



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:

Barbara Fairbanks

Vice President:

Rosalind Regnier

Newsletter Editor: Jennifer McDougall



Newsletter of the East York Garden Club



Thursday, November 17th, 2016

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 (please, if possible, put your name on all your dishes & utensils). Any leftovers at the end of the evening will be donated to Kennedy House Youth Services on Pape Ave.

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, flower show awards, fall photography contest awards with photos on display, membership renewals accepted.

Yearbook Cover: The final "People's Choice" photo contest of the year, with the winning picture to be featured on the cover of the EYGC 2017 yearbook. Bring in either one or two of your best garden-related photos from 2015 or 2016. 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 member's vote by those in attendance at the meeting. Entries must be received by 6:50pm, with voting taking place through-out the evening and photos entered will be on display.

Remember NO meeting in December ~ Our monthly meetings will resume on Thursday, January 19th, 2017.

Victoria Park School's Magical Garden Trip

On October 5th I had the privilege of accompanying Grades 2 and 3 on a trip to Toronto Botanical Garden. The morning was ideal--warm with clear blue skies. I arrived at the school to a friendly greeting by the teachers, office staff and kids.

The atmosphere was charged with excitement as the children eagerly anticipated what the morning would bring. Due to costs, these children rarely got to go on a school trip--for some it was their first time on a city bus. Two teachers, 42 children, three parent helpers and myself set out for a morning of adventure. Using the TTC we arrived at Toronto Botanical Garden at the corner of Leslie Street and Lawrence Avenue. The Children's Education Staff and our own Rosalind Regnier were there to greet us. Introductions took place an off we went.

Our first station was in the forest where the children participated in a discussion on animal and insect habitats, which was followed by an activity to find some of these habitats. As we walked through the woods to the next activity (story time) we crossed paths with a raccoon, which caused a lot of excited conversation. After an animal story, we ventured further into the forest. It was time to break into groups. The project was to build nests from material found on the forest floor--leaves, twigs, etc. Then we walked through a valley and up a hill to the teaching garden. Rosalind was waiting for us with snacks for everyone--cookies and juice. The cookies in particular were a big hit.



The TGB staff then took over and rotated the class through three stations: a scavenger hunt, planting garlic and a surprise (which was a worm composter.) Planting garlic turned out to be the most popular activity. Perhaps some of these ardent gardeners will become members of the East York Garden Club in about 20 years. The gardener seeds have been planted.

After an exciting morning we walked back to the main building, said farewell to the TGB staff and took the bus back to school in time for afternoon classes. Asked what they liked best about their morning the class replied: "Everything!" followed by planting garlic.

This was an extremely successful venture for the East York Garden Club. Kudos to Rosalind Regnier who organized the event. Events like this are made possible through our very successful fund raisers. Plant sales, 50/50 draws, teas, all add up. This is how the East York Garden Club was able to sponsor Victoria Park School's visit to The Toronto Botanical Garden. If we had not had these fund raisers, the trip would not have taken place. Here's to more such ventures in the future.



Prez Patch ~ Satisfying days by Barb Fairbanks

Ahh, when the sun shines through the yellow and orange leaves on the branches that overhang our garden from our neighbour's tree and seeing them through our office window—it is glorious. Cleaning up the somewhat neglected garden and planting our Canada150 bulbs on a nice day is terrifically satisfying.

Seeing the variety of birds passing through the garden to their southerly winter homes, stopping for a drink or a nibble is very satisfying. Seeing late monarchs fluttering around the butterfly bush and other flowers sipping some nutrients before heading out is really satisfying.

Discovering that our bee hotel was well-used and we should probably have more is excitingly satisfying.

Having 115 members and guests at our October meeting and realizing we averaged 93 members per meeting this year, when many of our garden club societies would be happy to have that many members period is fantastically satisfying!

Overall, it must mean we are doing something right. In

the garden our plantings must be a pretty good balance of beauty and usefulness to have such varieties of wildlife and pollinators. At the Club our activities must be a pretty good balance of interesting speakers, events, volunteer opportunities, socializing and action to have such a successful garden club. As a President of a successful club it is very satisfying to see the club grow and become an integral part of member's lives by being an enjoyable monthly (or more) destination.

