

A WORMS EYE VIEW
FERGUS & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
JANUARY 2024



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Meeting 7:30pm, January 24, 2024, doors open at 7pm.
Member led meeting, Graham and Matilda Parsons and gardens of New Zealand.

Come early to check in and pay your annual dues, now at \$15/member, cash or cheque. We may also etransfer our payments to fergushorticulture@gmail.com, note name and details in the message box.

“Lug a mug” to partake of refreshments after the meeting.

February 21st meeting night will be with Randy McLean on maple syrup production on a small farm.



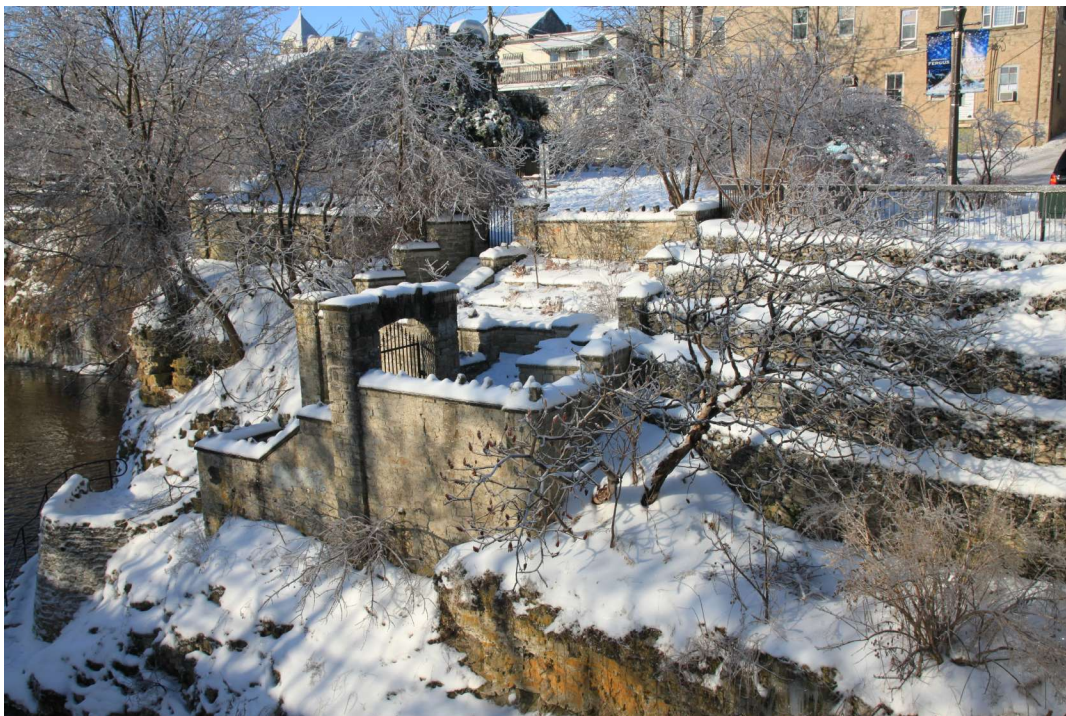
President's Message. January 2024

2024. It's another year. If we look at our world and 2023, we can only hope some sanity begins to take hold across the globe. But in our part of the world, I can say 2023 was a very good year. And 2024, our 167th year as a Horticultural Society should continue to be good as it has over our history.

I am a believer that the essence of who we are attracts more of the same. We have an exceptional group of people with like thinking, initiative, values, and compassion. This has been at the core of who we are. It has given us a steady flow of pure, positive, energy that has contributed to our community from the beginning.

I know we will continue to be the great organization we have become with the superb multitude of programs and events that we are known for. The new board has had its second meeting and is working towards improving in every area. That is our goal: to continue to be better at what we do. To work together as a team. To help in any way and improve how we work with our committees, our membership, and the community. It's an energy I am convinced will be contagious and spark inspiration in many. When you feel inspired, great ideas are generated and you feel good and alive. For me, it makes these old bones in my body feel a little younger and my soul a lot lighter and happier. It makes it a little easier to get out of bed in the morning.

