

Gardening is...an outlet for fanaticism, violence, love, and rationality without their worst side effects.

*Geoffrey Charlesworth  
A Gardener Obsessed (1994)*

### **SPEAKER TONIGHT**

Celia Roberts on *Judging a flower show.*

### **FYI**

The Historic Wallace House will be holding a Spring Arts & Crafts Sale Saturday, April 9 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

While still in the planning stages of your garden, consider these Bee friendly plants and flowers. Ontario has recently curbed the use of Neonicotinoid, a deadly pesticide linked to the death of these friendly pollinators. Please visit this site for more information on what you can do to help these beneficial insects in the garden:

<http://tvo.org/video/programs/the-agenda-with-steve-paikin/the-bees-needs>



### **NEAT THINGS ABOUT INSECTS**

Speaking of Bees, do you know the difference between a summer bee and a winter bee? A summer bee lives four to six weeks; a winter bee lives four to six months. They survive in the hive by eating honey. The bees congregate in a cluster, shivering their flight muscles to

generate heat to keep themselves warm.

### **FLEXING GARDENING MUSCLES**

March is typically the month to sow slow germinating seeds indoors.

Tomatoes, peppers, broccoli and cauliflower need a warm and sunny window sill.

Give your dahlia bulbs a head start by potting them up indoors for a spectacular summer show.

Once the snow has melted and the soil is no longer muddy, clear out the dead seed heads from perennials that fed foraging birds over the winter. Many simply snap away, allowing for new growth to spring forth.

Walk around and take stock of what you want to keep and get rid of. Also, begin to weed; might as well get used to it. Digging them out by the roots before they get a head-start in overtaking your garden will make them easier to deal with all summer and into fall. Your perseverance will pay off.



# Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



[www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com](http://www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com)

Issue 30, March, 2016

## THANKS!

To our dedicated volunteers for helping to decorate the Bridges of Woodbridge for every Season-Christmas, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day and Easter.

Thank you Gail Stevenson, Joyce Bockmaster, Madeleine Sisti-Petrucelli, Penny Willis, Joan Stubberfield, Maryanne Dionne, Sally and Chris Andrews, John Mazzella, Enza Lucivero, Sue Fava, Susan Piotrowski, Mace Blundel, Liz Langenberger, Gabe Mastroianni, Lucy Consiglio, Jack and Helen Peacock

Thanks to Sue Fava who graciously sent Thank you cards to Mayor Bevelacqua and Councillor Tony Carella to acknowledge their involvement with our group projects. The cheque made out to our Society is much appreciated and will be put to good use to further beautify and enhance the community.

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Wallace house Garden Clean-up:

Please add your name and contact information to the sign-up sheet for the initial spring clean-up. You will be notified of the date as soon as the weather is favourable.

# Volunteers!



Please let this be the year to make a concerted effort to volunteer your time in assisting with our Society's projects, be it maintaining the Armstrong Park and Wallace House Garden, decorating bridges, or helping in any other capacity. It's a great way to get to know other members, and knowing you are an integral part of our community will make you proud that you contributed.

## NEAT THINGS ABOUT SEEDS

Nick large seeds before planting for quicker germination. This technique, known as scarification, works for Lupine, Morning Glory and Sweet Pea. Soaking seeds overnight is also helpful and a great test to see if they are still viable. Discard any floating seeds. All that's needed until they sprout is air, water and light.



I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by.

*Douglas Adams*

## SUBMISSIONS

If you have a newsletter submission, please call or email Mary (see below) no later than one week before the next meeting.