

July ~ August 2013



The East York Garden Club is a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association, District 5.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except August and December) in the Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Avenue at 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments are available at 7:00 p.m. The Clubhouse is wheelchair-accessible. Visitors are always welcome.

Yearly membership fees are \$20 for a single, and \$30 for a family. To inquire about membership, please contact Suzanne Bond at 416-423-5857.

Visit us on the web at [www.eygc.ca](http://www.eygc.ca)

President:

Susan Bartlett

Vice President:

Rosalind Regnier & Barbara Piercy

Newsletter Editor:

Jennifer McDougall

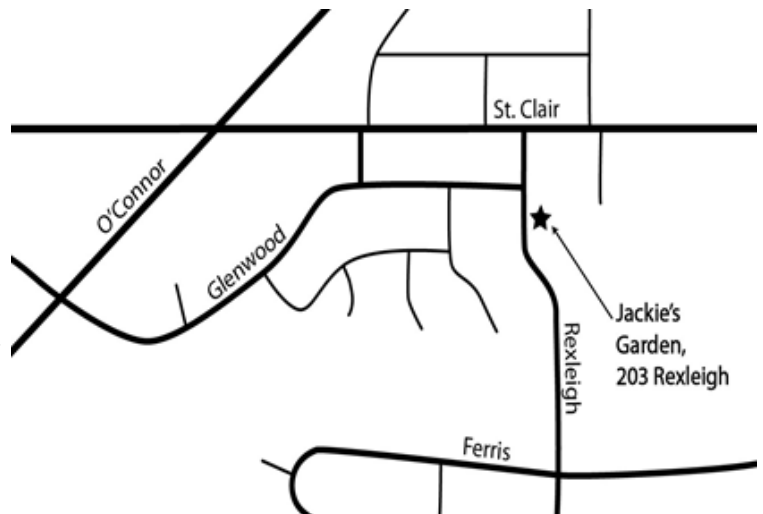


### Thursday, July 18th, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

#### Topic: Annual Member Pot Luck Dinner

This year's dinner will be at the garden of Jackie Ramo at 203 Rexleigh Drive. Rexleigh is accessible from St. Clair Avenue East or from O'Connor Drive.

Please bring a dish of food, with at least six portions\*. We also request that you bring your own plate and cutlery, and a folding chair if possible. Beverages will be provided.



\*(The law requires us to give notice that the food has not been inspected i.e., eat at your own risk. In keeping with food safety, please follow general food safety practices – wash your hands when cooking, keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot.)

### Saturday, August 24, 2012, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

#### Annual Flower Show & Tea

Entries for the Flower Show will be accepted between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening, and between 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. on Saturday morning. Judging begins at 11:20 a.m. sharp. Viewing time is between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. There will be some nice raffle prizes: tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. (Tickets will be for sale not only the day of the show but at the Potluck dinner.) For the afternoon tea, we would appreciate donations of desserts, cookies, or other goodies. plants, and fruits and vegetables. The design theme for this years flower show is "Making a Difference: International Year of Water Cooperation" with Green Roof, Waterfall, Raindrop etc. At the end of the day, the flowers, preserves and remaining baked goods will be auctioned off.

**Regular Meetings resume Thursday, September 19th, 2013!**

## What a show!

By Barb Piercey

Thank you to all our participants and volunteers in the June flower show. Similar to last year's June show, the hostas were a huge part of the show with 37 entries in the various categories, and subdivision had to take place. The judge was impressed with the quality of the entries in the show.

Congratulations to Betty Meyers for her Best Cut Specimen and Best Rose awards, Vera Stoyanoff for her Best Design award and to Diane Ronan for her Judge's Choice award. Diane's beautiful entry in the herb category was the first time this category has won a special award.

After the meeting, the flower show was enthusiastically viewed



Marion Stephens (clerk), Diane Ronan (Clerk),  
Iris Hazen (Judge), Barb Piercey

by the most members ever! Thank you again to everyone who entered. It made for a great show.

And thanks again to everyone



Best Design - Vera Stoyanoff - Category:  
Breaking Dawn

who volunteered by filling vases, running entries to tables, helping with filling out entry cards, carrying entries from cars and clerking and cleaning up after the show.



