registration information and fees at the March and April meetings. Please think about attending this year!

To receive a copy of the show schedules for photography and flower shows, please email libbi_hood@yahoo.ca



Are you a natural on Social Media?

Follow and like our Facebook and Instagram posts to help get the word out about our club. We're also looking for help running the accounts if you're a social media whiz. Contact Libbi Hood to volunteer.

Instagram: @pineridgegardenclub
Facebook: PineRidgeGardenClub



GET THE JUMP ON SPRING + SEEDY SATURDAY

The Toronto Botanical Garden is relaunching its annual horticultural open house.

Saturday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission: \$2 suggested donation

This one-day extravaganza includes:

- Free Talks and Demonstrations
- Free Gardening Advice Clinic offered by the Toronto Master Gardeners
- TBG Bloom Café and Coffee Bar for onsite noshing and refreshments.

Plus a Seedy Saturday – Free Seed Exchange. For more information visit: TorontoBotanicalGarden.ca

Plant, Bake & Yard Sale May 20

Just a reminder that our annual fundraiser takes place the Saturday of the May long weekend. Please mark your calendar and consider volunteering for set-up and/or selling on May 20. Plus we need your donations! Plan to divide perennials and/or start some seedlings to donate.

Garden Ontario 50/50 Draw

The deadline to buy tickets on the latest Garden Ontario 50/50 draw is March 15. The prize is already over \$4400 and the winner takes half.

Tickets will only be available online at:

<https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha>

Tickets are 200 for \$75, 80 for \$40, 30 for \$20 or 10 tickets for \$10. Must be in Ontario and 18 years or older to purchase a ticket.

Your ticket purchase it supports education for youth and adults through Garden Ontario (the OHA). It also supports environmental programs, awards and grants assisting with pollinators, tree planting and community beautification as well as post secondary scholarships.