



PINE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB

"Where Gardeners Come To Bloom"

March-April 2024 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 Community Centre,
3967 Hwy 7A

Tuesday, March 12
7:30 p.m.

Sweet and Savoury Night!

We're having a finger food potluck buffet. Please bring some finger food by 7:15 p.m. (enough for 10-12 people) to be enjoyed during the meeting. Please no foods that need to be heated on site. Coffee and tea provided—please bring your own mug.

Speaker: David Retallick,
David's Garden

Topic: Pruning 101

Tuesday, April 2
7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Lydia Wong

Topic: "Bees and Wasps:
The Good, the not so Bad and
the Beautiful"

Membership is Due

It's time to renew for 2024. Please bring payment to the March meeting. Membership fees are \$20 for a single person and \$25 for a family.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Cold enough for ya?"

The answer to that question is a definite "no" this year. I wish we had a more traditional winter with snow and cold temperatures to keep Mother Nature running as she should. But weird weather is likely here to stay due to climate change. We will have to adapt.

I'm excited for another year of garden club. We've got a fun line-up of programming this year, from herbs to vegetables to trivia! We've brought back the very popular August design demonstration and we're also changing things up with an October workshop rather than the November holiday workshop. Thanks to the members who completed the online survey in January to help guide the Board's decisions.

Our first meeting of the year, March 12, will be a sweet and savoury finger food buffet. Some ideas for savoury items are sausage rolls, mini quiche, cheese or meatballs. And remember, you don't need to bring enough for everyone—just for 10-12 people. Please bring your items by 7:15 p.m. so we can start the buffet and get to our first speaker of the year: David Retallick with Pruning 101! Our 2024 yearbook will be available for pick-up as well.

Lots is happening with District 17 of the OHA too. See below for information about suggesting a theme for the 2026 conference, and visit the website if you're interested in entering a design for a new District 17 logo!

All the best, Libbi



OHA 2026 Convention—Suggest a Theme!

District 17 (that's us!) is hosting the 2026 OHA Convention, along with District 4 (Kawarthas/Peterborough area). A theme for the Convention is one of the first things we need. The theme should be something common to both Durham Region and the Kawarthas/Peterborough area.

Some ideas to start the creative juices flowing: 1. From City to Farm; 2. Green Belts Matter; 3. Birds, Bees, Water and Trees

The winner will be decided by the planning committee. Please send your suggestions to: OHAConvention2026@gmail.com by April 28, 2024.

Wouldn't it be great if the theme came from a member from Pine Ridge!

District 17 AGM for 2024: The Time to Garden is NOW

This year's District 17 AGM is Saturday, April 27, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Oshawa (38 L'viv Blvd, near Simcoe St. and Hwy 401).

Hosted by the Oshawa Garden Club, the event includes Flower and Photography Shows, two speakers, silent auction and lunch, all for \$35.

The excellent speakers are Paul Zammit and Cathy Kavassalis.

Registrations will be forwarded through the garden club so we will collect registration information and fees at the March and April meetings. Please note that attendance is by advanced registration only.

A copy of the show schedule for photography is available at OHADistrict17.ca. NOTE that photography entries are due by April 6.



Plant, Bake & Yard Sale May 18

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 18. 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 16. The prize is already over \$3145 and the winner takes half.

Tickets will only be available online at:

[https:// www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha](https://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/ontario-ha)

Tickets start at 10 for \$10. Must be in Ontario and 18 years or older to purchase a ticket. You do not need to be associated with the OHA to purchase 50/50 tickets.

SEEDY SATURDAY March 23

Co-Hosted by Beaverton, Cannington and Georgina-Brock clubs.

Lion's Community Hall, 38 Pete's Lane, Pefferlaw,
Doors open at 9am to 2pm

Check out this annual event—a great day for exploring all things seed and garden related. Great guest speakers, seed and garden vendors, Brock's Seed Library, seed swap table, Durham Master Gardeners, children's activities and more!

Guest Speakers & Presentations:

9:15 Shea & Natalie from Green & Bloom Farm
"Seed Starting/Best Practices"

10:15 John & Nicole from The Glen Road Organics
"Full Soil Foodweb/Compost"

10:30 Children's Story Time - Georgina Public Library Team

11:15 Discussion Panel/Q&A with Guest Speakers and Mary Beerman

Volunteers Needed!

Do you like the PRGC newsletter? We're looking for contributors to research and write short articles!

Do you take great photos with your phone? We need a volunteer to take photos at Club meetings this year.

Contact Libbi Hood at a meeting to volunteer!

Weird Winter Weather

The recent warm, wet weather has our gardens confused! In some areas, crocus are pushing through, maple sap has been running for weeks and trees are budding. Hopefully our area is still cold enough to avoid the worst of it. Here are some of the possible negative consequences:

- Plants that sprout early in warm weather will be stressed by subsequent cold snaps (and possibly killed off for this year)
- Lack of snow means less protection for seeds and plants—they might not survive.
- Warm temperatures and lack of snow could mean more pests survive winter, so it could be extra buggy this gardening season.
- The dry winter could leave perennials stressed, and a wet spring will help.

Hope we get lots of April showers!