What you do may seem small, but it makes a big difference to the members that take the time to enter the show. Thank you.

Barbara Piercey  
Flower Show Coordinator  
416-755-0278

## The Annual Flower Show & Tea

Saturday August 24th

By Barb Piercey

If you haven't thought about entering a show until now, this is a good one to start! It is a big and fabulous show with 2 judges and a chance to set up your entries the night before and the morning of the show. There are many cut specimen categories, potted and hanging plants, and fruits and vegetables. The design theme is "Making a Difference: International Year of Water Cooperation" with Green Roof, Waterfall, Raindrop etc.

A reminder to entrants: Friday entry time: 6:30 to 7:30pm and Saturday entry time 9-11:15am. Judging starts at 11:20am sharp! Looking forward to seeing everyone's entries and if there are any questions regarding the show or tea, please call us:

Cristina Brown 416-755-9077 OR Barbara Piercey 416-755-0278

The Flower Show and Tea opens for viewing and sipping at 2pm. This year we have available for purchase some lovely teacups from member's collections. We welcome you to come and drink your tea in a lovely floral china teacup and then take it home with you!



# EYGC Members' Open Gardens ~ Come Join Us!

Thursday, August 13th, 2013 - From 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.



An opportunity to see other members gardens ~ Come and visit::

### Susan Ellis - 10 Milton Rd.

A whimsical garden, filled with perennials and vegetables. Complete with a waterfall.

### Veronica Callinan - 75 Ferris Rd.

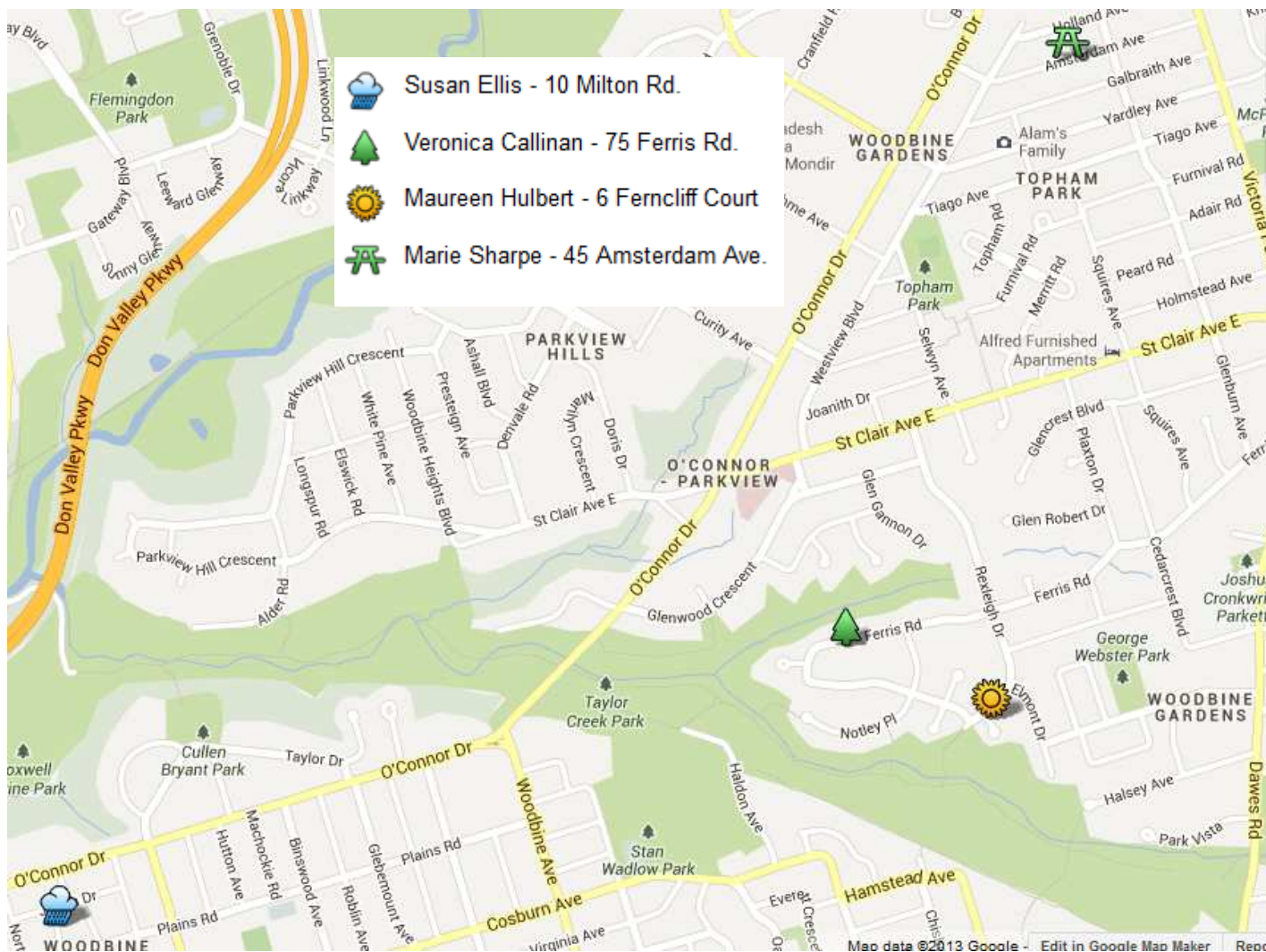
Hill terraces are home to a collection of hostas, native trees and plants. Ground level gardens include roses, clematis, and daylilies. Wear practical garden-touring shoes to explore this garden.

