



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 pm.

Refreshments are available at 7:00 pm. The Clubhouse is wheelchair accessible. Visitors are always welcome.

Yearly membership fees are \$20.00 for a single, \$30.00 for a family. To inquire about membership, please contact:

Barbara Fairbanks at:  
416-755-0278

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

**President:**

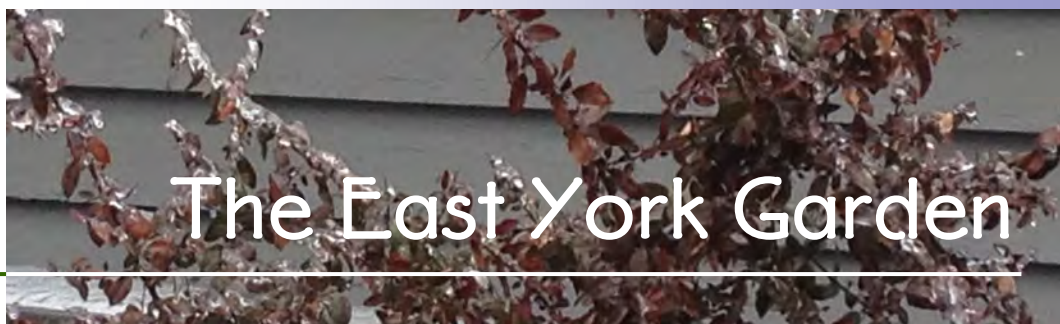
Barbara Fairbanks

**Vice Presidents:**

Rosalind Regnier and  
Linda Boyko

**Newsletter Editor:**

Michael Woods



# The East York Garden

## Next Meetings:

**Thursday January 19th, 2017, 7:30 PM**

**Topic:** *Ryerson's Urban Farm Garden* **Speaker:** *Arlene Throness*

Arlene Throness is passionate about growing, sharing and enjoying food. Her love of food has led her to work on farms and in kitchens throughout Canada. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Human Geography from Concordia University and a certificate in Permaculture Design from the Linnaea Farm Ecological Garden Society on Cortes Island, BC. Arlene is entering her fifth year as the Urban Farm Manager at Ryerson University, where she designed and manages a quarter acre rooftop farm. Arlene is one of three recipients of the Toronto Botanical Garden's 2015 Aster Awards, given to individuals who embody the mission to transform our city by connecting people to plants and the natural world.

Ryerson University is home to a quarter acre rooftop farm on the Andrew and Valerie Pringle Environmental Green Roof, located in downtown Toronto. Originally built in 2004, this green roof was converted into an edible garden in 2013 by Ryerson's student-initiated garden group. Now, the Ryerson Urban Farm produces roughly 8,000 pounds of produce annually.

*Members with Surnames beginning with "C" through "E" are asked to bring some cookies or squares for the refreshment table. Thank You!*

*Theme for the January Peoples Choice Photo Contest: "Yellow"*

**Thursday February 16th, 2017, 7:30 PM**

**Topic:** *Happy Hens & Fresh Eggs* **Speaker:** *Signe Langford*

Urban backyard hen-keeping with Signe Langford. She has kept chickens in her urban Toronto yard for almost a decade. Today's renaissance of the backyard flock is driven by a growing desire for healthy organic ingredients, food security and animal welfare and while hunger might be the best sauce, a dash of self-sufficiency is remarkably satisfying too. As communities from Victoria to St. Johns amend urban bylaws to allow backyard flocks, more and more Canadians are enjoying the pleasures and rewards of keeping hens in the garden. She will also delve into her new passion: gardening and cooking with native and naturalized edibles.

A former restaurant chef, urban hen-keeper Signe now writes and creates recipes for numerous publications. Her first book, the multi-award winning, Happy Hens & Fresh Eggs, was published in 2015; she's working on her second book all about gardening and cooking with native and naturalized edibles.

*Members with Surnames beginning with "F" through "H" are asked to bring some cookies or squares for the refreshment table. Thank You!*

*Theme for the February Peoples Choice Photo Contest: "Winter Fun"*

## Get the Jump on Spring

*SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2017 from 10am to 4pm*



*Witchhazel often blooms before the snow has gone.*

TBG's Annual Horticultural Open House is jointly sponsored by the volunteers of the Toronto Botanical Garden and the Ontario Horticultural Association District 5.

There will be a variety of seminars of current interest to the gardening community. There is a design competition. A café will be available onsite and parking and admission are free. A donation of \$2 is appreciated; visitors who choose to donate will have the opportunity to win a prize each hour.

EYGC will have a table there, so please pop by and say hello!