I am looking forward to working and connecting with all of you over the coming year. We have a very special group and I feel very fortunate to be part of it. Welcome to 2024, our 167th year. I look forward to seeing you at our monthly members' meeting on Wednesday, January 24th. Happy 167th Birthday.



2024 Board Members



President (2024-2025) Ken Johnston
Secretary (2022 -2024) Claire McKay
Past President (2024-2025) Karen Eddie

Vice-President (2024-2025) Mary-Ann Brancière
Treasurer (2022-2024) Joyce Giddings

2024-2025 Directors Bob Crane, Wendy Jamieson, Betty-Anne McBey, Meg Walsh, Cheryl Yuill
2023-2024 Directors Jennifer Johnson, Patty Searle-Johnston

General Meeting Awards



Pioneer Trophy– Graham Oughton John Carter trophy – Sharon Oughton



Colwyn Trophy – Shannon Shan accepted by Greg Boland



Rose Bowl Trophy– Joan Rogers



Bistrow Trophy – Michelle Goff



Mabel Reid Trophy– Helen Lacroix

10 Year Service Awards



Bernie Siegmund, John Cuming, Nancy Van Veen, Nikki Logan, Karen Eddie, (presenter) and Sue Niit

SEEDY SATURDAY 2024

Mark your calendars! The Horticultural Societies of Fergus & District and Elora & Salem are jointly organizing the 5th annual **Centre Wellington Seedy Saturday** on **Saturday, March 16th, 2024**. The event will be held in the Aboyne Hall and adjacent hallway of the Wellington County Museum & Archives on Wellington County Road 18 in Fergus. Doors will be open to the public from **10:30 am till 2:30 pm**. As in previous years, admission will be free of charge to all.



There will be something of interest for everyone, regardless of age, gardening experience, and expertise as a seed enthusiast. The organizing committee Jude Dowling, Sharon Leggett, and Fred Mallett have lined up a diverse group of vendors, community groups, and advisory services. Workshops will be held in the Reading Room of the Archives on the topics of saving, storing, and starting of seeds, as well as vermiculture and vermicomposting (i.e. gardening with worms!).

If any members are willing to donate seeds for the free exchange table, all donations will be gratefully accepted. Seed envelopes will be made freely available at monthly General Meetings. Envelopes should be labelled to show the seed variety, colour (if flowering varieties), and the year the seeds were harvested.

Please plan to join us, browse the vendor tables, exchange seeds, meet your neighbours, share stories and gather information on a wide variety of topics, such as genetic diversity, pollination, working with nature, etc. A Children's Activity Corner will also be available for the youngsters in attendance. More detailed information will follow as we get closer to the date.

We will soon be in need of volunteers to help with the following duties:

Advertising (before the date) – placing posters, distributing brochures, word of mouth, etc.

Children's Activity Corner - occupying visitors' children with various activities on the day.

(Note: an OPP Criminal Records Check is required for volunteers working with children)

Reception Desk – greeting participants, giving help and directions, as required, and promoting the wonderful benefits of horticultural society membership.

Set-Up - assisting vendors and advisors to move their displays and goods into the building.

Tear-Down - assisting vendors and advisors to remove their displays out of the building.

If you are willing to help out in any way please contact any of the Centre Wellington Seedy Saturday organizers, by e-mail at cw.seedy.saturday@gmail.com or call 226-820-2910.



A Day in the Garden:

Garden to table: Planting and Harvesting Together

FRESH FOOD. HOW AND NOW!



Mike Smith
Planning a successful
community garden



Amy Bowen
Sustainable food
production



Stephen Biggs
Edible garden
makeover

Sunday, Feb 25th, 2024

8:30am - 3:00pm

Victoria Park East Golf Club

1096 Victoria Rd South,

Puslinch, ON

- **\$70 early bird ticket price**
- **Breakfast and lunch**
- **Vendors and door prizes**



6 CEUs

Buy tickets on Eventbrite

www.gwmastergardeners.com