

November ~ December  
2014

Newsletter of the East York Garden Club



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 Christina Brown at 416-755-9077.

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

President:

Susan Bartlett

Vice President:

Rosalind Regnier  
& Barbara Fairbanks

Newsletter Editor:

Jennifer McDougall



Thursday, November 20th, 2014

## **Annual General Meeting and Pot-Luck Dinner (Members Only)** **Doors open at 6:30 p.m., Dinner begins at 7:00 p.m.**

**Dinner:** Plates, cups and cutlery are provided by the Club, as well as coffee/tea and non-alcoholic punch. Please bring a dish of food of at least eight servings and a serving utensil (if possible put your name on your dish & utensil). Any leftovers at the end of the evening will be donated.

**Draw Prizes:** Tickets will given out at the door. You can then view the prizes and put in one-half of your ticket for the item you want to win.

**Club Business:** The election of officials and awarding of flower show winners will be held, as well as the final "People's Choice" photo contest of the year, with the winning picture to be featured on the cover of the EYGC 2015 yearbook. Bring in either one or two of your best garden-related photos from 2013 or 2014. You should select photos that you think would look particularly good on the front of the yearbook. The only stipulation is that the photo must be in portrait orientation (i.e., taller than it is wide). And for this contest, photos can be entered even if they've already appeared in one of our previous contests. The winner will be selected by a vote by those in attendance at the meeting. Entries must be received by 6:50pm, with voting taking place throughout the evening. We'll also be announcing the winners of the Fall Photo contest, with all photos entered on display.

**Remember NO meeting in December ~ Our monthly meetings will resume on  
Thursday, January 15th, 2015.**

## Remembering Minnie Price: One of our Life Members

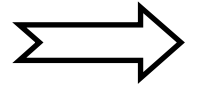
by Barb Fairbanks

On September 14, 2013, I received a note from Minnie's niece informing me that Minnie passed away this morning. She was our last surviving member to have joined when were the East York Horticultural Society. Below is the article I wrote a few years ago detailing Minnie's life and connection to the East York Garden Club. She will be missed.



In November 2012, I received a phone call from a woman named Avril. She was calling because she had just read our newsletter (luckily I had put my phone number at the bottom of an article) and her Aunt Minnie was a past member of our club. She wanted to give us a teacup to use how we wished. Avril was here from England to help her Aunt Minnie prepare her house for sale as she was currently in hospital and awaiting word on a place at a senior's home. Upon arrival, poor Avril and her husband Alan were surrounded by boxes, mounds of paper and bubble wrap! A lovely teacup was sitting on the mantle for me to take. At the EYGC, teacups were often given as prizes for winning a "best of" for a specific horticultural entry. I left that day with about 20 teacups and other bits of interest for the club to use!

On December 20th garden club, gardening and her history with us. She was born on February 19th Birmingham area in the West Midlands. During the war she worked at a factory making parts for planes. This is where she met her husband Leslie. In 1958 Leslie secured work as a jeweler and they flew 30 hours by way of Portugal and Ireland to Toronto. Minnie worked at the Simplicity Pattern Company preparing and packing sewing patterns for \$10 a week. Leslie's boss lent them money for a down payment and they settled in East York.



## Photo Review of October's Meeting: Mushroom Mania!!



Photos By Malcolm Geast

## *Winner's of the First People's Choice Pumpkin Carving Contest*

*Photos By Malcolm Geast*



**First Place: Carol Bouley**

**Second Place: Carole Aida**

**Third Place: Dawn McEachern**

**Honourable Mention: Joanne Atkinson**

She and Leslie loved all aspects of gardening. She hadn't really gardened before, but it didn't take long for their backyard to be filled with all sorts of vines, roses, begonias, dahlias, chrysanthemums and delphiniums etc. They

joined the EYGC shortly after settling in and they loved the casualness of the meetings filled with information for their gardening passion. After about 3 or 4 years of being a member, Minnie joined the board and was President for a while. She had a printing press in her basement where 6 or seven of the club or board members would get together and print, fold and staple the yearbook for distribution to the 60 members of the club. The club's participation in the Dominion Day parades was a float that the members completely covered with flowers every year.

She loved to compete in the Flower Shows and won many prizes of teacups and trophies. Her favourite plant was her delphiniums. She laughingly recalled preparing the stalks for show by putting them in the toilet in the basement in order to suck up as much water as they liked while staying cool and undisturbed for her return home from work and off to the show!