For more information check out TBG's website:  
[www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca](http://www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca)



## New for 2017: Member Advertising

The EYGC Board has formalized some parameters regarding advertising in club newsletters. We will accept one advertisement, free of charge each calendar year

- ♦ The member advertising must be a current member of EYGC
- ♦ The advertisement will appear in only the **March-April newsletter**
- ♦ The advertisement is subject to executive approval
- ♦ The advertisement must be garden-related

- ♦ A print-ready advert would be required, business card sized
- ♦ Submitted as PDF or JPEG or a scanned business card

**You may send your advertisement to Barb Fairbanks at [barb.fairbanks-eygc@bell.net](mailto:barb.fairbanks-eygc@bell.net) no later than February 1, 2017. All ads to be approved by the EYGC Board.**

## Save the date! - The 2017 District 5 AGM



**The birds and the bees**  
*... and all that jazz*

### **"THE BIRDS AND THE BEES AND ALL THAT JAZZ"**

The Leaside Garden Society is pleased to host the 2017 OHA District 5 AGM on **Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3:30pm at the Toronto Botanical Gardens 777 Lawrence Av East**. The day includes two speakers, the District 5 business meeting, a flower show, a boxed lunch featuring your selected sandwich, salad and dessert, door prizes and gift basket draw prizes, and the opportunity to mingle and chat with fellow gardeners and horticultural society members from across District 5. All of this for only \$30.

Seating will be limited for our club and a sign up sheet will be available at our January meeting.



## *Prez Patch*

*By Barbara Fairbanks*

*Woo-Hoo! It is 2017 and we are off to another fantastic year for EYGC.*

Gord and I were recently in Maui Hawaii and it was pretty incredible to be surrounded with such tropical lushness, flowers of all kinds, chatty colourful birds and a coral reef just steps off the beach with lots of big and small neon-coloured fish swimming in and out of all the varieties of coral. The resort had started their own new project—raised beds full of veggies and herbs for any guest to use. While not extensive, it is a start—Hawaiian style.

And we are off to a great start with an array of speakers with topics from native plants, vegetables and raised beds—Canadian style!

**Also new this year:** Our flower show coordinator, our photography contest coordinator and our newsletter editor. Jenn MacDougall has moved from being our newsletter editor to our Flower Show Coordinator. Malcolm and Dawn have handed over the reins for coordinating the Photography Contests to the team of Anita Millar and Linda Boyko. And last, but not least, Michael Woods is taking over the Newsletter Editor position (and he is a new member!)

Anne Stanley won Anna Leggatt's Novice Award this year for entering flower shows (she is a new member!)

I would also like to welcome to the Executive Board: Giuliana Giacomini, Jacqueline Tanner and Michael Woods. Giuliana is our new Treasurer (and she is a new member!).

I hope you noticed the delicate way I have emphasized the way some new members have become more involved with EYGC. You don't have to do that much, but with so many new members I am sure you can find a way to do just a bit!

*I look forward to seeing you at our meetings this winter and, as always, you can contact me at:*

**barb.fairbanks-eygc@bell.net or 416-755-0278.**





## *Our AGM Wrap-Up by Barb Fairbanks, President*

We had a wonderful evening on November 17<sup>th</sup> with our Annual General Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner and Awards night.

We had 108 members in attendance this year—a record number! Many new members joined us for the evening and hopefully everyone went home with full stomachs and with the satisfaction of attending a fun event.

Even though there is business to deal with at the AGM, it is done swiftly. Our new Executive Board for 2017 was sworn in by District Director Cindy Scythes and the membership pledged their support of the Board and the Club's activities. The full listing of the Board members will be listed in the upcoming yearbook that will be available in January with your new membership cards.

There was an amazing array of pot luck items (with very few duplications—that is always amazing too!) and the leftovers all went to Kennedy House, a youth hostel on Pape Ave. They have a new website if you would like to know a bit more about Kennedy House:  
[www.kennedyhouseyouthshelter.com](http://www.kennedyhouseyouthshelter.com)

The winners of the Flower Show and Photography Competitions were announced (also to be fully listed in the upcoming yearbook) along with some special awards given out by me, as President. Funnily enough they are called President's Awards. These awards are given to members who may fly a little 'under the radar', but have been a big help in various aspects of the Club. This year I presented certificates to: George Gorrie, Karen Bell, Wini Stoddart and Joyce Crook. Congratulations and thank you.

The draw prizes were spectacular and happily carried off by 18 happy members.

Thank you to Lynda Tanner and all her volunteers for coordinating this annual event. It was a fun evening.





