

# Growing Together

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### Editorial By Tonya Davis

This time of year I am reminded we live in a beautiful diverse country. I acknowledge that many people will share their holidays far from loved ones and saying Merry Christmas is no longer inclusive. There are nine winter holidays shared by our neighbours. They include: Hanukkah, Three Kings Day, Winter Solstice, St. Lucia Day, St. Nicolas Day, Christmas, Kwanzaa, New Year, and Mardi Gras. So when I wish you happy holidays I am saying I acknowledge your heritage as I hope you do mine.



### Regenerative Gardening

There is a lot being researched about regenerative gardening practices throughout the world. Part of regenerative gardening includes five ways to bring back nutrients into the soil.

Avoid tilling as it breaks down soil and releases CO<sub>2</sub>. Nourish your soil with compost. It encourages natural micro-organisms back into the soil as organic matter. Integrate the natural habitat into your garden. It encourages a healthier ecosystem. Plan your plantings with succession planting to reduce empty garden space. Reduce use of insecticides and herbicides. Instead choose plants that repel unwanted insects.

<https://www.gbbg.org/>

# Growing Together



EST. 2022  
**LIBRARY  
NOOK**  
Five Corners  
Millennium  
Garden

The Cobourg Garden Club is pleased to invite our club members, and members of the community, to participate in the sharing of gardening books from the recently installed library box now located at the Five Corners garden. The Five Corners garden at William and King Streets is a place for you to explore, relax and enjoy the natural world around you. We hope that you find time to visit the garden soon!

Winter is the perfect time to plan next years garden projects. If you are keen, interested to learn about a particular plant, grow your own vegetables, transform your tired garden into something new and refreshing, please visit our library box and take home some books. The library references are meant to be shared but you can keep them for as long as you need to and bring them back when you are finished. We will also accept your donations of any good used garden books into our library box.

The garden is a changing picture. It changes with the seasons. It changes in the morning sunshine and with the evening sunset. The Cobourg Garden Club is changing the way we see the Five Corners garden picture. We are promoting the use of native plants and shrubs to improve biodiversity in this garden. The garden is now part of the Butterflyway Project. The Butterflyway Project is an initiative started in 2017, with the David Suzuki Foundation, to create viable pollinator habitats in neighbourhoods across Canada, one butterfly friendly garden at a time.

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### Library Book cart:



We have noticed that not many people take books from the library book cart. Is it time to get rid of the cart? Please respond to me, [diaudrey15@gmail.com](mailto:diaudrey15@gmail.com) with a yes or no. If you have any ideas what we can do with the books, please let us know. Dianne Taylor, president

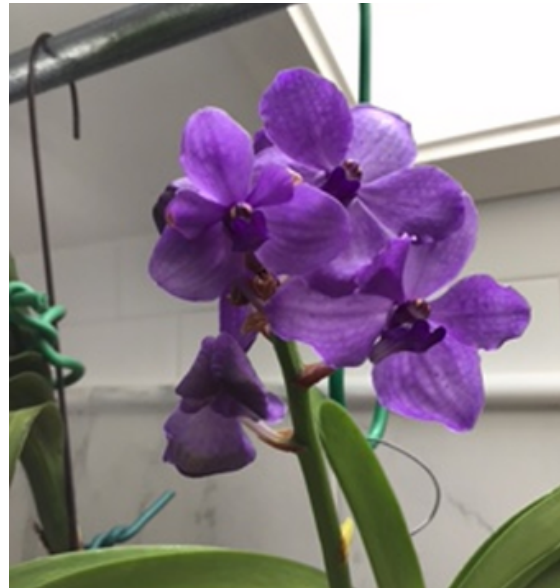


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## *The Naked Truth*

Yvonne Michalski

I have a mini indoor orchid greenhouse. My 1850 Southern Ontario cottage home didn't come with accoutrements like greenhouses or even indoor plumbing. So I invented my own moist and easy to maintain plant room. My roomy walk-in shower has a window and a skylight and I hang an assortment of orchids on a rod. The vanda's just love the light and the humidity. I just love sharing my showers with them. It's the original buff rain forest experience. Up front and personal, I inspect them (and sometimes scold them), checking for new buds and possible insects. I do a hunt for the sweet fragrances that exude from the latest flower. The tiny ones sometimes pump out the most divine smells. I fertilize them with a spray bottle of liquid orchid fertilizer. I enjoy having them there as the maintenance is minimal. They like me there too, a naturel doesn't apparently bother them. Here are some photo's of my menagerie, mercifully, I have not included any of my buffy self.



