

January ~ February
2015

Business Name



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 Cristina Brown at 416-755-9077.

Visit us on the web at www.eygc.ca

President:

Susan Bartlett

Vice President:

Rosalind Regnier
& Barbara Fairbanks

Newsletter Editor:

Jennifer McDougall



Thursday, January 15th, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: How to raise Monarch Butterflies

Speaker: Carol Pasternak

Imagine holding a monarch butterfly in your hand! That's what you'll be able to do if you raise them yourself. You'll learn everything you need to know to raise your own monarchs at home. Author/educator Carol Pasternak will delight you with details of this incredible insect's life cycle from egg to butterfly, along with its amazing migration to Mexico. You'll also learn how to attract these beauties to your garden.

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Carol Pasternak has been raising monarch butterflies with her families for more than 30 years. By day, she is Personal Fitness Trainer, specializing in Older Adults in Toronto. Carol's book, *How To Raise Monarch Butterflies: A Step by Step Guide for Kids*, is available at bookstores and libraries, or for sale after the lecture for \$10 soft cover, or \$20 hard cover.

Members with surnames beginning with "C" through "F" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares for the refreshment table. Don't forget to bring your own mug for coffee or tea.

Thursday, February 19th, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: The Recycled Garden

Speaker: Frank Kershaw

Don't throw away those old garden implements and take advantage of yard and trunk sales to turn-up some unique garden recyclables. These curiosity and focal point items add personality, charm, whimsy and a touch of history to many gardens. This presentation will showcase numerous examples of how these items have been given new life in a variety of garden settings.

Frank Kershaw is an award-winning horticulturist with more than 40 years experience in the parks, environmental and gardening fields. He has contributed as a course lecturer and guest lecturer in the landscape architecture program at the University of Toronto and currently teaches garden design and horticultural courses at George Brown College. He has photographed over 4000 gardens around the globe, which has fueled his passion for garden design and plants. His Toronto garden has been featured in many books and magazines and is frequently visited by students.

Members with surnames beginning with "G" through "J" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares for the refreshment table. Don't forget to bring your own mug for coffee or tea.

Coming in 2015 - Pop-Up Events in Members' Gardens



Coming in 2015 –“Pop-Up Events in Members’ Gardens” – open to club members, friends and neighbours. A pop-up event is something that happens with short notice. You would be notified about what’s to happen by email or by telephone.

The first pop-up will be **“Winter Wonderland”** – an evening in Veronica Callinan’s garden, to take place sometime in February.

The pop-up events will give the EYGC an opportunity to raise additional funds to help cover the costs of hosting the 2016 District 5 AGM.

For example: “Winter Wonderland” might include the sale of baked goods and spice packages for hot cider and mulled wine; “Art in the Garden” – the sale of paintings, drawings and photographs; “Harvest Bounty in the Garden” – the sale of herbs, vegetables and preserves. You can imagine the many possibilities.

This project is in the early planning stages. If you have any suggestions or ideas, or want to volunteer your garden, please contact Diane Ronan (416-421-9604). More information to follow.

Miniature Design Workshop

We are having a Miniature Design workshop for novice and experienced designers for the flower show competitions. The Flower Show Committee has included a miniature category in each of the four shows for 2015.

The workshop will be held on **Sunday March 8th from 1:30-4:30** at the Stan Wadlow Clubhouse. It will include a presentation by Ursula Eley, an accredited floral designer and judge, and a hands- on workshop with plant material provided. The cost is \$20 per person.

You can sign up and pay for this workshop at the January meeting.

If you want to attend, but won’t be at the meeting, call Barb at 416-755-0278 to register.



Winning Design from Aug. 2013

By Betty Meyers



Winner of the Malcolm Geast Photography Award - Susan Ellis

Winner of George S. Henry Trophy for 2014 was Vera Stoyanoff



Winner of the Anna Leggatt Novice of the Year was Wilfred Haufe

Prez Patch

by Susan Bartlett



Welcome to 2015.

To those of you who have already renewed your membership, thank you! If you haven't renewed yet, you can do so at the January meeting.