## 2016 AGM Photos...



Karen Bell—President's Award



Gord Piercey—Financial Review



Wini Stoddart—President's Award



George Gorrie—President's Award



Jean Quinn



Lynda Boyko



Paul Sarjeant



Betty Meyers and Helen Koski



## More 2016 AGM Photos...



Anna Leggett presenting Novice Award to Anne Stanley



Jean Quinn receiving "Betty's Best Cut Specimen" award from Betty Meyers



Joyce Crook



Joyce Crook - Presidents Award



Vera Stoyanoff - The George S. Henry Award



Theresa Boyd and Lynne Lubek



## Pop Up Garden Events 2017 *By Diane Ronan*

### Our members have spoken. They like the idea of "Pop Ups"

The members who opened their gardens last year liked being able to decide when was the best time to share the sight of a favourite plant in bloom or their garden at its best. We encourage everyone to think about doing a "Pop Up" this coming year. Your garden can be large, small or a work in progress. It's an opportunity to socialize with fellow members and to share knowledge.

There may be a special "Pop Up" for 2017. One of our members, Paula Davies, who also happens to be President of The Todmorden Wildflower Preserve Board, has suggested the idea of a members' only, guided tour of the preserve.

*If you have an idea for a pop up or you are willing to pop up your garden, please contact:*

*Diane Ronan. Tel: 416-421-9604*



This spectacular Clematis could be seen in Anita Millar's garden at her "Pop Up".

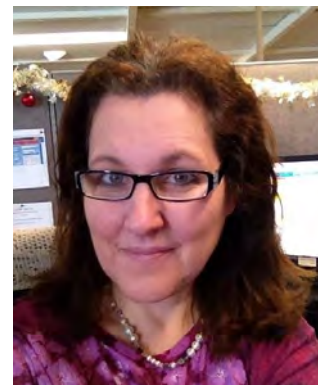
## Longtime EYGC Treasurer Hands the Reins to New Treasurer...



### Ode To Jean Quinn

*By Helen Koski*

Jean sat quietly,  
With specs on nose,  
Surveyed our balance sheet  
With numbered rows,  
Checked ins and outs  
For 10 long years.  
Measurer and Treasurer,  
Our thanks to Jean, to be so subtle,  
Yet keeping us from trouble!



**Giuliana Giacomini** is our New Treasurer.

*Thanks Giuliana!*

## MEMORIES OF THE AGM... *By Jean Quinn*

"Now wasn't that a party? It was a great night with great food and a wonderful presentation. Thank you all very, very much. As I write this in late December, the dregs of the gorgeous bouquet still adorn my sunroom so that I see it every time I look out on my garden. And I am off to see The Book of Mormon, thanks to the Mirvish gift certificate! As treasurer for ten years I have worked with four terrific presidents - Malcolm, Veronica, Susan and Barb as well as an ever changing board of directors. I have enjoyed working with all the members of the garden club and one and all they were supportive, helpful and cooperative in every way making my job pleasant and easy. We are getting a super treasurer in Giuliana who is well versed in the vagaries of the digital age, unlike me who barely knows the difference between a browser and a bowser! So...out with the old and in with the new. Welcome Giuliana."



## *The 2016 Flower Show Round-Up*

Thank you to the 35 members for bringing a total of 891 (that is a 24 percent increase over 2015!) horticultural specimens, plants, fruit and vegetables, preserves and designs to the four flower shows of 2016. Thank you for taking the time to bring in entries. We also had a few of our new members enter for the first time and it was fun to see their excitement of entering and placing.

Congratulations to Vera Stoyanoff for winning the George S. Henry trophy for the highest number of aggregate points in horticulture and design for 2016. Congratulations also to Anne Stanley for winning the Anna Leggatt Novice Award. Anne is a new member and only started competing at the Annual flower show in August! It could be you in 2017!



In April, we had a hands-on design workshop for Line design. Each participant made the same line design using pussy willows and iris, but each looked unique with different containers or just the placing of the plant material. We hope to offer another workshop in 2017 as it is beneficial to both new and experienced designing members.

The People's Choice Carved Pumpkin contest had 7 entries this year. Thank you for entering (see the last newsletter for photos). It was a lot of fun to vote. We look forward to more creative entries in 2017.

Thank you to all the volunteers and board members who helped at flower shows from start to finish, and to the 2016 Flower Show Committee for planning a great season of designs.



This coming year, Jenn MacDougall will be taking over the Flower Show Coordinator position and Cristina Brown and I will always be ready to help where needed. Thank you Jenn for stepping in and Cristina for continuing to help with your knowledgeable assistance.

This year, we hope to offer some extra encouragement by way of mini-workshops/sessions or hand outs to those of you who have not entered anything in a show or who have just started or thought it was "just too darned fussy" to compete. We would love to boost the total number of competitors to over 40 for 2017!

*Barb Fairbanks*

*Flower Show Coordinator (out-going)*







More 2016 Flower Show Photos...