And the club's logo—Minnie won \$10 for designing that trillium inside a maple leaf! We still use that very design that you find on our letterhead, in our yearbook and most recently on our t-shirts and tote bags. Of course, I had a tote bag with me and she was very pleased how nice it looked.

She and Leslie made many friends through both the garden club and the lawn bowling club (she said the two go hand in hand for a good social circle). When asked why she, I went and met Minnie in her new home and we chatted about the, 1920 in South Wales and eventually lived in the thought it was important to be part of the EYGC she said it provides a place to meet other people in a social setting where you have at least one thing in common—an interest in gardening and being on the board allowed her to give back to the community she had grown to love.

One of her best memories was one afternoon looking over a new bed of wildflowers that she had sewn from a seed packet to find the most varied and lovely garden full so many different flowers and lots of bees and butterflies. Minnie's advice for someone just beginning to garden? Keep at it, cultivate, work hard and just enjoy it....and join the East York Garden Club!

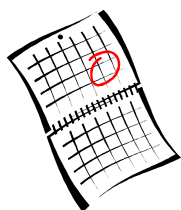
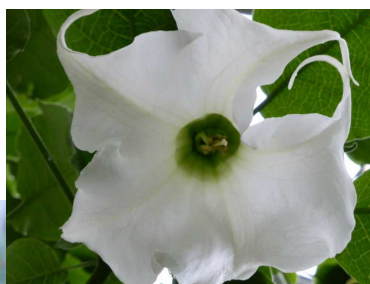
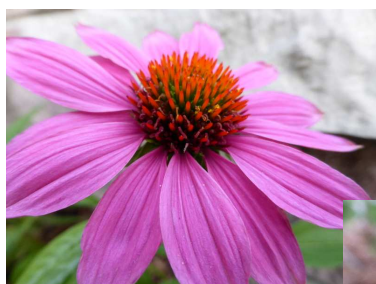


## *Membership Renewal Reminder*

If you haven't done so, please renew your membership. In addition to our monthly talks and plant sales, your EYGC membership card gives you a discount at many of the local independent garden centres such as Sheridan Nurseries, Mason House, Bill's, well as one time coupon at Humber Nurseries (which will be coming in the May newsletter).



Fees for 2015 are \$20 for a single, and \$30 for a family membership. Fees can be paid in person at a regular meeting of the Club or by mailing this form and a cheque (payable to "East York Garden Club") to: East York Garden Club, c/o Cristina Brown, 7 Knightsbridge Road, Scarborough, ON M1L 2A8.



## *Mark your Calendars ~*

## *Here are Some Great Events*

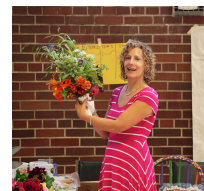
- ◆ **November 11** ~ Remembrance Day Service at East York Civic Centre—10:45 am to Noon
- ◆ **November 23** ~ Beaches Christmas Parade at 1:00 p.m., runs along Kingston Rd.
- ◆ **November 27 to December 28** ~ 100 years of Christmas at Casa Loma, [www.casaloma.org/events.index.gk](http://www.casaloma.org/events.index.gk)
- ◆ First Sunday in December begins the Christmas Flower Show at Allan Gardens
- ◆ **December 4** ~ TBG Holiday Open House ~ noon to 9:30 pm
- ◆ **December 17** ~ Public Skating begins at the Evergreen Brick Works
- ◆ **December 21** ~ Winter Solstice
- ◆ **December 25** ~ Christmas—Happy Holiday's Everyone!

### **Writers Wanted**

for the 2015 Newsletters  
please e-mail  
Jenn at [jenn@majam.net](mailto:jenn@majam.net)  
for more details.

## Prez Patch

by Susan Bartlett



What a year 2014 was! Going into the New Year on the heels of an ice storm, many of us were forced to modify holiday plans as we dealt with loss of trees and shrubs, not only in our yards but over the city. The winter then turned into the coldest winter in many years, and spring was late.

In March we held “A Gardener’s Vision”, the Club’s first ever Art Show, a public display of work by artists of the Club. The opening at the S. Walter Stewart Library was well attended and we enjoyed a great Saturday afternoon viewing the work of the artists - paintings, stained glass, photographs while we socialized and enjoyed refreshments brought by our members.