### Maureen Hulbert - 6 Ferncliff Court

A beautifully landscaped garden with an excellent selection of plants. A private space with a fire pit, extensive stonework and clever use of the public park ravine backdrop.

### Marie Sharpe - 45 Amsterdam Ave.

A whimsical garden, filled with wonderful folk art pieces among the garden plants. It will make you feel so young at heart.



## *June Rewind: Hostas & other Shady characters in your Garden*

*Paul Bolland, co-owner of The Potting Shed*

Jack ([www.pottingshed.org](http://www.pottingshed.org)) was unable to make it, so Paul gave the presentation. Paul is a sculptor in his own right. <http://bollandstudio.com/index.htm>

The Potting Shed Nursery is located in Dunnville, Ont. The nursery specializes in Hosta, Daylilies, Ornamental Grasses and Peonies. Jack's background is animal breeding. He ran a goat farm for 18 years. He took what he knew of breeding and hybridizing to plants. The nursery was originally in Cayuga, however, planting in solid clay was difficult so they relocated. The new land didn't have many trees, so they've planted trees. They've created display gardens and ponds, for garden tourists.

Hosta did incredibly well in Cayuga, despite the clay soil. There are around 12-14,000 registered varieties of hostas. Jack and Paul are proud of their hosta "ghetto". Shade gardens also include moss, Hakonechloa /Japanese forest grass, Pulmonaria/Lungwort, Actea/Snakeroot or Bugbane, Fallopia/Knotweed.

**Pests:** Pests are inevitable in a monoculture scenario. Several things will help: Get newer hosta varieties with thicker leaves, use an ammonia mixture, move them OUT of the shade. Most hosta will tolerate shade but would prefer more sun, which is dryer. Turn off irrigation system. Mulch heavily. Shredded is better than chunk, as it prevents slugs from moving forward on slime. **\*\*Slug Killer:** 1 litre of water, 1 cup ammonia, 1 squirt dish soap. Spray on & around ground, especially in early spring when the hosta eyes are just emerging. \*\*



**Hybridizing:** 99.9% of hosta seeds come up green. So new ones are made via "sports". Sports are natural mutations of the plant. Examples: Halcyon produced El Ninio, then June. Plantaginea produced Cathedral Windows, Guacamole, Stained Glass. Sagae produced Liberty.

**Propagations by Tissue Cultures:** Cross sections of leaves are put into an agar solution to produce many divisions. These go to market quickly. The process is performed primarily from the US. Be careful of buying online - cheap prices are smaller, younger plants.

Hosta colours can look completely different depending on the amount of sun it receives. More yellow with more sun. Colours can change over the course of the growing season.