Thank you for being a member of the East York Garden Club and we look forward to you growing with us in 2017.

The Complete Book of Garden Magic by Roy E. Biles, was originally published in 1935 and updated 1953. Illustrations: Joseph. E. Ebertz et al

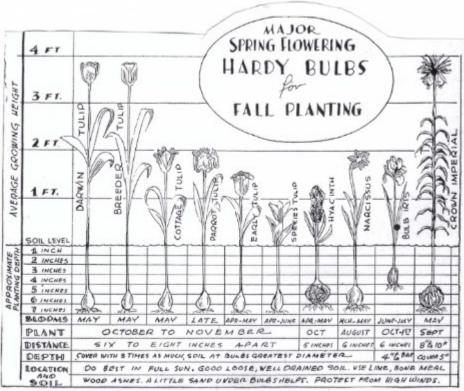
Canada150 Tulip bulbs



For members of the club as of September 15th, we gave each single or family member a small package of Canada150 tulip bulbs. If you weren't at the meeting, it was a surprise gift that the Board chose to do in celebration of both our 90th anniversary this year and Canada's 150th birthday next year. We distributed the balance

of the packages to each of your homes—squeezing them through your mailbox or leaving it between doors. Of note: we saw some lovely gardens out there that would make great Pop-Up gardens next year hint, hint.

If you haven't done so already, take a bit of time to plant your bulbs in your garden now before the snow flies! Plan to take some photos next year of the tulips in bloom—that is if the squirrels haven't eaten them, moved them or bitten the heads off---arrggh!





2016 at The Rockery

by Barb Fairbanks

It was an interesting year at the Rockery this year. The weather was hot and dry, the annual plants were struggling to stay alive and the absolute mountains of compost and mulch were eventually moved to the beds, there were injuries and yet we managed with our usual cheer-fulness and exhausted camaraderie.

Due to Diane Ronan's role as City Communication Coordinator our very old list of "Please

Do's" got done—our beautiful, but dead birch was removed, the large oak at the top of the Rockery got pruned and the stairway was filled in and hand rails were installed for safety.

In April, we were awarded a \$250.00 OHA grant for the rejuvenation of the Rockery and due to some unforeseen incidents (falls and wasps) the stairway was cordoned off until safety repairs could be made and it delayed our plans. However, in the fall we purchased \$249.48 worth of roses, sedums, coreopsis, asters, michaelmas daisies, speedwell, narcissus bulbs etc. Everything got planted though space was tight due to the huge junipers taking over the beds.



In July, the Executive Board started to discuss our role in the Rockery Maintenance going forward and how the City could possibly help. We were realizing that it is a small core of members who volunteer at the Rockery and it is a big job that can be quite hard work. We want to reduce the level of our work overall, but still keep a hand in the "teaching opportunities" available for our members who wanting to learn skills. We knew that the beds needed to be opened up by removing or pruning the junipers and this is really a City worker's job.

In October, a small group of us met with Janet Davis's office and Paul Orichefsky, our local supervisor from Parks & Rec also attended. We wanted to see what kind of help we could get, and when, and how much. From that meeting, Tiberiu Porime, one of Paul's gardeners, came and looked at the Rockery with a critical eye and listened to our concerns. We are now looking forward to a stronger partnership with the City Park's gardeners in 2017 with some real rejuvenation happening.



Jacqueline working in the Rockery Sept. 2016.