Our 2015 schedule is up and we have some returning speakers, such as Peter Keeping, as well as some new faces. Thank you to our Speakers Coordinators Barbara Fairbanks and Lynda Tanner for putting together what is sure to be an interesting and informative year. To round it out, we have the regular flower shows and photo contests.

Don't forget to check out the Club library, winter is the perfect time to read and plan. There is a large selection of many topics in the library cart.

Here's to a fun and enlightening year of gardening!



2015 EYGC Board Members

Winners of the 2014 Betty Meyers' Best Cut Specimen Awards



Wilfred Haufe in April for his Flowering Lilac Branch



Claudette Levesque in June for her Peony



Carole Aida in September for her Amaranth Seed Head

2014 Flower Show Round Up

By Barb Fairbanks

The year started out with a winter that we hadn't seen for many, many years—ice, winds, tons of snow. What would it do to the gardens of our competitors? Well, it was a spectacular year for the flower shows and we broke recent records for both the number of competitors and the number of entries, so I would say that any challenges that faced the competitors were overcome.



Thank you to the 32 members for bringing a total of 746 horticultural specimens, plants, fruit and vegetables, preserves and designs to the four flower shows of 2014. Our flower shows are showcases of the variety of what East York gardeners can grow and also of dedication our members have in taking the time to bring items and designs to the shows. Your hard work in the garden and in the shows is very much appreciated.

We started the year off with the “Novice 101” workshop and many of the attendees competed at some or all of the shows this year with great success. Many of the experienced competitors were quite impressed with the skill and enthusiasm of the newcomers.

We had only 4 entries this year for the People's Choice Carved Pumpkin contest, but they were top-notch. Congratulations to: Carol Bouley for her first place delightful “Oops” entry, Carole Aida for her second place creatively carved “Cyclops” entry, Dawn McEachern for her red-eyed “Boo!” entry and Honourable Mention to Joanna Atkinson for the petite “Mushroom” entry.

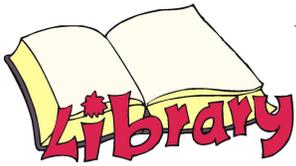
Thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up the tables, fill vases with water, assist bringing members entries in and placing the entries in the categories, writing out entry labels and clerking the shows, cleaning up afterwards, photographing entries etc, etc. Thank you to: Carole Aida, Laurel Angeloff, Vicky Anki, Karen Bell, Carol Bouley, Cristina Brown, Irene Derzay, Malcolm Geast, George Gorrie, Akemi Kobayashi, Heather Landon, Claudette Levesque, Jenn McDougall, Allison Piercey, Gord Piercey, Heather Piercey, Jean Quinn, Diane Ronan, Marion Stephens, and the members of the Executive Board.

And finally a thank you to the 2014 Flower Show Committee for planning the categories and design themes—it was a fun evening. We look forward to 2015 with another workshop or two—and hopefully another great year for the shows.

Barb Fairbanks
Flower Show Coordinator
416-755-0278

Winner of the
President's Award
was
Barb Fairbanks





Library Options: January Monarch Butterflies

By Audrey Campbell

Wooing butterflies to our gardens can be an elusive venture. Domestic entries like Echinacea (coneflower) is of somewhat common knowledge. Wildflower milkweed we are hearing more about. What else might there be that could entice these beauties into our front and backyards? Do we dare plant menthus (mint) varieties when they spread voraciously? Too bad the splendid dogbane shrub is for tropical zones only. Will our speaker inspire us with heretofore unknown properties of the wormwood and dusty miller plants?

Check out the natural garden volumes in the library kiosk at the January meeting.

Missing Books from our Library

Some books have been missing from our library for a few years now. Please take some time to review your own collection of gardening books to see if you have any of these. You can return the books to our librarian, Audrey Campbell, at any of our monthly meetings.



