



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:

Barb Fairbanks

Vice President:

Rosalind Regnier

Newsletter Editor:

Jennifer McDougall



THE EAST YORK GARDEN

Thursday, September 15th, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: Toronto Seed Library

Speaker: Brendan Behrmann

Learn about Seed Saving & Seed Libraries with Brendan Behrmann, Chief Librarian of the Toronto Seed Library. Explore basic seed saving, seed freedom, cleaning and storage, plus advanced techniques like how to plan seed gardens, and how to deal with biennials & hard-to-save seeds. Bring your questions and expertise, and pick up free seeds!

Brendan Behrmann (MLIS) is the Chief Librarian and a Cultivator at the Toronto Seed Library. He is also an avid seed saver, camper, and alternative library advocate who has been involved with Toronto Urban Agriculture community since 2013.

This month is also the last flower show of the year. Entries are due by 7:10 p.m. Members with surnames beginning with "A" to "B" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares for

Thursday, October 20th, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: Incredible Edibles

Speaker: Sonia Day

Which foodstuffs can you realistically grow in an urban garden? Incredible Edibles reveals what will work - and what won't. Author Sonia Day personally grew every vegetable, herb and fruit in this presentation.

Sonia Day, is a well-known writer, painter and plant buff. Sonia has written several books, is a well-known speaker at events like Canada Blooms and has won several awards. She is also the writer of the Real Dirt, a column on down to earth gardening for the Toronto Star.

Sonia lives on 48 acres in rural Ontario. Her big messy garden is the inspiration for many of her Star columns.

This month is also the seed exchange & people's choice pumpkin carving contest. Members with surnames beginning with "C" and "E" are asked to bring in some cookies or squares.

Prez Patch ~ What Next?

by Barb Fairbanks



It has been a busy year for EYGC so far and it isn't stopping!

We opened our 90th anniversary year with a celebration in March and then we hosted the District AGM in April. In May we started showing up at the East York Farmer's Market and strong-arming new members to join our club of merry members. Our Plant Sale went well as usual, and both our Canada Day march and the July Pot Luck had record number of marchers and eaters. The Annual Show and Tea rooms were packed with floral competition entries and attendees.

So, we continue on with September—our last flower show of the year and an extra special meeting on Monday September 26th with a fantastic presentation by the Waddingtons: “In the Footsteps of the Group of Seven” in honour of our 90th anniversary. October brings the Seed Exchange and the People's Choice Carved Pumpkin Contest and we will be awarding some extra-special prizes for competitors. And finally in November we have our own Annual General Meeting with a pot-luck supper. If you have never been to our AGM it is a little bit business and a big bit of fun, food and festivity.

We are always on the look out for new Board members and new Event Coordinators and assistants as we go into a new year. Your talents and ideas are what keep this club one of the best. Think about it and call or email me if you would like more information as to how you can be a part of the planning.



EYGC member Hugh at the Rockery on Canada Day.

Photo by Barb Fairbanks

Saving your own Tomato Seeds

by Stacey Shannon

Have you ever wanted to save your own tomato seeds? The process is very easy and will help you save the best of your tomato crop for yourself and all your loved ones.

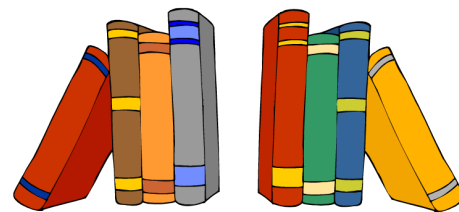
Your task is to separate the seeds from the pulp (because if you don't the seeds will rot in storage). **First**, select a fruit that is worth saving. Does it appear rather early in the year, have a large size, or have an amazing taste? That is the one that you slice open and scoop out all the seeds into a wide mouthed jar with a tight fitting lid. Fill $\frac{3}{4}$ with water and give the jar a shake. Place on a windowsill and watch the seeds and pulp swirl around together. Shake it multiple times a day for a few days and you will observe that they are separating into two layers with the top layer being the pulp and the bottom layer the seeds. The pulp will ferment which has the effect of “cleaning” all the seeds. Pour off the smelly water and give the remaining seeds a final rinse. Strain. Tip them out onto a stack of paper towels and allow to dry. The seeds will be remarkably clean!



Our next meeting on September 15 will feature Brendan Behrmann from the Toronto Seed Library as our guest speaker and maybe he will be able to shed light on how to best store your new wealth.