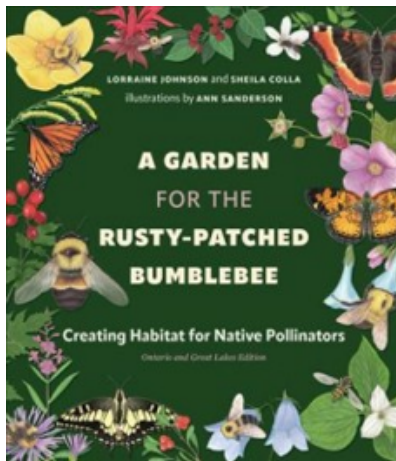
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## Home, Garden, and DIY

A Garden for the Rusty-patched Bumblebee : Creating Habitat for Native Pollinators: Ontario and Great Lakes Edition  
by Lorraine Johnson

A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee provides all the information gardeners need to take action to support and protect pollinators, by creating habitat in yards and community spaces, on balconies and boulevards, everywhere!



The first-time homesteader : a complete beginner's guide to starting and loving your new homestead  
by Jessica Sowards

A seasoned homesteader provides an abundance of information for starting a homestead in the city, country or suburbia, guiding you through the process and helping you strive for a more sustainable life and a greater connection to the cycles of nature and the foods and goods we consume. Original.



### Our Seed Library is Growing!

This year we received over 320 packages of donated seeds to add to our Seed Library! **THANK YOU!**

Now, it is up to our dedicated volunteers to re-package and label these seeds and have them ready to borrow in the spring.

*Have you harvested more seeds from your garden than you can plant or have extra seeds that you do not need?* Donate them to the Library so they can be planted and enjoyed by others.



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## *Japanese Knotweed*

### INVASIVE PLANTS THAT ARE NOT SO GOOD FOR ONTARIO

by Alex Borowik

Alex a member of the Grafton Green Thumbs and Jennifer Darrell sent me a link to an interesting BBC article about Japanese Knotweed titled, "The alien shrub that can't be stopped" by Zaria Gorvett, dated the 6th of October, 2022.

The mention of Japanese Knotweed reminded me of the time when I lived in Bath, England for several years from 2006. As we were looking to purchase a house, we were told to look out for Japanese Knotweed that may be growing on the property. I remember at the time we were advised to get an assurance that there wasn't, or never had been, any growing on the property because the plant could spread and grow through concrete, cracking foundations.

As we moved back to Canada in 2010, I didn't realize that this plant was already growing in the Grafton area, until several members mentioned sites around the township. As I drove around the township one day, I asked my son and daughter, with their keen eyesight, to look out for Japanese Knotweed. We didn't have to go far before we spotted a very large, dense clump at the corner of Shelter Valley Road and Broomfield Road. There were also many other areas with smaller bushes.

The source of the article can be read at the BBC:

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20221006-the-race-to-kill-the-worlds-most-invasive-weed?xtor=ES-213>



Ontario Invading Species Awareness Program  
PO Box 2800  
Peterborough, Ontario Canada  
K9J 8L5

info@invadingspecies.com  
Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711.



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## SEEDS



**OHA 115th Convention**  
**July 21 - 23, 2023**  
**District 2 - Ottawa Valley**

### CONVENTION NEWS!

**July 21-23, 2023**

Hosted by District 2

The OHA 2023 Convention will be held at:

**The Brookstreet Hotel in Ottawa**

525 Legget Drive, Ottawa, ON K2K 2W2

<https://www.brookstreethotel.com/>

### Heirloom & Organic

Rainbow Seeds - Canada's - Heirloom - Non-GMO - Heritage vegetable garden seeds supplier.