By the time of our May plant sale, members were telling me they had very little in their gardens to dig up for the plant sale, as plants had either died, or not surfaced yet, or it was simply too cool to spend much time outside. It seems everybody lost their butterfly bushes, Hollies, etc. too. Some long standing evergreens at the Rockery had to be removed as they were too far gone. Yet we still had a successful plant sale! Although a little sparse by our usual standards, just about everything sold out as people were eager to plant and replace things they’d lost.

The summer months were a mixed bag of weather, the members’ garden tour was mostly rained out, but we had a (mostly) nice Canada Day and a lovely July evening pot-luck in Maureen Hulbert’s very spacious garden. The Rockery looked great with the help of some dedicated volunteers, and perhaps the less than scorching summer was helpful. The August Show & Tea was rainy again, but we had good attendance.

We had some great meetings with informative and entertaining speakers over the year and now we are gearing up for the November Annual General Meeting, good food, awards and prizes.

Upcoming in 2015, East York Garden Club will be getting ready to host the Ontario Horticultural Association District 5 Convention in the spring of 2016. Yes, it’s a still over a year away but in January we will have a confirmed date and venue and we will need to start putting together committees and planning in earnest. There will be at least 200 guests attending the AGM, from the 19 different societies in District 5. We will be asking all members to consider ways in which they can contribute or help out with this major event, whether its fundraising, table decorations, goody bags...

Never been to a District AGM and don’t know what it’s about? At the January and February meetings I will be taking registrations for the 2015 D5 AGM, which you can attend as a guest. I will have more information about the cost and exact date at our January meeting.



The rockery was put to bed. We had a great growing season with mother nature supplying lots of rain. The zinnias looked wonderful being a no nonsense plant requiring no dead-heading. The nematodes that were applied last fall must have surprisingly worked as no Japanese beetles consumed our ever blooming roses.

Many thanks to our leaders...Susan B., Nina, Carol B., Jackie T., Roz & their assistants Barb F., Karen M., Susan R., Wini, Stacey, Shannon, Theresa, Cindy, Diane M. and a special thanks to our newlyweds, Darina & Jeff who tried to come out every Saturday.

~ Roz ~

## Newsletter of the East York Garden Club



## 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 December 20th, 2014**

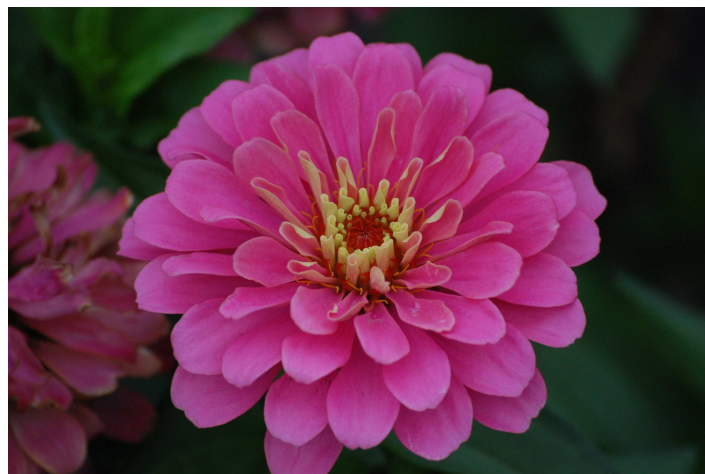
Please e-mail you comments regarding our Newsletter or submissions for the next issue to [jenn@majam.net](mailto:jenn@majam.net)

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**We're on the Web!**

<http://www.eygc.ca>

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## East York Garden Club Membership Renewal Form

Name .....

Address .....

Postal Code ..... Phone #.....

email.....

(Note that we will only use your email address to send you EYGC information. We do not distribute it to anyone else.)

☐ Single Membership      ☐ Family Membership      ☐ Renewal      ☐ New Membership

Age Bracket: ☐ Under 18    ☐ 18-60    ☐ Over 60

(Note: it is strictly voluntary if you choose to check one of these boxes. The rental rate at Stan Wadlow is a lower rate for organizations with a high number of seniors (over 60) and youth (under 18) therefore it is helpful, but not necessary, for us to have this information.)

Membership fees are due by January of each year. Fees for 2015 are \$20 for a single, and \$30 for a family membership. Fees can be paid in person at a regular meeting of the Club or by mailing this form and a cheque (payable to "East York Garden Club") to:

East York Garden Club  
c/o Cristina Brown  
7 Knightsbridge Road  
Scarborough, ON M1L 2A8