May ~ June 2014



Thursday, May 15, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

Topic:What Treasures are for Waiting to be Snapped Up? Plant SaleSpeakers:Our Master Gardeners

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 15, when we'll be holding our annual plant sale, and Master Gardeners from our own Club will talk about the donated plants and maybe even bring some from their own gardens.

Members are asked to bring their plants between **6:30 and 7:00 p.m.** so they can be prepared for sale. Please label the plant with name, colour, annual or perennial, height/width, blooming season, light requirements, and anything special the new gardener needs to know. We will also have a "garden treasures" table so donations of any gently used garden related tools or items are appreciated. The sale will begin after the speakers are done.

Members with surnames beginning with "I" to "M" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares for the refreshment table.



Thursday, June 19, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: Now I've Got It—Where do I Put It? Speaker: Ann Leggatt Meeting held with the East Toronto Quilters Guild

Many of us see plants for sale and buy them on impulse. This often results in an uneven patchwork of colours, forms and textures without focus or mood to even the smallest of garden areas. This talk will help you to add some form and feeling into an unsatisfactory garden. See if you can recognize some quilting terms in her talk tonight.

Anna Leggatt is quite an accomplished woman and is a valued member of the East York Garden Club. She has her BSc. in Botany from London University - mostly interested in field botany and ecology, a Diploma in Nature Interpretation from Humber College and a Diploma in Horticulture from Guelph. Anna is currently employed as a part time Nature Interpreter at the Kortright Centre for Conservation. She teaches occasionally at the Toronto Botanical Garden. She has lectured for many Horticultural Societies using the knowledge she gained from extensive travel with emphasis on the country's gardens of various styles.

Anna belongs to Rock Garden Societies here and in different countries and other horticultural and nature groups. Anna is a Toronto Master Gardener Emeritus and has written articles for gardening magazines, newspapers and other publications.

Also with us at the June meeting will be members of the East Toronto Quilters Guild. The ETQG was established in 1883 and currently has 48 members. They meet on the last Thursday of the month Sept-Nov and Jan-June at the Greenwood Towers near Danforth and Greenwood. Their President, Linda Van Lierde, will tell us a bit about their work and their Guild and we will have some of their lovely handiwork on display around the room.

To welcome them to our meeting, Anna, will weave quilting themes into her talk and the flower show's design categories will reflect relatively well-known quilting patterns.

Members with surnames beginning with "N" to "R" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares for the refreshment table.



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 Ave. 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 Cristina Brown.

Visit us on the web at *www.eygc.ca*

President: Susan Bartlett

Vice President: Rosalind Regnier Barbara Piercey

Newsletter Editor: Jennifer McDougall



May Plant Sale ~ How to prepare your Plants for Sale!



The May Members' Plant Sale is always a busy event. Please try to have your plants at the meeting by 7:00 pm so they can be priced. If you have any garden tools in good condition that you'd like to donate, those are welcome too.

Some pointers:

- Decide early what plants will go in the sale.
- A healthy attractive plant will sell faster than a plant that is potted up the day before or the morning of the sale. A plant that was potted up and kept watered in a shady spot for more than a few weeks should put up some new growth.
- Clearly label your plant with its proper name. Don't guess. Identify it.
- If you have the nursery label it originally came with mark it on your tag using the botanical name and cultivar. It will give the buyer more information about the plant.
- Does it need sun or shade? That is important information.
- Does it need lots of water or is it a drought tolerant plant that can survive on the dry side?
- Make sure there are no weeds or add on's. A buyer may not appreciate getting a sprig of goutweed or lily of the valley in with the sale plant. They can be aggressive plants once established.

Results from the April Flower Show

While the cut specimen section of the show was very sparse due to our long winter, our design section exploded with 22 entries (half were Novice 101ers)! There were 10 entries in the cactus/succulent houseplant category helped round out an unusual show.



Thank you to everyone who took some time to enter. A special thank you to all of the Novice 101ers who looked in their gardens, at their houseplants, in their pantry and utilized some of the inspiration they got from the demonstration to enter the show for the first time. Hopefully, you felt excited to enter and encouraged to carry on.