[https://www.rainbowseeds.ca/store/cl/Featured\\_Products.html](https://www.rainbowseeds.ca/store/cl/Featured_Products.html)

Canadian Seed Companies: The 25+ Best Garden Seed Sellers In Canada

<https://www.homefortheharvest.com/canadian-seed-companies/>

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

<https://www.gardenbetty.com/best-garden-seed-catalogs/>

GreenUp

<https://www.greenup.on.ca/ecology-park/nursery/>

Native Plants in Claremont

<https://www.nativeplants.ca/>

Grow Wild near Lindsay

<http://www.nativeplantnursery.ca/>

Natural Themes Plant Nursery in Frankford

<http://www.naturalthemes.com/>

What are Heirloom Seeds:

In the past, heirloom seeds were typically handed down to a son or daughter of a farmer who was getting married. This was considered a wedding gift to help provide for the newly formed family. Now these heirloom seed varieties are sought after because of their diversity and their widespread growing regions that has helped to keep them isolated from Genetically Engineered Varieties. The most common reason for seeking out heirloom seeds is to find varieties that are resistant to various molds and crop diseases depending on the region in which you are trying to grow. Source: <https://www.rainbowseeds.ca/variety-packs.html>

**22**  
FEB

**Canada Blooms**

Feb 22-26, 2023

Toronto Congress Centre, 65...

Etobicoke, ON



# Growing Together



**Cobourg  
Garden  
Club**

## FOUNDED IN 1859

The Cobourg Garden Club is a non-profit group of garden enthusiasts who share the love of gardening.

Among the activities of the Club are tours, lectures by knowledgeable speakers, flower shows and workshops. Club members maintain a community garden in Cobourg, the *Five Corners Millennium Garden*, at King & William Streets. Annually, the Club awards a scholarship to graduating Cobourg High School students. Funds raised through our annual plant sale (TBA), support these initiatives.

**Meetings** are held on the first Wednesday of the month (excluding January, July, August) at the **Columbus Community Centre, 232 Spencer Street E, at D'Arcy. 7:00 p.m. - Refreshments/Club specific events; 7:30 p.m. - Speakers.**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Single \$25, Family \$40. Guests are welcome to any meeting for a nominal fee of \$5.

Visit our website for more information:

[www.cobourggardenclub.org](http://www.cobourggardenclub.org)

## NEWSLETTER

Newsletter articles/photos submissions due 8th of the month the newsletter is published.

Publication dates: 15 March 2023.

Note: submissions may be held for following editions.

Contact: Tonya Davis  
bunnytdavis@sympatico.ca

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**2023  
Program**

Wed, Feb 1	Kassie McKeown Land Relationship Visioning: Revisiting Land Use with a First Nations Context
Wed, Mar 1	Carolyn Oster Native Plants
Wed, Apr 5	Ann Mizyn Succulents and Drought-tolerant Plants
Wed, May 3	Charlie Dobbin Container/Vertical Gardening Spring Mini Flower & Photography Show
Sat, May 20	Annual Plant Sale TBA
Wed, Jun 7	Gini Sage, Durham MG Square Ft. Gardening
July (TBA)	Four-Club Members' Garden Tour
Sat, Aug. 12	Summer Flower, Fruit and Photography Show Cobourg Library (Tea 1:30-3:30)
Wed, Sep 6	Theresa Herron/JoAnne Howes Harvesting & Cooking with Herbs
Wed, Oct 4	Sherry Dodson, Durham MG Preparing Garden for Winter Submit Q's for Nov. Panel Awards Presentation
Wed, Nov 1	Cobourg Garden Club Panel Answers Members' Garden Questions Annual General Meeting
Wed, Dec 6	Christmas Design, Photography & Craft Show Greenery Exchange



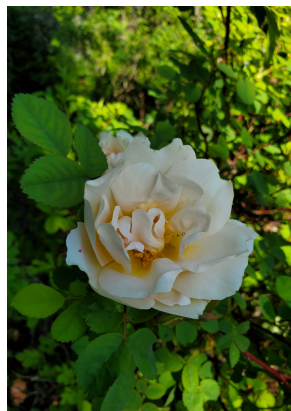
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## Annual General Meeting Cobourg Garden Club

**Date: December 7, 2022**

Thank you to all those who attended. We have a few changes this year. I am completing my second term as President. Bonnie Young is now VP and prepared to become President next year. Bonnie also maintains the website, FB and Instagram. Katherine Skidmore is now in charge of membership. Judy Harris continues to be secretary and is now also our treasurer. Our directors are Theresa Herron in charge of the 5-corner native plant garden, and also Archives. Marlene Davison will be looking to put together a committee to run the annual plant sale fundraiser in May. Jeanne Guillaume continues to chair the Scholarship committee. Dawn McGregor is our Social Convenor who organizes refreshments for our meetings and other club events. She is also in charge of advertising for our yearbook. Janet Sedgwick remains Program Chair. She has a lot of exciting things in store for us next year. Ron Weisfeld and Marion Castleton remain as Directors.