**Hosta and the Container:** If tree roots are a problem, grow in a pot. Careful of the pot freeze 'n thaw. So tip pots on the side to drain water, or put into unheated garage. Or fill pot with mulch to prevent snow collection.

**Hosta Virus X:** Look at the underside of the leaf, see if the vein collapses. Gardener centers can test. If you have it, remove the plant to the garbage, don't compost or put in municipal green bin or yardwaste. Virus won't over winter so can plant a new in the same spot. Clean scissors with bleach when cutting between plants.

**Overwintering hosta:** Don't clean up in the fall, cover with mulch.

**Visit:** Potting Shed has lots of display gardens. New and unusual plants. If big box carries it, they don't. 7 Acres. July is the best time to visit, to see the daylilies.

## Summer & Fall Photo Contest's ~ Are you taking your pictures?

By Malcolm Geast

As in past years, we'll have three categories for the summer version of the People's Choice Photography Contest, held on Saturday, August 25, at the Annual Flower Show and Tea. Creativity and imagination are always encouraged, but this year you'll be able to let them run wild. We have three categories that invite you to be especially inventive and unorthodox:



- Big
- Circle
- Bark

Entries will be accepted from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Friday evening and from 9 - 11:15 on Saturday morning. Voting will take place when the show opens at 2 o'clock, and continue until 3:45. Winners will be announced between 3:50 and 4:00. All who attend the show will be eligible to vote.

The long days of summer are also the time to think about entries in the Fall Photo Contest. This year we have a dozen categories, four of them horticultural, seven that are "general", and one for children & youth members.

Horticultural subjects are "Captured Beauty" (a close-up of a single flower), "Garden Art", "Symmetry", and "Container Gardening".

In the "general" classification, we invite you to look at three structures that we all see every day: "Doors", "Stairs or Steps", and "Windows". We've also given the "Black and White" category a holiday this year, and replaced it with "Green and White". Rounding out the the group are "Still Life", "Street Scene", and "Birds".

It's been a few years since we've had an entry in "Anything Grows", the children's and youth category, but we're hoping that those of you with children or grandchildren between the ages of 6 and 17 will encourage them to enter this year.

We may only be at the half-way mark for 2013, but it's already time to be thinking about the 2014 contest. You can get an early jump this summer by looking for subjects for "The Four Seasons", and in the fall for "Autumn Leaves". "The Four Seasons" is our first multi-photo category, with four photos of the same location, one in each season.

Rules and full information about the categories can be found on pages 26 to 28 of your yearbook, or on the Garden Club website (eygc.ca). And if you have any questions, you can contact me at malcolm@eastyork.net or by phone at 416-429-4719.



### SHARE YOUR PHOTOS with EYGC

Have something in your garden you'd like to share but not interested in hosting an open garden? Take a photo of the shrub or plant that you're proud of and send it to me at [susanhurst@gmail.com](mailto:susanhurst@gmail.com) for inclusion on the pre-meeting presentation.



### HELP US GO GREEN

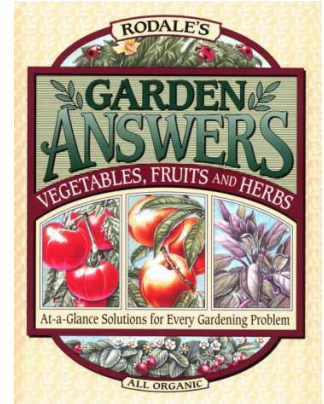
We want YOUR email address!!Yes, it is important that you forward your current email address to the editor as postage costs are going up and it is so much better and green to get your newsletter via email.

That way you get it in colour too!

To get your newsletter the green way, email me, at [newsletter@eygc.ca](mailto:newsletter@eygc.ca)

# Book Review ~ Rodale's Garden Answers ~ Vegetable, Fruits & Herbs

# A-36 (in the EYGC Libaray)  
Rodale's Garden Answers  
Vegetables, Fruits and Herbs (Published in 1995. Hard cover, 375 pages.)



What is a 'cover crop' and why do you need one?  
How do you buy fruit trees?  
How long do seeds last?  
Why should you rotate crops?