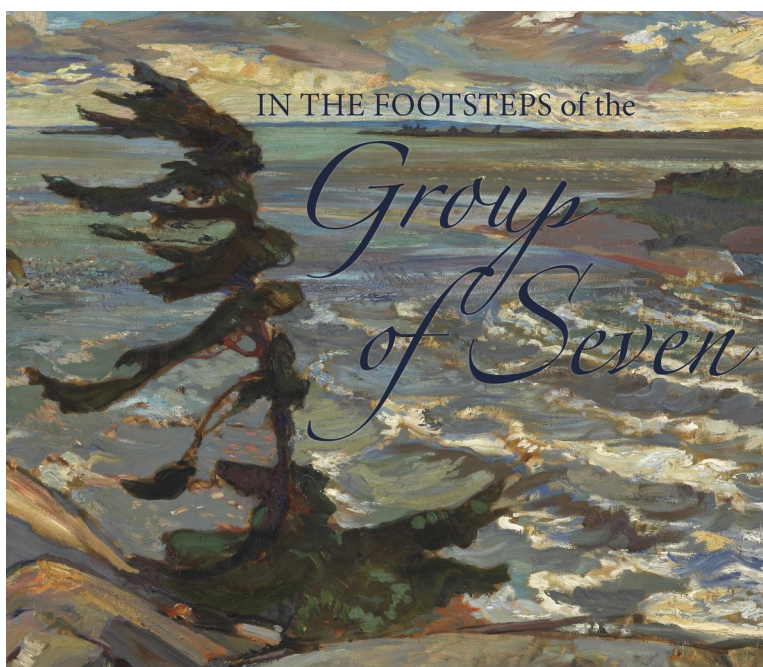
The EYGC Library

We have tried for the past 2 or 3 years to promote the little garden book library that the club has, but it has been a struggle with very few being borrowed.



The Board had decided that we will sell the books we have in the library, along with some that have been donated recently. The monies raised from this sale will be noted and will be used towards a specific purchase for the club. Sale date or dates to be determined.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about the library or our decision, please contact Barb Fairbanks at 416-755-0278



The East York Garden Club, in celebration of our 90th anniversary, would like you to join us for a special night on **Monday September 26th.**

We will welcome guest speakers Sue and Jim Waddington as they take us through their quest to locate the places that inspired the Group of Seven painters and Tom Thomson, and compare photographs of some of the 550 painting sites they have found.

The evening **starts at 7pm at the Stan Wadlow Clubhouse**, 373 Cedarvale Ave with light refreshments provided. The presentation will start at 7:30pm.

If you have not already confirmed your attendance, and would like to come, please call or email Barb Fairbanks to see if seats are still available.

Phone: 416-755-0278 Email: barb.fairbanks-eygc@bell.net

Seating is limited and we have opened the invitation to the East York Historical Society and the East York Foundation.

If you are interested, their beautiful book will be available for purchase at this event for \$45.

Barbara Fairbanks
President, East York Garden Club

A Fabulous Afternoon at the Annual Flower Show!

Saturday August 20th, 2016

Considering the dry weather this summer it may be surprising that we had a record number of entries in the flower show this year from a smaller number of members. **We had 408 items from 18 members:** 293 cut specimens, 50 potted and hanging plants, 39 fruits & vegetables and 26 designs. We had two first time entrants. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who entered.



Vera Stoyanoff won Best in Show and Best Hanging Plant for her deep coral coloured begonia, Best Collection of Flowers, and Best Vegetable for her lovely Chocolate Habenero peppers. Anna Leggatt won Best Cut Specimen for her 'Snowflake' hydrangea and Best Potted Plant for her

giant Sauromatum or Voodoo Lily (believe it or not, earlier in the year Anna thought this plant was dead!). Daisy Auer won Best Rose for her

deep rose-coloured polyanthus and Jean Quinn won Best Design for her 'The Rockery' design. Well done to all and thank you to everyone who took the time to compete.



Thank you to all the board members, flower show committee members and volunteers who baked and organized for the tea, helped set up and clean up, prepared and poured the tea and coffee, organized the draw table prizes, sold tickets, clerked the flower show, organized the photo contest. Thank you to the bouquet auction team of: Carol, Daisy, Sarah, Claudette, Velma and MJ for replacing Cristina who couldn't stay to do her usual spectacular work.

Thanks to Paul Hirst and Gord Piercey for being our auctioneers. Thanks to Anna for being our speaker. Thanks to all our members and guests for coming out and supporting our club's efforts to present the best of the East York Garden Club.



Flower Show Winners



Best Collection of Flowers:
Vera Stoyanoff



Best Potted Plant: Anna Leggatt



Best Vegetable: Vera stoyanoff



Best Design: Jean Quinn



Best Cut Specimen: Anna Leggatt



Best Rose: Daisy Auer



All Photos of this page were taken by Malcolm Geast.