Creating the new website was a major undertaking by a small committee, co-chaired by Jeanne Guillaume and Bonnie Young. Instead of pictures of each of us, Bonnie put a picture of our favourite flower. Please check out these pictures. The first one back to me with all correct answers will win a prize!







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## BUTTERNUT SQUASH CRUMBLE

from Bonnie Young

Serves 6-8

Squash Filling Ingredients

2 tablespoon unsalted butter

2 tablespoon olive oil

4 lbs butternut squash peeled, seeded, and diced into 1/2" dice

2 teaspoons minced fresh thyme leaves

Salt and Freshly ground pepper

1/2 Cup peeled and thinly sliced shallots

1 Cup chicken stock

2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

Topping

1/2 Cup breadcrumbs

1/2 Cup cornmeal

1/2 Cup freshly grated Parmesan

1 tablespoon chopped sage leaves

1 teaspoon sugar

1/2 teaspoon salt

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, chilled and cubed

1 egg

1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

Generously butter a shallow 3-quart baking dish with softened butter.

2. To make the squash filling, heat 1 tablespoon of the butter and 1 tablespoon of the olive oil in a large skillet over the medium-high heat. Add half of the squash and half of the thyme. Season with salt & pepper and sauté, stirring occasionally, until the squash pieces begin to brown on several sides.

3. Add half of the shallots and cook for another few minutes, until they're softened. Add 1/2 Cup of the chicken stock and cook for about 30 seconds, stirring, to reduce the stock a bit and heat everything through. Scrape the squash mixture into the prepared baking dish.

4. Wipe the pan clean and heat the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter and 1 tablespoon of olive oil in the pan over medium-high heat. Cook the rest of the squash and thyme the same way, seasoning it with salt and pepper, and adding the remaining shallots and 1/2 cup of chicken stock, stirring. Scrape the cooked squash into the baking dish, stir in the parsley, then press the mixture into the baking dish into a relatively even layer. Cover the dish snugly with foil and bake for 30 minutes, until the squash is pretty soft when you poke it with a paring knife.

5. While the squash is baking, make the topping by combining the bread crumbs, cornmeal, parm, sage, sugar and salt in the bowl of a food processor. Add the butter and pulse until the mixture is crumbly and the butter is completely incorporated. Add the egg and pulse a few more times until the mixture just starts clumping together in bits.

6. Remove the squash from the oven, remove the foil, and cover with the topping. Decrease the oven temp to 350 degrees and return the dish to the oven. Bake for about 20 minutes until the top is golden brown.

This recipe is sourced from My Paris Kitchen by David Lebovitz

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## WINTER ONLINE & IN PERSON EVENTS

**2023**

Gardening as We Age  
January 12, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

Leaside Garden Society speaker on January 12th, 2023, is internationally renowned horticulturalist and landscape designer Charlie Dobbin, to talk about "Gardening as We Age". Charlie believes that gardeners live forever – as long as they keep gardening! Tune in to our zoom presentation for tips and techniques to stay active, healthy, and creative in your special places.

[leaside@gardenontario.org](mailto:leaside@gardenontario.org)  
<http://leasidegardensociety.org>

**18 FEB LAYERED PLANTING FOR A LONG SEASON**  
A GARDEN LIFE WEBINAR WITH FERGUS GARRETT OF THE GREAT DIXTER



**Garden Life Webinars - Garden Design**

[gardenontario.com](http://gardenontario.com)

## Tree Communication With Annie Novak

Thu, Jan 12, 2023 3 sessions \$80 per person

[Get Tickets](#)

**MOST BUMBLEBEE QUEENS NEST**  
**JUST BELOW THE GROUND OR**  
**UNDER PILES OF BRUSH IN WINTER**



**LEAVE THE LEAVES. BAN THE LEAF BLOWER.**  
**IN THE SPRING, AVOID RAKING, TILLING AND**  
**MOWING UNTIL THE QUEENS EMERGE FROM THEIR**  
**WINTER NESTS IN MAY.**

**Take care of yourself like**  
**a human plant**



martha brook