All these questions and more are answered in the pages of this book for those who wish to grow their own food - and let's face it: nowadays you can't be sure exactly how your food was grown, so if you grow your own, you know what you're eating.

The book covers timed planting, extending the season, frost facts, solving bean problems, and much much more.

Easy to Find

Broken down into separate chapters for every veggie, fruit or herb, finding what you need to know couldn't be easier. Season-by-season care instructions make it easier still. Excellent drawings of insect pests help you I.D. what's crawling on your veggies. And it's organic! ~ Karen Bell

## May ~ The 2013 Plant Sale

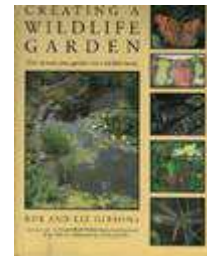
Our annual club plant sale in May this year was a great success!

Take a look:



## Book Review ~ *Creating a Wildlife Garden*

# A-18 (in the EYC Library)  
 Creating a Wildlife Garden  
 by Bob and Liz Gibbons (Published in 1990. Paperback, 157 pages.)



This book was published in England and mentions animal and plant species unfamiliar to us, but its real value is that it definitely provides a new perspective on the wildlife garden. A little research will turn up the names of our native plant species you can use.

### Conservation

As more natural wildlife habitat is destroyed by agriculture and development, wildlife gardens play a more and more important role in our ecosystem. Paradoxically, the more you you apply the techniques outlined in the book, the less like the countryside your garden will be - because no natural habitat is as diverse as a well-designed wildlife garden. And after all, even the smallest garden can be visited by butterflies, bees and birds.

### A New Perspective

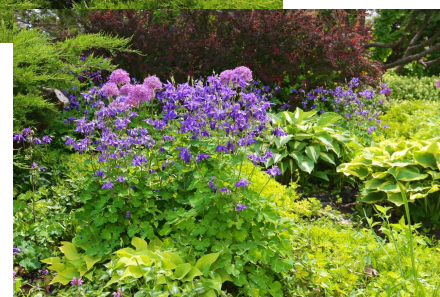
This book is a good argument for less garden maintenance. For example, the cracks between your paving stones provide a home for <sup>3</sup>weeds<sup>2</sup> or to give them another name, <sup>3</sup>native plants<sup>2</sup>. A neglected fence may have moss or lichen growing on it and butterflies might lay their eggs on it. Even what critters live under your shed form part of a wildlife garden. Birds may find food on a traditional lawn. The new perspective supplied by this book might make you more comfortable with the <sup>3</sup>weeds<sup>2</sup> and <sup>3</sup>pests<sup>2</sup> that inhabit your outdoor space.

Design principles, tips, photos and diagrams supply plenty of ideas for designing your own wildlife garden. Concepts such as <sup>3</sup>A Living Lawn<sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup>Life in Dead Wood<sup>2</sup>, and <sup>3</sup>Holes as Homes<sup>2</sup> get you thinking in a whole different way. At our next meeting come and check it out. ~ Karen Bell

## Rockery Update with pictures:

Yippee! Woo Hoo! We have exciting news about the Rockery.

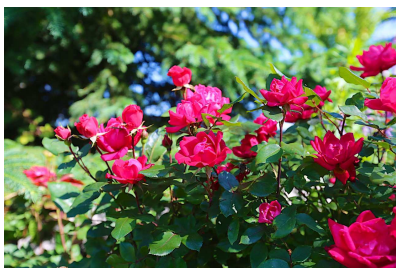
After attending a lecture on bees by the Toronto Field Naturalists, Veronica got in touch with J. Scott MacIvor, PhD. Candidate Biology Department, York University about using the Rockery as part of the bee study. And...we're IN! Scott came by and not only does he think it's a fantastic garden to study bees, but, said it will be great for other studies, too! He installed a test box at the top of the first level of steps, to the left, and will come back from time to time to take samples. We'll be hearing from him again, stay tuned for more info. This isn't as exciting as tweets from the International Space Station, but, having EYGC engaged in science is "way kewl".



ule. Here's hoping the weather cooperates. Come out and help us on Saturday mornings.