Seeking a NEW Treasurer

If you like doing Sudoku puzzles, then you'll like balancing the Garden Club accounts each month. Same logic, same satisfaction! Which is just another way of letting you know it is not (to use a hackneyed phrase) rocket science but a series of simple steps. Money comes in, it is entered under "revenue". The bills are paid, it is entered under "disbursements" and that essentially is the job with a few frills added. If you can balance a cheque book, you can balance the accounts; if you can count money, you can balance the accounts and if you can roll coins then you're home and dried!

These are the main steps that need to be done each month. If you have ever studied even rudimentary bookkeeping, you will remember the ledger accounts where revenue and disbursements are posted and the total of these are the yearly accounts presented at the AGM.

Although this job cannot be easily split, it can, however, be shared by a couple living together (and if the relationship has gone blah or boring, just imagine the possibilities for reconnecting over a good count of dollars after one of our fundraising events!!) Perhaps one could do the entering of accounts and the other could do the running around etc.

I will be here to answer any questions throughout the year. Our financial year ends September 30th so October to December are quiet, financially speaking, which gives time to ease into the job by January.

I have enjoyed doing this job for the past 10 years but it's time for me to step aside.

Jean Quinn, Treasurer



OHA Update

The Ontario Horticultural Association's Board of Directors approved our involvement in the Highway of Heroes project this past spring. The OHA agreed to match donations by our Societies up to a maximum of \$2500.00. The deadline was June 30th.

At the OHA convention in Kitchener in July, the OHA presented to Mark Cullen, Board Chair of Highway of Heroes and Executive Director Scott Bryk, a cheque in the amount of **\$27,337.00!**

East York Garden Club
contributed \$250.00.

For more information about the Highway of Heroes check out
www.hohtribute.ca

One more Chance to Compete in 2016 Flower Shows

On Thursday September 15th we will have our final flower show for 2016. We had such a huge number of entries in August, sometimes it seems our competitors slow down a bit by this show—and sometimes not!

The design classes should provide some fun this year as the theme is "Past Presidents"! Hopefully we will have at least one entry in each of the 6 classes. It should be noted that you do not have to use your own garden flowers to make your designs—you can purchase plant material. Let's impress our Past Presidents with our talents—try to design a Susan Bartlett or a Malcolm Geast...!

Take a moment to walk around your garden with your yearbook opened to pages 20 & 21 and a pencil and clipper in hand. Is there something that will fit the schedule? We have great volunteers who can help you once you bring your entries to the clubhouse between 6:30pm and 7:10pm.

Canada Day Review

Canada Day Parade : East York Garden Club Biggest Turnout Ever for our 90th Anniversary!

It started out as a rainy day, and then suddenly it wasn't. As soon as the parade started, the sun came out and all was well. We had a record turnout with almost 20 marchers this year by the end of the parade, including baby Hugh in his decked out "mobile garden" wagon. A number of members "popped up" and joined us along the route, which is a great idea to keep in mind for next year if you're not up to walking the entire route (hint hint).



Our new EYGC banner was gorgeous (thanks to Peter and Diane Ronan!), and weatherproof which was a good thing. We also had several bicycles decorated in floral abundance this year, which were a big hit.

In a word, in was fun.

Meanwhile, over at Stan Wadlow Park our volunteers were busy selling plants and attic treasures that were donated by numerous members. We met many wonderful East Yorkers, shared gardening tips and stories, and broached the idea of joining our Club. The weather held up for most of the day until we had a sudden deluge of rain at about 3 o'clock. At that point we decided to pack it in.

A big thanks goes out to all our team who made the day very successful.

It's one we'll never forget.

Cheers to all. We look forward to Canada Day next year.

Carved Pumpkin Contest

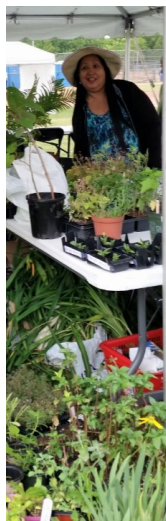
For the 4th year, we are running the Carved Pumpkin Contest again, and, with so many new members we hope to have an exciting competition!



Use your creativity to carve a masterpiece and bring your pumpkin work of art to the October 20th meeting. Our members will vote with pennies for their favourite and ribbons will be awarded. Also, for our 90th anniversary year, a special 1st Prize will be given.

Only one pumpkin entry per member. Accessories allowed. Pumpkin must have a name or title. Entry tags available at the meeting. Pumpkins to be in place by 7:15pm. Voting starts at 7:15 and closes at 7:45pm.

So, put a reminder on your fridge or in your technology of choice, choose your pumpkin—large or small it is up to you, get out your carving knife and test your skills!



Christina & Barb working the tables at the park after the parade. Thanks to Jenn & Barb for the pictures.



Awards at the OHA Convention in July

Congratulations to the East York Garden Club for all the awards for printed material received at the Ontario Horticultural Association's AGM in July.