Thank you to all the members who "signed in" this year and volunteered their time and muscle to helping our community project, with a total of 245.5 hours:

Team Leads: Susan Bartlett, Carol Bouley, Rosalind Regnier, Jacqueline Tanner City Coordinator: Diane Ronan

Volunteer Coordinator: Karen MacDougall

Volunteers: Carole Aida, Joe Amodeo, Bana Brasic, Maxine Cashore, Paula Davies, Gail Gregory, Paul Hirst, Bonnie & John Howes, Jeff Joiner, Heather Landon, Karen Mac-Dougall, Dave Middleton, Marilyn Ottenhof, Kathy Paidock, Gord Piercey, Wendy & Rick Plume, Darina Quinn, Paul Sarjeant, Stacey Shannon, Wini Stoddart, Cynthia Townshend, Sue Wells, Michael Woods

Cookie Bakers: Lynda Tanner, Barbara Fairbanks



Newsletter*Publicity*Flower Shows*Photo Contests*Greeters* Pop-Ups*A/V*Membership*Plant Sales*Bus Tour*Canada Day* *Farmer's Market*Refreshments* our AGM*Workshops *Community Projects*Communication

Help for 2017! We really want our members to be involved in organizing our activities and events by wanting to be on committees.

Your participation can be part of the planning team, or 'on the day' set up or overseer or both. We need to know now where you would like to help out.

Depending on the committee and the number of events within that activity, your involvement may be small or big. For example: one single meeting or many meetings as part of a group or with just the committee coordinator (may be phone or email in addition or instead of a physical meeting).

For more information to see how you can lend a hand in 2017, contact Barb Fairbanks at 416-755-0278

Our club won't be as great without your help!



People's Choice Pumpkin Carving Contest Entries







Photos By Malcolm Geast









Ontario Horticultural Association District 5, Toronto East, York Region East 2016 Annual General Meeting

Sponsors & Contributors

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our table sponsors:

David Leggett, Edward Jones Dawn McEachern & Malcolm Geast Duncan Fremlin, RE/MAX Hallmark Realty East End Garden Centre East York Foundation Gord Piercev Grahame King & Sylvia Santarelli, Re/Max Ultimate Realty Karen MacDougall & Paul Sarjeant Mike Clarke, Mike Clarke Real Estate Team Nick Lawley, Paragon Travel Agency Ltd. Rosalind Regnier & Sonia Van Heerden Scotiabank, Vince Campolongo, Branch Manager, St. Clair & O'Connor Susan Gucci, Susan Gucci Real Estate Team Veronica Callinan Anonymous

With many thanks to the following companies, small businesses and individual members who donated items large & small:

Anna Leggatt Canadian Tire, 1901 Eglinton Avenue East Carrot Common Dairy Queen, 1040 Broadview Avenue Evergreen Brickworks Home Hardware Jawny Bakers Restaurant Karen Bell Maija Sired, Latvian Canadian Cultural Centre Percy Waters Florist Peter's Paint & Paper Renee's Garden Seeds Sheridan Nurseries Starbucks Sylvia McHugh Urban Nature Store Wendy & Rick Plume Anonymous

A special thank you to all our talented artistmembers and their families and friends:

Allison Piercey Anita Millar Carol Bouley Carole Aida Claudette Levesque Dennis Jones Diane Ronan Gail Gregory Georgia Jacqueline Tanner James Tanner Lee Pritchard Linda Bouley Linda Boyko Lucie Simons Marion Stephens Nola McConnan Peter Ronan Roger Horan Rosalind Regnier Wendy Latham



Thanks also to Diane & Peter Ronan for the "Garden Senses" theme & logo design.

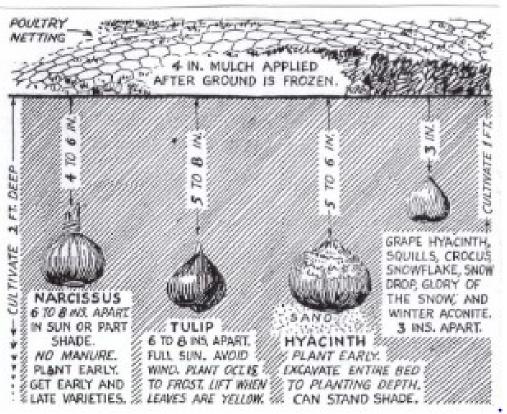
Special thanks to the D5AGM Committee Members of the East York Garden Club: Barbara Fairbanks, Diane Brockman, Diane Ronan, Gord Piercey, Karen MacDougall, Lynda Tanner, Malcolm Geast, Paul Sarjeant, Rosalind Regnier, Susan Bartlett and from District 5: Cindy Scythes and Nancy Serrick

This wonderful day would not have been possible without the help of our volunteers: club members, their friends and families. Thank you all.