Best Design: Jean Quinn for her lovely "Harmony" design

Our Judge took time to write notes on the design entrants tags to give helpful hints or thoughts for the future. Congratulations go out to the following for the Judge's "Best of" awards:

Best Cut Specimen: Wilfred Haufe for his flowering lilac branch Best Preserve: Carole Aida for her tasty preserve with walnuts Judge's Choice: Anna Leggatt for her Aloe variegata in the succulent category

Barb Fairbanks Flower Show Coordinator 416-755-0278





Best Potted Plant: Wilfred Haufe for his beautiful orchid

Prez Patch By: Susan Bartlett

Yay, it's finally spring. A somewhat cool spring so far but I'll take it! Your Humber Nursery coupons are here, bus and garden tours are coming up, as well as many, many plant sales.

EYGC Plant Sale

Our plant sale will be soon! I'm sure we're all looking forward to a chance to get gardening again after such a harsh winter. If you haven't participated in past sales, there are a few pointers in this newsletter for bringing in your donations. It's been a slow start to the year but your donations are much needed and appreciated. Just think, your plants can be admired all over East York when other members put them in their gardens. If you need assistance with getting your plants to the sale, please contact Janet Carrington 416-487-0802. Gently used gardening tools are also welcome.

The Rockery

The season has officially started. A big thanks to those who came out for the clean-up, and also to those who can't make it out on weekends but help at other times. Unfortunately some of you who come by in the off hours miss getting your picture taken, but your efforts are really really appreciated! Because there was not too much garbage in the Rockery on community clean-up day, we were able to start clearing branches, twigs and garden debris.

Danforth Avenue Greening

The Danforth between Woodbine and Dawes Road will be undergoing improvements, part of those improvements involve tree plantings and flower baskets. The City and local BIA would like advice and input from gardeners (so far that is all, no physical labour)....maybe you would like to do this? (http://dvbia.ca/category/ danforth-village-street-improvement/) and click on "Open House Presentation" which will tell you a bit out the work planned. If this is something that interests you, email me and I can get you in touch with the people at the BIA .

susanhirst@gmail.com

Natural Landscape Resource Booklet (A Guide to Using Native Plants)

This booklet is available for \$5.00. It is published by the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) and contains lots of valuable information about incorporating native plants, trees and shrubs into your garden. It has lists of specific plants for specific garden conditions. It is a handy booklet to have in your personal library. A supply will be at the June meeting.



Join Us on our Bus Tour ~ July 6th, 2014

Our bus tour will be on Sunday July 6th, 2014, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Includes: a mystery garden, buffet lunch & 2 other stops. We'll end up at Lost Horizons Nursery. Their plant list is on their website. (www.losthorizons.ca/) The cost is \$80.00 including all tips, entrance fees, & lunch. Non-members will pay \$10.00 more. Tickets will be available at the May meeting. Unsold tickets will be made available to other societies after the May meeting.

Please see Rosalind for more information. \sim Rosalind <u>416-759-6247</u>



Novice 101 Demonstration Day

On the sunny Sunday afternoon of April 6th Clubhouse for a special afternoon of learning about entering flower shows and the very basics of design. Mary-Ann Vercammen, an accredited Horticultural and Floral Design judge, led the very full afternoon with lots of hints and tips and other valuable information as she worked on a couple of designs. Every-





one left with a "starter" pack for doing a design.

A special thank you goes to Karen Bell for assisting with the day and the refreshments.



The Library is Back!!

Audrey Campbell has stepped forward to volunteer to be the Library Coordinator for the EYGC library. There is a wonderful selection of books for you to borrow. There is a limit of only 4 per member per meeting, and when you borrow, you will get a call a few days ahead of the next meeting to remind you to bring back your books.

The library is well stocked with a good variety. Are you interested in vegetables, water gardens, herbs, annuals, bulbs, container gardening, planning and designing, grasses, wildlife gardening, bugs and diseases, pruning, or roses? Well, we have something for you. There are currently over 65 books available and just waiting to be read by you.

The most common remark we heard from members last year was: "I have so many gardening books at home that I haven't read, why would I borrow?" The most common remark we heard from members that borrowed: "I am so glad I borrowed this book. Because I had a deadline, I actually read it—not like all the books I have at home!" Hmmm.

Please stop by and say hello to Audrey before or after the meeting and borrow a book or two regardless of how many gardening books you have at home....