The following books are missing:

Dryland Gardening by Jennifer Bennett

An Easy Guide to African Violets by William Meachen

Canadian Gardening's Natural Gardens

The Small Garden Planner by Graham Rose

Gardenwork, a step-by-step guide to vital tasks by Steven Bradley

The Impatient Gardener

1000 Beautiful Garden Plants by Kramer

The Natural Garden Book by Peter Harper

Best Rose Guide by Roger Phillips/Martyn Rix

Garden Bird Facts by Marcus Schneck

Pruning and Grafting by Oliver Allen

The EYGC People's Choice Photo Contest Rules 2015

By Malcolm Geast

1. Members may submit one print, which is to be no larger than 5 by 7 inch (approximately 13 by 18 cm)
2. The member's name must be printed on the back of the photo. (Note: Press lightly when writing or use a label, so as not to make an impression on the front of the photo.)
3. The photo should fit with the category for that month's contest.
4. Entries for monthly contests must be received by 7:15 p.m. on the day of the contest.
5. Entries for the August show will be accepted between 6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. on Friday, August 28 and between 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. on Saturday, August 29
6. First, Second, Third Prize, and Honourable Mention winners will receive ribbons and points to be counted toward the awarding of the annual trophy.
7. Entries in the November contest must be portrait orientation, and can include photos entered in previous contests (including the Fall contest). The winning entry will be the cover of the 2016 yearbook.
8. Photographs are to be produced from any still-camera (film or digital).
9. The Club reserves the right to copy and use the images of the winning entries.

Judging Criteria: Ballots will be provided for those attending to vote for the photo of their choice, one vote per member.

2015 Garden Club Speaker Line-Up

Date	Topic	Speaker
January 15	How to Raise Monarch Butterflies <i>People's Choice Photo Contest: "Stripes"</i>	Carol Pasternak
February 19	The Recycled Garden <i>People's Choice Photo Contest: "Shiny"</i>	Frank Kershaw
March 19	Growing Clematis <i>People's Choice Photo Contest: "Wooden"</i>	Peter Keeping
April 16	Taming Wildflowers: From Seed to Vase <i>Flower Show</i> <i>The Todmorden Mills Wildflower Preserve Stewardship Team will be joining us this month.</i>	Miriam Goldberger
May 21	Plant Sale, with Master Gardener Insights - Our own Master Gardeners & Club members will tell us about the plants in the sale. <i>Members' Plant Sale</i>	
June 18	Pollinator Gardens <i>Flower Show</i>	Cathy Kozma
July 16	Pot-luck supper in a member's garden	
August 29 (Saturday)	<i>Annual Flower Show & Tea</i> <i>People's Choice Photo Contest</i>	
September 17	<i>Growing Tender & Hardy Succulents</i> <i>Flower Show</i>	Erika Schroedersecker
October 15	Beauty and the Feast <i>Fall Photo Contest Entries Accepted</i> <i>People's Choice Carved Pumpkin Contest</i> <i>Seed Exchange</i>	Marjorie Mason, Mason House Gardens
November 19	Annual General Meeting, Awards Presentation, and Pot-luck Supper <i>People's Choice Photo Contest: "Yearbook Cover"</i>	

Photo Contests for 2015 - Say Cheese!!

Tomatoes, Hostas, storm clouds, your feline friends, balloons, faces in unexpected places — these are among the categories featured in this year's photo contests. Along with three returning favourites, we have 16 completely new categories.

We like to make our People's Choice categories fun and perhaps a little imprecise, so as to increase your opportunity for creative interpretation. With that in mind, we give you "Stripes" for January, "Shiny" for February, and "Wooden" for March.

As always, there are no entry forms for the People's Choice competitions. Instead, simply bring your photo to the meeting before 7:15, with your name on the back (please don't put any identifying marks on the front). We'll have all the photos laid out on a table, and ballots will be available for everyone in attendance to vote for the best picture.

Listed on the next page is the full lineup for the People's Choice contests, and the Annual Photo Contest in the fall.

FREE MEMBERSHIP!!!



We have a few job openings for 2015:

The Board

We could really use a **SECRETARY** to take Minutes and transcribe them. We have even reduced our meetings in 2014 to make it easier! A lot of committees are submitting written reports now, so the Minutes are usually just 2 pages. The Secretary position is non-voting, but your ideas and suggestions are valued.

We can always use more Board members, especially now. We have traditionally held Board meetings once a month, but now we hold a few fewer meetings to ease up on the time commitment.

