



Woodbridge Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.woodbridgehorticultural.weebly.com

Issue 43, April, 2018

O, wind, if winter
comes, can spring be
far behind?

--Percy Bysshe Shelley

SPEAKER TONIGHT

Heinke Thiessen on
Hostas and Made in the
Shade.



NEAT THINGS ABOUT HOSTAS

Hostas are native to Japan, China and Korea, where plenty of rain helps them thrive. Water deeply because large hostas have deep roots extending 18 inches or more beneath the soil.

Ensure they have adequate drainage. Amend soil with peat and other organics to form a light loam.

Hostas are shade tolerant, meaning they also need lots of light. Plant them where they will get early morning sun and be shaded from the hottest rays in the afternoon. Some thin-leaved hostas will burn if exposed to too much sun

and not given adequate amounts of water. The most fragrant hosta is *H. plantaginea*, from China, brought to England in 1790. Its fragrance resembles honeysuckle. All fragrant hybrids are descendants from this species. Hosta leaves come in many textures, shapes, sizes and forms, including ruffled, pleated, embossed, wrinkled, crinkled, undulated, ribbed, cupped, flat, curled, wavy, round, heart-shaped, lance-like, oval and contorted! Both deer and slugs find hosta delicious. Wood ash or sand at their roots is deadly to slugs, as it prevents easy movement, so they die on the dry surface. To deter deer, surround hosta with plants deer do not prefer. To discourage slugs, plant thick leaved or ribbed hosta. Mulching with pine needles helps to inhibit slugs and preserves soil moisture while giving hosta that little extra bit of acidity they enjoy. Hostas will live for many years and become quite large if they have plenty of room to expand. The ideal time to divide them is early spring or fall. Simply cut an emerging plant into

four sections with a sharp spade or garden knife. Popular blue hostas are actually green, and if planted in sunlight will tend to lose their waxy coating as the summer progresses. Those with a lower sun exposure are more likely to stay blue.



WALLACE HOUSE

Thank you to members who signed up for the initial clean-up. You will be notified of the date and time as soon as weather is favourable.

THANKS!

To Sally, Chris, Mace, Liz and Gail for decorating the bridge on Woodbridge Avenue, the Big Cannoli and Wallace House for Easter. John and Gilda also participated helping to take them down Saturday, April 7th. The first clean-up date for Armstrong Park is Saturday, June 9th.



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FYI

A new Botanical Garden is opening soon. For more information visit:

Quinte **Botanical** Gardens
664 Glen Ross Rd.
Frankford, Ontario
613-398-0402
www.qbgardens.ca

PLANT SALE

Kleinburg Old Boys' Plant Sale, BBQ & Bake Sale will be held on Saturday May 12, 9am - 1pm, at the Kline House (north-west corner of Islington Avenue and Nashville Road)
If you are dividing perennials, your plants

would be a welcome donation early Saturday morning.

All proceeds go to the Kleinburg Old Boys in support of the Kleinburg/Nashville Historical Collection at the Kline House - open weekends from Victoria Day weekend through Thanksgiving.



"Snow in April is abominable," said Anne. "Like a slap in the face when you expected a kiss."

--L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Ingleside

WINNERS of LAST MONTH'S PHOTO CONTEST:

Spring Scene	Maria Durigon
Fall Scene:	Maria Durigon
Winter scene:	Nina Nolan
Colour Explosion:	Nina Nolan
Close-Up:	Doreen Smith
Best in Show:	Jack Peacock



SUBMISSIONS

If you have anything you'd like added to the newsletter, please call or email Mary no later than one week before the next meeting.