LOCAL FARMERS MARKETS

East York Civic Centre Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Starts May 13

East Lynn Park (Danforth Ave w of Woodbine) Thursdays 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 pm Starts June 5

Withrow Park (south of Danforth Ave. between Logan & Carlaw) Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Starts May 17th

Evergreen Brick Works (550 Bayview Ave) Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Year round

District 5 AGM Wrap Up

On Saturday, April 26th, 26 EYGC members attended the Annual General Meeting of District 5 of the Ontario Horticultural Association. Actually 28 of us were registered, but 2 weren't able to make it.

By: Susan Bartlett

This year's AGM was held at the Toronto Botanical Gardens. Worries about lack of parking due to maintenance proved unfounded, and after some socializing and treats (coffee took a bit longer), the business portion got underway.

After the welcome and announcements, Malcolm Geast was awarded the OHA District Service Certificate for all his hard work for not only the District 5 Board but the various District 5 societies he is involved with. Congratulations Malcolm and well deserved! Unfortunately, there is no picture of Malcolm receiving his award - as he is always the one who takes the photos and we were seated too far from the stage.



After the business portion was a presentation by Paul LaPorte, former president of the North American Native Plant Society. Paul's talk went far beyond individual plants to include the interdependence of all species, and the effects of the destruction of the natural environment as woodlands and wetlands are paved over for development (there were plants for

Betty Meyers Helleborus

sale in the lobby that had been rescued from newly developed roads). He showed us the role gardeners can take in maintaining these systems in our own spaces, however small. I came away thinking differently about what I should plant and my reasons for having a garden. Fun fact: earthworms are not native to North America, they were brought by Europeans and can potentially threaten some native plants.

Roz Regnier's Clivia

Then it was time for lunch, some more socializing and a chance to see the flower show. Despite the cool weather making it a smaller show this year, it was still enjoyable to see and there were

a lot of imaginative entries in design. East York came away with not one but two trophies! Thanks to Cristina Brown for organizing East York's entries.

Steven Biggs was the afternoon speaker and he talked about growing vegetables, especially in urban areas or front yards. He gave us some ideas for veggies that are fun to grow, not too labour intensive and make the most of available space. Throughout the day, door prizes and raffle prizes were given out, I think our group took home it's fair share of prizes. All in all, a very enjoyable day!



D5 Trophy being awarded to Susan on behalf of East York Garden Club.



OUT OF THE ORDINARY

Anna Leggatt's Out of the Ordinary

Dave & Bev Money Award for Most Combined Points in Horticulture & Design being awarded to Susan on behalf of EYGC





Carol Bouley's Cactus

It's a Wrap! ~ A Gardener's Vision is over

While we were taking down the pieces and wrapping them up, I felt proud of the success of the show and the people who had made it happen.

It started in April 2013 when the club executive agreed that I should send a last minute application to the Art Exhibits Department of the Toronto Public Library to find out if artwork and photography by members of the EYGC met the necessary criteria to have an exhibit at S. Walter Stewart Library during the month of March 2014.

> The rational behind the show was to try a new way to promote the club; to connect with our community and to provide a way for our members to have fun by volunteering their time, promoting the show and having the satisfaction of seeing their artwork or photography displayed on the library walls.

We were accepted! The show would be called "A Gardener's Vision".

I volunteered to chair the planning committee and gathered a team that I

thought could work together over the coming year to achieve our goal. Kudos and a special "Thanks!" to the team: Marion Stephens; Laurel Angeloff; Lynda Tanner; Claudette Levesque and Barb Fairbanks for their time and expertise.

A call went out to our members to submit pieces of their artwork and photography. It was amazing to see the passion and diversity within the club. Thirty members made submissions and one piece was chosen from each member.

We also approached S. Walter Stewart Library about partnering with them in the month of March and hosting a children's workshop during Spring

Break about "Tubers" and an evening presentation by our own Veronica Callinan about "Gardening in East York". The library was very receptive to the idea and gave us the go ahead.

Our opening reception was held on March 8th and well received. Thanks to Malcolm Geast for his visual presentation; Jean Quinn for her artful floral arrangements; Nola McConnan and Gail Gregory for their help to hang the show; all the members who volunteered their time to provide refreshments and welcome visitors; and Peter, my husband and long time business partner for his contribution to

the promotional material.

The children's workshop

was very successful with 22 children taking part and a number of adults in attendance. Veronica's presentation brought out members of the community, who found answers to their gardening questions.

We achieved our goal. We raised awareness of The East York Garden Club. We reached out to our community; signed up new members and most importantly – We had fun!