As an added Bonus this year we are offering the Secretary a **ONE FREE YEAR MEMBERSHIP** for every active year.

If at all interested in the Board, now or in the future, please call me at 416-467-4945 or susanhirst@gmail.com

Rockery Co-ordinator(s)



The Rockery is one of the Club's biggest legacies and community outreach projects. As time has gone by, the City's involvement has lessened and our role is vitally important in maintaining this public space. The new coordinator could be one person or the position could be split into three.

Being a coordinator does not necessarily require you to do physical labour in the Rockery, if you don't wish to. A lot of what needs to be done is scheduling and reminding the teams leads and teams

Please contact:: 416-467-4945 or susanhirst@gmail.com

People's Choice Contests:

January - Stripes

February - Shiny

March - Wooden

August (held in conjunction with the Annual Flower Show)

1. Straight
2. Curved
3. Balloons

November - 2016 Yearbook Cover

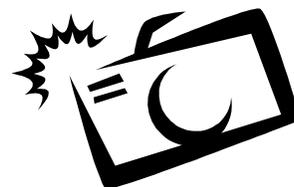
Annual Fall Show: Horticultural

1. Inside a Flower (A seriously close, close-up. Nothing extraneous showing.)

2. You Say Tomato... (Big or small, one or many, as long as the subject(s) of your photo says "Tomato".)
3. Hosta Magic (Be it a photo of the blooms, unusual leaf patterns or the total full luxuriant plant.)
4. The Recycled Garden (A repurposed item incorporated in the garden.)
5. Have a Seat (A sitting area in a garden.)

General

6. Year of the Cat (The meowing kind...)
7. Faces in Things (We're talking pareidolia here...)
8. Stormy Weather
9. You Are What You Eat (Your favourite meal)
10. Reflections on Water
11. Black & White (Any subject, using only black, white, and shades of grey)



12. On the shore (A photo of, or incorporating a shoreline)

Children & Youth Section

12. Anything Grows
Any horticultural subject
- (a) Children's category (ages 6 to 10)
- (b) Youth category (ages 11 to 17)

Why should you think about Seeds at this time of year?

By: Stacey Shannon

Some seeds need a period of cold stratification to break their dormancy. Seeds that require this treatment include woody plants and some of the tough-minded perennials. A quick inventory of seedheads in your own garden that are still standing to feed the winter birds represent some individuals in this group (i.e. Echinacea, Rudbeckia). If you want to increase your patches of these plants for very little cost, consider growing them from seed. You will have to harvest some now before either the birds eat all of them or the wind and snow knock them off their stalks or branches, then treat them (either moist or dry) and enjoy the significantly larger numbers, finally achieving the “drifts” so coveted by garden designers. This can be quite stunning and satisfying.

Likewise, the seed catalogues that are pushed through our mail-slots or appear in the inbox are full of the tender season seeds. In only a couple of months, it will be time to start the first of the transplants under a shop light or two in the basement that will be planted out in our too short summer. Think it’s too soon to be thinking of them? While it’s true that it is too soon to be actually planting the seeds, budget enough time to decide which particular kinds to plant and order and receive them. It is quite wonderful to see the world of opportunity that opens up when you stop buying transplants from nurseries and start planting seeds. Any kind of lettuce or cabbage, colored carrots, sweet and hot peppers and of course, pages and pages and pages of tomatoes are waiting for you. Sometimes even addressing problems like disease and pest resistance and challenges like drought or heat tolerance. So it can take longer than you think to simply decide which zucchini to order. (Based on all the factors, the bush type won out in our garden to stop squirrel sabotage. It worked. The squirrels laid off long enough to allow us to enjoy a few – oh who am I kidding – quite a few as this is zucchini we are talking about, after all).

Finally, the best reason to think about planting seeds this time of year is that it can

help banish the winter blahs. Is there a more optimistic act than placing a seed in a bit of soil? Dreaming of the resulting colors, textures, tastes and smells when it grows up? Stay tuned for a possible seed workshop later in the year.