The yearbook cover for 'Primarily Photographic' won a First place ribbon and Best in Show! The photograph was by Wendy Plume.

Our yearbook won a Third place ribbon. Thank you to our yearbook coordinator, Malcolm Geast.

Our bookmark and our brochure won Third place ribbons. Thank you to our design team of Diane and Peter Ronan.

Well done all! These awards and those from the District 5 AGM will be on display at the September meeting.



The Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory & an Amazing Garden by Lee MacLeod

On Saturday, August 6 three SGHS members – Anette Hurliehy, Irene Sidgwick and I went on an exciting, magical tour from Milton and its Farmers' Market to the new Butterfly Conservatory in Milton, to an amazing garden just outside of Kitchener. Our guide was Roz Regnier of the East York Garden Club. We are thinking we would like to take SGHS members on the same tour next year so that this was an exploratory visit and an outstanding success!

We started off in Toronto at 8:00 am and arrived at the Milton Farmers' Market about an hour later. The main street was blocked off for merchants to display local fruit and vegetables, honey, pastries, jams and jellies. It was a very friendly atmosphere with locals as well as tourists saying hello to each other and visiting some beautiful and very friendly dogs and one bearded dragon (small).



Then it was on to the Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory, a relatively new conservatory which never seemed crowded despite our numbers. A beautiful waterfall and mist recreated the rainforests of South East Asia, the Americas and Australia, and Central and South America. The conservatory teemed with butterflies, some 47 varieties - the Asian Swallowtail, the Monarch, the Blue Morpho, the Rice Paper butterfly, the Postman butterfly and many more. Tropical birds like the Chinese Painted Quail, the Society Finch, the Masked Finch and the Diamond Dove were also tame and landed in front of us or over our shoulders.



The afternoon's highlight was a tour of the garden of Robert and Judy Pavlis, just outside of Kitchener. In their five-acre garden, Robert and Judy have cultivated many diverse areas for over 30 years.

There is a rock garden, an area for perennials, two streams and one dry one, a view from a chalet on a height of land with a fish pond behind it and many more areas to explore. That's why we want to tour this fascinating garden one more time next year!

Newsletter of the 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

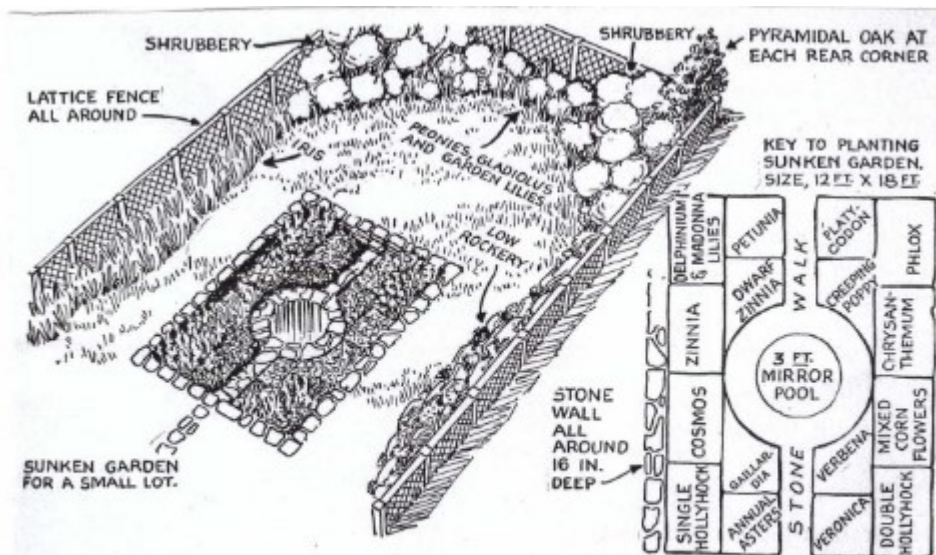
*Please e-mail you comments regarding
our Newsletter or submissions for the
next issue to jenn@majam.net*



EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB

We're on the Web!

<http://www.eygc.ca>



A rather crowded, semiformal garden, designed to minimize the lack of space. The interesting central feature avoids dwarfing by being sunken 12 to 24 inches (according to the area covered), below the lawn surface. Borders are narrow and balance each other.

"From the Complete Book of Garden Magic by Roy E. Biles; was originally published in 1935 and updated in 1953. Illustrations by Joseph E. Ebertz et al"

**OHA FUNDRAISER
18-MONTH (Jan 2017-
June 2018) CALENDARS
FOR SALE**

\$20 each

For the Love of Gardening calendars will have photos or collages of photos from the 19 Districts within the OHA.



Only available for purchase until October 10th

Delivery early November

Sign up sheet will be at our September 15th meeting or contact Barb Fairbanks to order your calendars