Photo credit: http://www.snapbeaches.com





by: Diane Ronan



Ask not what EYGC can do for you, ask what you can do ...

You know the rest of that line. Along with "many hands make light work", the sentiments are true.

It's Veronica here, and it's time to be brutally honest. EYGC is a volunteer organization, made up ofwell...volunteers! We don't pay Board members, we're all volunteers.

The EYGC Board is made up of 14 people who organize everything that goes on in EYGC, along with the work EYGC does in the community. 10 of those positions are Directors. Did

you know that we only have 5 Directors? FIVE. Past Directors have done their time, they've sat on the Board and organized this Club to make it enjoyable for you. And the 5 current Directors are tired of keeping every-thing organized. We don't want to lose the few we have.

At the AGM each November, the membership is asked if it will support the Board in the running of the organization. Everyone dutifully says they will. So, now, it's your turn. The only good reason for not stepping up to the plate to be on the EYGC Board is because you've already been on the EYGC Board. That's it.

Excuses:

I'm too busy. I don't have time.	Of course you are! You're a dynamic person, and you fit it per- fectly with all the other busy EYGC members. We're all busy. Look me in the eye and tell me I'm not busy.
I'm not retired, yet. I still need to make a living.	Me too! And, unless we win the lottery or retire; we can com- miserate. But, that doesn't get any of us off the hook. EYGC is not a Seniors Only club.
I have kids/parents	As do most of the Board.
Done it. I've sat on a Board else- where.	How does that help EYGC? You're experienced! You can make things work better!
Whatever. I'm only here for what I can get out of the Club.	If true, that's very disappointing indeed. Please, let me know who you are. I'd love to know who thinks this way. We all would.
<pre>!!!It's too much work!!!</pre>	You'll be THRILLED to hear that the Board has worked hard to make Board work more manageable for busy, dynamic peo- ple like yourself. Board meetings have been reduced in number of meetings and in duration. How good is that? All the organiz- ing tasks are written down, we just need people to do them.

So what's standing in your way? Susan Bartlett and I are looking forward to hearing from you. The more Directors we have, the more fun it is, for everyone.

416-467-4945, susanhirst@gmail.com, 416.801-9659 veronica@eygc.ca







An opportunity to see other members gardens ~ Come and visit: and bring your neighbours and friends along with you:

Mary Jean Joys - 3 Leander Court

East York bungalow with side patio & steps down to lower level ravine lot with many hostas, maple trees & shade plants.

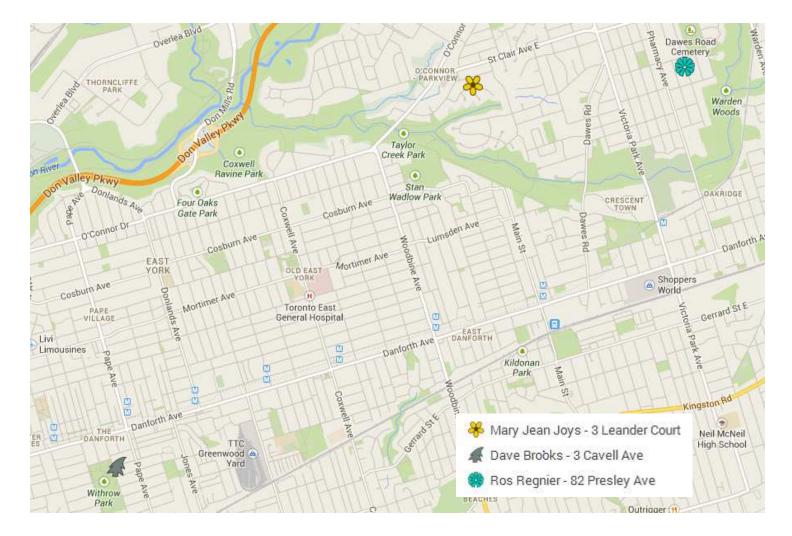
Dave Brooks - 3 Cavell Avenue

This garden shows one approach of what can be done in a small city garden when limited by both shade and space. The actual plants are the major interest of the gardener and include clematis, roses, small shrubs and some larger leafed perennials.

Please note that parking is only allowed on one side of the street.

Rosalind Regnier - 82 Presley Ave.

A 99 % perennial garden plus weeds mulched heavily with neighbour's leaves collected in the fall. If I like a plant, I'll try to squeeze it in somewhere.





