



PINE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB

"Where Gardeners Come To Bloom"

May-June 2024 Newsletter

NESTLETON, ONTARIO

MEMBER OF DISTRICT 17 ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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PineRidgeGardenClub.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Nestleton Community Centre
3967 Hwy 7A

Tuesday, May 7

7:30 p.m.

****Place your Spring Flower
Show entries between
6 and 6:45 p.m.****

Speaker:

Mary-Jane Pilgrim,

Topic: Successful Vegetable
Gardens

Tuesday, June 4

7:30 p.m.

****Place your June Iris Show
entries by 7:00 p.m.****

Speaker: Sherry Dobson,
Durham Master Gardener

Topic: Herbs in Our Gardens



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm excited to get gardening again! I must apologize for this newsletter arriving after the beginning of May, but I had to take time this week to repot tomato seedlings. I was too busy last year to start seeds and I missed it. I first grew my own tomatoes in 2020 during lockdown, and I haven't looked back. This year 27 of 30 seeds grew, and I hope to have some extras to donate to the plant sale. I have only a south facing window (no grow lights) so some of them get quite leggy, but it's so satisfying to grow a plant from a seed.

It's also satisfying (and fun!) to enter your flowers, houseplants and designs in our shows. I'm hopeful we'll have some members entering shows for the first time this year. Give it a try!

And as always, be prepared to enter our photography competition in October by taking photos throughout the year. The trick to winning the Johansen Plaque is to enter every category. This spring you should be grabbing photos of early spring blooms for the "Springing Up" category.

All the best, Libbi

Enter Your Daffodils

Many of your flower arrangements made at this time of year, whether as a design entry at our show or for your own pleasure, will include daffodils.

Arranging daffodils in floral foam creates a problem for the designer. Daffodil stems are hollow, so when you attempt to insert the stem the end usually splits apart.

Therefore, a good tip is, cut a thin plastic straw into a piece approximately 1 1/2 in (3.8 cm) long. Once you have cut the daffodil stem to the desired length carefully insert the straw into the bottom of the stem leaving 1/2 inch outside the stem. Then the daffodil is ready to be inserted into the foam. Otherwise consider using a pin holder (frog/Kenzan) or chicken wire as your mechanics in your design.

When you cut your daffodils for our May 7 show, remember they aren't shown with leaves, but almost all other flowers should be entered with leaves. When in doubt, include the leaves and our helpful show coordinators will let you know to cut them off before placing your entry.



A Good Time at D17 AGM

Ten PRGC members attended the D17 AGM on April 27, meeting members from across the district, entering the shows, and listening to the entertaining and compelling speakers: Paul Zammit and Cathy Kavassalis.

Congratulations to Helen Nicolaou, Shelley Brock and Norma Haney for winning first place for their group design—with the theme “Time to Garden” and also Judge’s Choice!



Pictured are Gloria Wright, Juanita Brewer, Rita Barrell, Jill Sanderson, Helen Nicolaou, Shelley Brock and Norma Haney. Also in attendance were Libbi Hood, Anna Spencley and Lois Summers.



Upcoming Events to Enjoy!

May 4 Otter Greenhouses 25-year Celebration. Explore all 17 greenhouses! 11am to 3 pm

June 8 Scugog Free Compost Giveaway. 8am to 12pm at the Community Centre, 1655 Reach Street. Bring your own shovel and containers, and donations to the food bank are encouraged.

June 8 and 9 Oshawa Peony Festival at the Oshawa Valley Botanical Gardens, 155 Arena St., Oshawa, 10am to 4pm. Visit Oshawa.ca/Peony for details.

June 15 Uxbridge Garden Tour. 10am to 5pm. \$25 per ticket. Visit GardensofUxbridge.org for details.

Plant, Bake & Yard Sale— Saturday, May 18

Our largest fundraiser of the year is almost here. For it to be a success, we need everyone to provide plants, baking and good quality yard sale items (no electronics, no large items and only current books).



We particularly need more members to donate plants to ensure a great variety for the sale. The plant table at the sale is the greatest contributor to the success of this fundraiser.

This year, we are asking all members to make an extra effort to contribute plants/small shrubs from their gardens, plants started from seeds; vegetables, flowers, etc. Also, tomatoes and herbs are always popular. Perennials especially those that are not usually easy to find at garden centres like astilbe, heuchera, echinacea, rudbeckia and groundcovers are always requested by shoppers.

So please, in the next few weeks when you are working in your gardens, especially when dividing perennials, pot up several for the sale.

See the 2023 May/June newsletter for instructions how to divide a perennial plant, or look it up online

Deliver them by 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning to Nestleton Hall. Alternatively, you can drop them off May 17 at 7 p.m. at Nestleton Hall, or May 16 to one of these locations (plants only!): 51 Suggit Dr, Nestleton – on driveway or behind garage; 437 Bigelow St, Port Perry – along the driveway beside the house; 33 Ottawa St, Port Perry – on the front porch.

We also need volunteers to set-up and clean up afterward. Sign up at the May 7 meeting or contact a member of the Board.

Garden Ontario 50/50 Draw

The deadline to buy 50/50 tickets to support OHA education initiatives is July 13 and the winner will be drawn at the OHA AGM in Guelph. (It's generated by the computer).

Tickets available online at:

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