For the second year, the Club will have a booth at
Get the Jump on Spring, so drop by!
Saturday, February 21, 2015 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the TBG

Beat the winter blues at our annual open house for horticultural societies with live displays, free gardening advice, talks, demonstrations and floral design competition. Enjoy lunch in the Jump Café and browse specialty vendors, artisans and the Garden Shop.

FREE ADMISSION, FREE PARKING ~ \$2 DONATION APPRECIATED

Those who donate will be entered in Free Draws, 1 Every Hour!

- Learn about horticultural societies, garden clubs and environmental organizations
- Garden related vendors
- Demonstrations and presentations
- ‘Love in Bloom’ floral design competition
- Toronto Master Gardeners on hand to answer your gardening queries
- Winter garden tour
- Special discounts in the Garden Shop
- Gently used gardening book sale
- NEW Drop-in childcare (ages 4 to 10)
- Lots of free PRESENTATIONS

More information at <http://torontobotanicalgarden.ca/enjoy/special-events/jump-on-spring/#sthash.oEQFKL2i.dpuf>

In no particular order here are two good seed catalogues – William Dam Seeds (www.damseeds.ca) and Veseys Seeds (www.veseys.com), two seed focused organizations – Seeds of Diversity Canada (www.seeds.ca) and The Guelph Organic Conference (www.guelphorganicconf.ca, Jan 31, 2015), and two seed expos - Scadding Court Seedy Saturday (Mar 14, 2015) and Brickworks Seedy Sunday (Mar 22, 2015)

Happy germinating!



Hosting the District 5 AGM

By Susan Bartlett

As you may have heard by now, in 2016 the East York Garden Club will be hosting the Annual General Meeting of District 5 of the Ontario Horticultural Association (henceforth to be known as “District 5 AGM”).



How did East York receive this honour? There are 18 clubs in District 5, and hosting is rotated throughout the district. The district runs up to Lake Simcoe, so depending on which society is hosting, some some years the event has been held in York region, while other years it's been held in the City. East York last hosted in 2005 (for reference, I was an expectant mother at the 2005 AGM, and when we host again in 2016 said child will be graduating from grade 5) so it really is our turn.

What is involved in hosting? Everything from securing a suitable venue, booking exciting speakers, planning a flower show open to all 19 clubs, fundraising, registration, seating attendees, and then the little things like raffle prizes (well to some they're a big deal), lunch, coffee, snacks...all the little things that make for a fun day of learning and meeting other gardeners in the district. Being an Annual General Meeting, there is a business portion, but it is usually done first thing in the morning, followed by the speakers, prizes, awards and food. Over the years word has gotten out that it is a pretty fun event, and often there are over 200 people in attendance and societies are encouraged to register early to ensure a seat.

The Planning Committee, in partnership with District 5, has already met a few times to get the ball rolling. We have chosen the date of **Sunday, April 24, 2016**. This is the first time an AGM has been held on a Sunday and we hope it will be as well attended as the Saturday AGMs. We have chosen the Latvian Centre as a venue, because when the Scarborough Garden & Horticultural Society hosted there a few years ago everyone really liked the space. We have chosen the theme “Garden Senses” which we feel can incorporate taste, touch, scent, sight, sound and this will give us many options for interesting speakers, topics and possible tie-ins with centrepieces or “swag”.

We will be posting more updates, and as we get closer to the date, further sub-committees will be formed, and we will have more specific need of your ideas and help. If you would like to get involved with any aspect, or perhaps have an ideas for prizes or fundraising, please contact me susanhirst@gmail.com

Business Name

*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 February 22nd, 2015***

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



EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB

We're on the Web!

<http://www.eygc.ca>

Mark your Calendars ~

Some Great Winter Events at TBG

Toronto Botanical Gardens Winter Lectures

The Cafe opens at 5:30, Doors open at 6:30, Lectures start at 7:30.
Members free, bring a friend \$10; Public \$25,
Students (with ID) \$15.

Living Landscapes: Putting Back the Layers
Rick Darke
Thursday February 5th, 2015 7:30PM

Plant Stories from the Gardiner: Botanical Imagery in Clay
Kelvin Browne
Thursday April 9th, 2015 7:30PM

777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, ON M4C 1P2

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