The Rockery needs YOU

After 6 years of performing all these roles, I am stepping down from the Rockery committee. In order to make this role easier to manage, it's been split into 3 roles. We still need 2 positions filled:

By Veronica Callinan

Rockery Board and City Liaison

Could be a Board member ~ Active during May-October

-Works with the other 2 Rockery Coordinators to plan activities.

-Reports status of activities to the Board. Makes motions for funding when necessary.

-Liases with the City for horticultural needs (mulch, plants, maintenance, bins, etc)

Rockery Team Lead Coordinator

Not necessarily a board member ~ Mostly May -Recruits and organizes the Team Lead schedule so that maintenance days are covered.

TAKEN Rockery Communications Coordinator (Thank you Cain Knoechel)

Not necessarily a board member ~ Weekly notifications, May-October -sends reminders to the volunteers and President for meeting scroll

These positions are critical to the maintenance of the garden. Please contact me (Veronica) for more information. veronica@eygc.ca

New Community Tree Group { a group focused on the tree canopy } in Ward 29

"MoreTrees29" is a grassroots effort working within the boundaries of Ward 29 -- that is, north of Danforth from the Don River to Coxwell Ave. Our volunteers are committed to increasing and conserving the tree canopy in our neighbourhood.

Last fall, our fledgling group piloted a door-to-door canvass to tell residents about the City's program for planting free front-yard trees, and LEAF's program for subsidized native trees in back yards. This year we will build on what we learned and expand on that project, canvassing more streets. We welcome anyone who can help for at least a few hours! Canvassers usually opt to work in pairs because it's more fun, and we try to provide buddies for first-timers.

This season, we plan to run a training session for volunteers. We will

review the benefits of urban trees, urban stresses to trees, basics do's & don'ts of tree care, ins & details of the two planting programs, and tips for talking to neighbours about trees. We will also review the features of a dozen species which have been carefully selected for us to recommend for our ecosystem -- mostly very sunny, sandy soil.

Besides training and canvassing, we hope to "branch out" to other activities such as tree-care workshops or guided tree tours. Eventually we would love to promote adopt-a-tree efforts and reach out to non-residential owners like churches, businesses, and apartment landlords.

If you would like to get involved, or to just learn more, please contact Leigh Davidson at <u>moretrees29@gmail.com</u> or <u>416-778-4719</u>. You can also look for Leigh at the May 4th Jane's Walk called "Lower Don River Ecological Restoration and Heritage," led by Councillor Mary Fragedakis and a representative of Toronto Parks, Forestry, and Recreation.





Water Garden Tour Sunday July 27, 2014

East York Garden Club

Self-guided tour in Richmond Hill and Thornhill. Tickets are \$12.00° and are available on the website. 10 am to 4 pm rain or shine. For more information contact: Jim Grass 416-750-1890 or by email at watergardentour@onwatergarden.com

*Tickets purchased before April 30, 2014 are \$10.00. PRESENTED BY



Greater Toronto Water Garden & Horticultural Society www.onwatergarden.com



THE GREATER TORONTO WATER GARDEN & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY presents WATER GARDEN TOUR 2014.

This year's tour will be held in the Richmond Hill & Thornhill area on July 27, 2014. The tour is self-guided and includes several outstanding water gardens. The Tour goes from 10 am to 4 pm (rain or shine). Tickets are available on our website (www.onwatergarden.com) or by calling Jim at 416-750-1890.

You can also arrange tickets and car pooling through Veronica Callinan (veronica@eygc.ca) until June 19. Cheques can be sent to Veronica and make the cheque payable to (GTWGHS). Each ticket is \$10 until April 30 and \$12 afterwards.

Janet Davis' Environment Day

Sunday May 4th, 2014 Stan Wadlow Parking Lot 373 Cedarvale Avenue

Mary Fragedakis' Environment Day

Saturday June21, 2014 Dieppe Park Parking Lot 455 Cosburn Ave

www.toronto.ca/environment_ days

JUNE WORKSHOP -Design: From Garden to Vase Wednesday June 18th – Workshop starts at 7:30 p.m. Mitchell Field CC, 89 Church Ave, North York

"Bring the beauty of your garden into your home. Do you have flowers outside that you would like to highlight in floral arrangements? Learn how from the award winning floral designer Nicole North.

Bring a favourite flower to Nicole's "Design: From Garden to Vase" The fee is \$25 for District 5 OHA Garden Club members. The workshop is limited, only 20 spots left.

