

November ~ December
2015

Newsletter of the East York Garden Club



THE EAST YORK GARDEN



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

President:

Susan Bartlett

Vice President:

Rosalind Regnier
& Barbara Fairbanks

Newsletter Editor:

Jennifer McDougall



Thursday, November 19th, 2015

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 2016 yearbook. Bring in either one or two of your best garden-related photos from 2014 or 2015. 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 21st, 2015.**

The Garden Sitter

Do you have a garden? Do you go away during the growing season and dislike seeing your garden wither away? Have you physical restrictions that prevent you from caring for your garden? I can help!! Fall & spring cleanup, planting, cat & or house sitting, garden design, etc. Reduced rate for EY Garden Club members and seniors. References available upon request. Flexible scheduling.

Why not give me a call? Anita Millar at 416-690-1775. Or email gardensitter1@gmail.com

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Yes we had a few drops of rain, but it didn't dampen our spirits. Peter Keeping's garden was fantastic. When you grow a lot of clematis make a clematis tunnel. Rekker nursery greeted us & gave us 20% off everything in the store, then on to Watson's produce. Whetung Ojibwa Centre was next with their beautiful giftware. Lastly Kawartha Winery's many samplings caused a few to snooze on the way back to TO. We arrived back loaded with plants, produce, gifts & some wine. Yes, we got a little lost, but we're gardeners----- we bend with the wind. Rosalind Regnier

Mark your Calendars

we are hosting the

Ontario Horticultural Association 2016 District 5 Annual General Meeting

Garden SENSES



Hosted by
East York Garden Club
Saturday, April 23, 2016
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Latvian Canadian Cultural Centre
4 Credit Union Drive, North York

d5agm@eygc.ca
416-429-4719



It was a Good Year for ‘The Rockery’

Our community project ‘The Rockery’ is now heading into its 12th year. The Rockery is an example of our mission to beautify the community; conserve natural resources; promote gardening and share horticultural knowledge.



This past season started on May 30th with an eager group of volunteers picking up trash; clearing dead plants and branches and edging flower beds. Time was taken to survey the site and decide what was needed for the upcoming year. The work of our volunteers resulted in beautiful, eye-catching beds at all levels and brought words of praise from people in the park. The last workday was October 24th.

The annual plants acquired from the City were strong and healthy. Drought tolerant plants such as alyssum and marigolds were requested and thrived in a dry summer. The rose bushes planted a few years ago did not stop blooming all season long.



It was sad that the beautiful pure white birch tree died but it still looked lovely against the backdrop of the rockery. A request has been made to the City to have an arborist visit the site and assess all the trees.

A big thank to our team leads: Carol Bouley, Roz Regnier and Jacqueline Tanner. They were out on their designated weekends and provided guidance to volunteers whenever needed.



Thank you to Diane Ronan for taking on the City Coordinator role. She was the one who kept asking for plants, bulbs, repairs, etc. Thank you to Barb Fairbanks for coordinating the leads and the volunteers and sending out the weekly reminders.

Thank you to all those volunteers who came out and gave your time and effort to deadhead, edge, dig, plant, weed, water, prune and chop for a whole season even though you had your own gardens to tend.

Now we are looking forward to next year and planning ways to honour The Rockery in the 90th anniversary year of the EYGC. The Rockery is definitely one of the stars of the club.



Final Prez Patch

by Susan Bartlett

It is time to say goodbye as your president. Over the past four years I've enjoyed garden tours, art shows, pot lucks, Canada Day parades, bus tours. Those are just a few of the happenings in our busy club. I've enjoyed presentations from speakers on topics as varied as daylilies to mushrooms, orchids to growing vegetables. There is always more to learn. There are always new directions for gardeners to take. Things like rain gardens, pollinator plantings, maintenance of the tree canopy etc. are now part of the public consciousness and recognized as being beneficial for the environment, but also a chance to beautify the urban landscape. The club's maintenance of the Rockery at Stan Wadlow Park gives us the opportunity to apply some of these principles and practices (the bee hotel, plants that attract butterflies, fighting invasives without pesticides).



The club's active and engaged members are a big part of the friendly atmosphere that guests and speakers often comment on at our meetings. Sometimes I felt bad about interrupting everyone's conversation to start our announcements! Members bring in new ideas and like to share events and information with other members. Sadly, over my two terms the club lost a few members who will be missed. But it also gained new members. Many horticultural societies face declining membership, but our membership remains healthy and we never lack for willing volunteers for sales and events. I look forward to many more years of gardening, learning and socializing with you all.

None of this would have been possible without such a group of committed, talented and caring people on the Board. I would like to thank all members of the Board over the past four years. A big thank you to Jenn McDougall, who tolerated my late newsletter submissions and put together a great newsletter. I also thank the members who volunteer in all the other ways, the club could not operate without your help. Board member and Vice-President Barbara Fairbanks will be stepping forward as your new president and I am confident that I leave the club in capable hands.

Winner's of the People's Choice Pumpkin Carving Contest

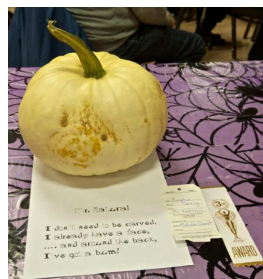
Photos By Malcolm Geast



1st: Jacqueline Tanner -
"Axe Harper"



2nd: Beena Rejendra "Kuchipudi"
an Indian Folk Dancer



3rd: Malcolm Geast
"Mr. Natural"



HM: Karen Bell
"Black Cat with Bling"



HM: Dawn McEachern
"M'm M'm Good"

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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, 2015**

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>



Roz with Stacey & Sue's huge kale--looks like a ball gown!

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