Here's an article about Scott MacIvor's test boxes. Very interesting! <http://torontoist.com/2013/05/does-toronto-need-more-wild-bees/#more-254723>

The Team Leads met and we're all ready to "rock" and roll with the 2013 Rockery Maintenance sched-



## *OHA District 5 Logo Contest*

As announced at its Annual Meeting in April, OHA (Ontario Horticultural Association) District 5 is looking for a new logo! Comprised of the east sides of Toronto and York Region and extending from Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe, District 5 has rural societies, suburban societies, and deeply urban societies. With this in mind, District 5 is looking for a logo that makes a statement (or two) about what the District is all about. And of course, "OHA District 5" should be part of the logo. But most of all, they're also looking for your creativity.

East York is one of 18 horticultural societies and garden clubs in the District. The contest is open to all members of District 5 Societies.

Entries can be submitted on paper, or as a digital file.

Entries on paper must be no smaller than 6 inches by 6 inches (15.25 cm by 15.25 cm) and no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches (21.5 cm by 28 cm). Digital entries must have minimum dimensions of 1800 pixels by 1800 pixels, with a file type of tiff, pdf, jpeg, png, psd (Photoshop), or ai (Illustrator).

The logo can be either colour or monochrome, but the preference is for colour. And, while saying that a colour logo is likely to look better than one that's limited to black, white and grey, an entry that's in colour but also looks good when printed in monochrome stands a better chance of winning.

The entrant's name, Garden Club name, and contact information should be included on a separate page, and not on the page that contains the logo (this is to enable blind judging).

Closing date: Entries must be received by November 2, 2013.

Submit your entry electronically to Dawn McEachern (District 5 Secretary): [dawn@eastyork.net](mailto:dawn@eastyork.net). Determination of the winning entry will be made by the District 5 Executive members. District 5 reserves the right to ask for minor modifications to the winning entry.

The winner will be revealed at the 2014 District 5 AGM, held on April 26, 2014 at the Toronto Botanical Garden. The creator of the winning entry will receive a gift certificate worth \$100 at the nursery or garden centre of their choice.

If you have any questions, or if you wish to submit an entry by mail, please contact Dawn McEachern ([dawn@eastyork.net](mailto:dawn@eastyork.net) / 416-429-4719).

Examples of already-existing logos can be found at [www.gardenontario.org/site.php/district5/news/](http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/district5/news/)



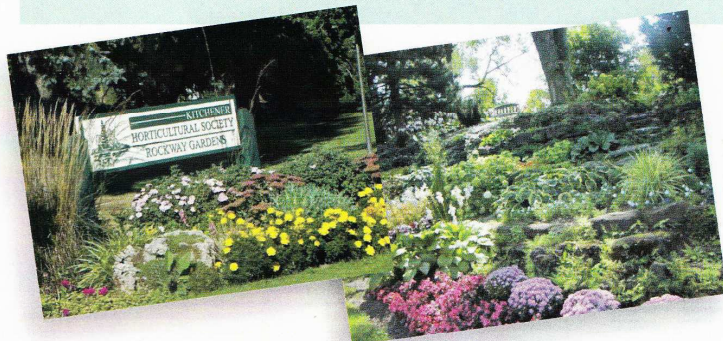
Congratulations to our members who had entries at the District 5 AGM in April, and who were responsible for us winning the District 5 Trophy for Most Points in Horticulture and Dave & Bev Money Trophy for Most Points in Horticulture and Design.

From left to right: Cristina Brown, Carol Bouley, Diane Ronan, Jean Quinn, Roz Regnier, Anna Leggatt, Vera Stoyanoff. Betty Meyers was also a significant contributor to our success, but was not at the May meeting.