From the 1980 Yearbook

Smile awhile, and when you smile, another smiles. And soon there's miles and miles of smiles. And life's worthwhile – because you smile.

The Complete Book of Garden Magic by Roy E. Biles, was originally published in 1935 and updated 1953. Illustrations: Joseph. E. Ebertz et al







2016 Pop-Up garden Round Up

Thank you to all the members who Popped-Up their gardens this year. These Pop-Up Garden Events were open to members only, as a privilege of membership, and were well-attended. They provided not only an opportunity to see the variety of gardens within East York, but also provided a venue to socialize and get to know our fellow members better.

May 11th: Anita Millar opened up her garden in transition as she is rejuvenating the design and plantings

May 25th: Diane and Peter Ronan started a "see-it-through-the-seasons" pop up with the backyard in spring blooms

May 28 & 29th: New member, Anne Stanley, popped up her whimsical garden and obtained lots of information about pruning and planting from experienced visiting members

June 21st: Carol Kaltenbock opened up her big backyard with an amazing covered seating area and lovely plantings

June 29th: Marion Stephens brought us to "The Rez", a community garden started by members of the Church of the Resurrection on Woodbine. It was interesting to see the various levels of use and seeing both young and old being involved in weeding and caring for the raised beds

July 7th: Vera Stoyanoff opened up her amazingly tidy and rich front and back gardens and all the pots and containers along the way. The variety of the plants did not surprise anyone who has seen her win the top flower show awards for years.

July 10th: Evelyne Ostenberg took us to her filled garden in Ajax with beautiful specimens and clematis 'Huldine' climbing to the top of an evergreen. She planned her day to coincide with the races at the Ajax Downs and Casino Market day

July 15th: Mary Lou Burt showed off her in-full-bloom daylilies and a variety of hostas

July 15th: Diane and Peter Ronan opened their garden again for all to see the summer changes

Sept 7th: Anita Millar showed off her large and beautiful clematis "Sweet Autumn" that filled the air with its beautiful scent

Sept 20th: Wendy and Rick Plume opened their creatively renovated garden with an invitation to see it again in the spring

Oct 2nd & 3rd: Diane and Peter Ronan's garden was in all its fall splendour. Seeing the progression of a garden throughout the seasons was inspirational

Thank you again to all those who Popped-Up and those who attended. We look forward to popping up again in 2017—not to say the year is finished—you can still Pop-Up your garden for late fall and early winter! Just contact Diane Ronan at 416-421-9604!







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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 **deadline is December 20th, 2015**

Please e-mail you comments regarding our Newsletter or submissions for the next issue to jenn@majam.net and I will pass them on to the next editor



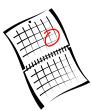
EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB

We're on the Web! http://www.eygc.ca



From my EYGC family to all of yours, Thank you for allowing me to be your Newsletter editor for the past 5 years. Starting in January someone new will take over this task. I hope you will all support them as you have supported me by writing articles, poems, sharing your pictures and ideas. Thanks its been fun!

~ Jenn McDougall



Mark your Calendars ~ Here are Some Great Events

- November 11 ~ Remembrance Day Service at East York Civic Centre—10:45 am to Noon
- November 20 ~ Toronto Santa Clause Parade
- November 27 ~ Beaches Christmas Parade at 1:00 p.m., runs along Kingston Rd.
- First Sunday in December begins the Christmas Flower Show at Allan Gardens
- **December 1** ~ TBG Holiday Open House ~ 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- **December 9** ~ Public Skating begins at the Evergreen Brick Works
- **December 21** ~ Winter Solstice
- December 25 ~ Christmas—Happy Holiday's Everyone!
- **December 31** ~ New Year's Eve—Happy New Year—See you in 2017!!!