Hosted by North York Garden Club

Register by emailing Janet Love at: <u>2014lovewolf@gmail</u> or <u>info@northyorkgardenclub.ca</u>

Veronica will be the contact for tour information.

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Upcoming June Flower Show

The June show is always a big show as our gardens are ripe for the picking so it will be interesting to see if the numbers work out after a late start. As we have the East Toronto Quilter's Guild joining us at our meeting, the design theme for this show is "Quilting" with a nod to their group by inspiring our competitors in 'Patchwork', 'Log Cabin', 'Flying Geese', 'Wedding Rings' and 'Jewel Box'. Fruits, vegetables and herbs will also make their first appearance of the year.



It doesn't take a lot to enter, just a walk around your garden with pages 16 & 17 of your yearbook open, a snip of the scissors and a walk to the clubhouse to the show tables. Try it, you may get the competitive bug—and that is a beneficial one!

Rewind: A look back at the March & April Meetings

EYGC - Plants That Bugs Die For ~ Some Top Hints and tips from his April lecture

J. Paul Lamarche

- Let worms do the work.

- 1% of insects are bad (eat plants and vegetables), 99% are good.

- Problems occur when we plant too soon. Bad bugs come out early, so wait till after.

- Let nature do the work.

- Fertilizers force plants to grow too fast. Then they become weak and attract insects.

- To keep hostas slug-free, don't water them (after they've established). Surround with oak leaves.

- Basil leaves work to heal mosquito bites and bee stings.

- Dandelions - provide latex from the roots. White milk from the root will kill warts and corns.

- German Camomile - can help a sick plant get better. Make a tea for spraying on seedlings.

- Dusty Miller attracts predator insects. Lacewings are nocturnal. Lacewings nymphs eat aphids.



- Must have water for insects.

- Grow Canadian hard neck garlic to reduce aphids. Only if you don't use chemicals.

- Use white ground geranium around roses. Use ground covers to stop water from splashing onto leaves.

- Use Bonemeal at leaf out, use bloodmeal just before bud opens.
- Nasturtium is a trap plant for black aphids.
- Edible flowers. Will get mildew, so plant with garlic.
- Cotoneaster berries feed so many creature.
- Don't kill celery worm turns into black swallowtail butterfly.
- Grow catnip in areas where cats use litter.
- Ladybug needs to lay eggs on Tansy.
- Plant all plants together, don't separate into "special" beds.
- Shrimp compost in soil when planting tomatoes to avoid blossom end rot.



Photo from our April Speaker Cynthia Brown on the topic of Native Plants

East York Garden Club

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 June 24th!**

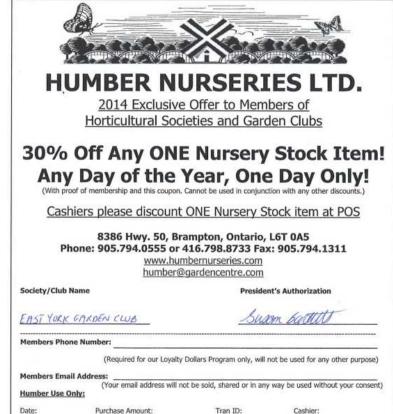
Please e-mail you comments regarding our Newsletter or submissions for the next issue to **jenn@majam.net**

We're on the Web!

http://www.eygc.ca



EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB



Mark your Calendars ~ Some Great Spring Events

- May 4, 2014 12 pm 4 pm ONTARIO ROCK GARDEN & HARDY PLANT SOCIETY Super Plant Sale
- May 10, Leaside Plant Sale 9am to Noon at Trace Manes Community Centre
- May 10, Etobicoke Horticultural Society's Plant Sale, 9am-noon at 516 Then Kingsway
- May 17, Beach Garden Society Plant Sale, 9am to 11:30am at Adam Beck Community Centre
- ♦ May 11th ~ Mother's Day
- May 24 ~ Streetsville Horticultural Society Plant Sale, 8:30 am to 2 pm at Leslie Log House
- ♦ May 24 & 25 ~ Doors Open Toronto
- ◆ June 8 ~ Credit Valley Garden Tour 10am to 4pm
- June 22 ~ Gardens of the Beach Tour, 1-5 pm
- ◆ June 15 ~ Father's Day
- ◆ June 21 ~ Magical Gardens of Leaside Tour