# EYGC Autumn Bus Trip "Historic Rockway Gardens, St. Jacobs Farmers' Market, Elora Gorge and John's Nursery"

Sat. Sept 21, 2013



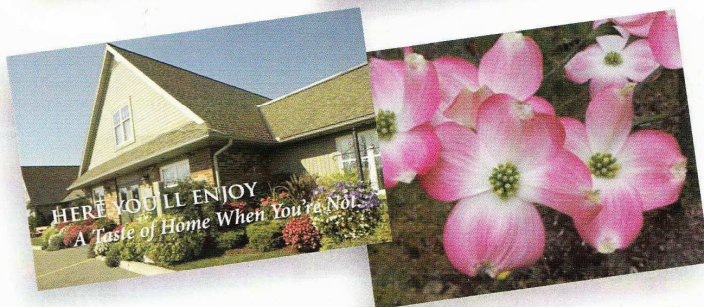
Our Deluxe Motor Coach, departs Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, 373 Cedarvale Ave @ 8 am with an estimated return time of 6:30 pm

The first stop of interest is a guided tour of beautiful Rockway Gardens. Created more than 80 years ago, the site has expanded into a 7.5-acre botanical garden with 65 beds maintained by the Kitchener Horticultural Society and supported by the City of Kitchener.



Next is a visit to St. Jacobs Farmers' Market, the largest year-round farmers' market in Canada. Enjoy an eclectic mix of farm-fresh produce, meat, cheese and edibles from local growers and Old Order Mennonite farmers. Check out the quality flea market wares and crafts.

Don't eat too much at the market! Save room for a delicious buffet lunch at The Crossroads – a 4 star family restaurant in Elmira.



After lunch, we have the opportunity to shop for plants at John's Nursery in St. Jacobs. You can visit their website at [www.johnsnursery.ca](http://www.johnsnursery.ca)

Our final stop is Elora. We will see the Elora Gorge, one of the most beautiful and spectacular natural areas in the Grand River valley. Perhaps there will be fall colour. Then a walk through old town Elora, with it's well known 19th-century limestone buildings. From here we will make our way home.



**Price of \$60.00 per OHA Club Member includes:**  
All transportation, stops as outlined, lunch, gratuities, taxes & HST  
Non-OHA Club Members: \$70.00  
Cash or cheque payable to "East York Garden Club"  
Questions: Contact Rosalind Regnier @ 416-759-6247

If you would like to make a submission in be included in the next issue of *The East York Garden newsletter* the next **deadline is August 26th!**

Please e-mail your comments regarding our Newsletter or submissions for the next issue to [jenn@majam.net](mailto:jenn@majam.net)

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We're on the Web!

<http://www.eygc.ca>

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**EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB**



## Breaking News!

The East York Garden Club has been selected by the Toronto Public Library to exhibit Art-work and Photography created by EYGC members. The show, titled "A Gardener's Vision", will take place at S.Walter Stewart Library, 170 Memorial Park Ave. in East York - March 1-31, 2014. Diane Ronan will chair a committee to organize the event. More information will follow regarding submission requirements and a call will go out for much needed volunteers.

This should be a fun event!

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## Mark your Calendars ~

### *Some Great Summer Events*

- ◆ **July 1st** ~ East York Canada Day Parade & Plant & Attic Treasure Sale @ Stan Wadlow Clubhouse.
- ◆ **July 18** ~ EYGC Members Garden Tour, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Bring a friend.
- ◆ **July 19** ~ Volunteer Applications are due for the **2013 OHA Booth at the CNE** (ask Susan for more information)
- ◆ **July 14** ~ Toronto Water Garden Tour in Scarborough ([www.onwatergarden.com](http://www.onwatergarden.com)) - 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- ◆ **July 21** ~ SGHS Annual Garden Tour - noon to 4 p.m. Price: \$10.00/passport (tickets) may be purchased at the Scarborough Village Recreation Centre (3600 Kingston Rd) parking lot on the day of the tour.
- ◆ **August 5** ~ Civic Holiday
- ◆ **September 21** ~ EYGC Bus Tour to St. Jacob's Country
- ◆ **Toronto Music Garden Concerts:** Concerts take place in the Toronto Music Garden most Thursdays at 7pm and Sundays at 4pm and are approximately one hour in length. Bench seating is available but limited, so feel free to bring a lawn chair – and don't forget your hat or umbrella and sunscreen as shade is also limited. Concerts proceed weather permitting. Please call our info desk at 416-973-4000 for up-to-the-minute rain calls.