## Seeds at January's meeting! Pay What You Can!

We will have a table at the **January** meeting with seed packets and ask that you "pay what you can/wish" for any that you take. It will be the honour system.

We have some leftover packets of seeds from the October seed exchange plus a variety of flower and vegetable seed packets donated by Vera Stoyanoff. If you have some seeds that you meant to bring to the exchange, please feel free to drop them off.



## Cranberry Coffee Cake

### Streusel Topping:

½ cup brown sugar  
1 tsp each cinnamon & nutmeg  
½ cup finely chopped nuts  
½ cup flour  
½ cup butter

### Cake:

½ cup butter, room temperature  
1 cup granulated sugar  
2 eggs, well beaten  
1 tsp vanilla  
1 cup sour cream (or yogurt)  
1 tsp baking soda  
1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
½ tsp salt  
½ cup dried cranberries

### Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 Degrees F. Butter and flour an 8 ½ or 9 inch cake pan. To make streusel, combine brown sugar, cinnamon, nuts and flour. Cut in the butter to make a crumbly mixture. Set aside..

Cream the butter and sugar and beat until light and fluffy. Add the eggs and vanilla and slowly beat all the time.

Combine sour cream or yogurt with the baking soda, and in a separate bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder and salt.

Beat the dry ingredients into the butter mixture alternately with the sour cream mixture, starting and ending with dry ingredients.

Spread half the batter in the prepared pan.

Sprinkle cranberries over the batter then half the streusel mixture over the cranberries. Cover with the remaining batter, and then sprinkle with the remaining streusel.

Bake for 45 to 50 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean. Cool in the pan.



January/February EYGC Newsletter Photo Credits:

AGM & Flower Shows: Linda Boyko, Malcolm Geast, Anita Millar

Miscellaneous: Michael Woods

## People's Choice Photography Contests for Jan/Feb/Mar.



Grab your cameras and take some photos to enter the upcoming People's Choice Photography contests. Let your imagination run free for the subjects are:

January - Yellow  
February - Winter Fun  
March - Flags

Stay tuned for more Photo Contest information in the **2017 EYGC Yearbook**, and the next Newsletter!

### EYGC People's Choice Photo Contest Rules for 2017

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 18 and between 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. on Saturday, August 19.
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 2018 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





## Celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

### *A Special Project for EYGC Members!*

Would you like to have your garden certified by the Canadian Wildlife Federation as an official Habitat for Wildlife?

Then we encourage you to fill out an application to the Canadian Wildlife Federation to have your garden certified. Wouldn't it be amazing if we had at least 50 gardens from EYGC members certified?

Your executive presents a plan that we become involved with the Canadian Wildlife Federation's "Create Habitat for Wildlife" program and their incentive program "Certify Your Garden".

As gardeners, we inevitably create a habitat for wildlife. Some welcomed, others not. But we can always learn more about our environment and how to live in harmony with nature.

Our goal for 2017 is to educate our members about what they can do to create a wildlife-friendly garden. **MORE INFO TO COME...**



CANADIAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION  
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DE LA FAUNE



**Editor's Note:** *There will be more information about this project in the new year, but please do not be intimidated by the task. The questions they ask are very straight forward, such as:*

- *What flowering trees, shrubs, and perennials do you have growing in your garden?*
- *What type of feeders do you provide in you garden?*
- *How do you provide water for wildlife in you garden?*

*Plus multiple choice questions where you can indicate if you compost, have a rain barrel, use natural soil amendments, or mulch your garden.*

*We will have forms available for you, or you can download them from the CWF website, and you can also fill in the form online. The CWF website is: [cwf-fcf.org](http://cwf-fcf.org)*



## In Memoriam

We are saddened to report the tragic death in December of one of our members, **Jae Blue**.

Jae was a member for a number of years and donated many books for our book sales and plants for our sales. She did not attend our meetings regularly as she travelled frequently, but when she did, she was always encouraging and enjoyed the fellowship of the Club.

## East York Garden Club Executive Board for 2017



Barb Fairbanks, Giuliana Giacomini, Joyce Crook, Lynda Boyko, Michael Woods, Diane Ronan, Paul Sarjeant, Stacey Shannon, Barb Foster, Cristina Brown, Lesley Grimshaw, Jacqueline Tanner Lynda Tanner, Karen MacDougall, Rosalind Regnier, Jenn McDougall, Susan Bartlett.

### Upcoming Meetings:

Date	Topic	Speaker
Jan 19	Ryerson's Urban Farm Garden <a href="#">People's Choice Photo Contest "Yellow"</a>	Arlene Throness
Feb 16	Happy Hens and Fresh Eggs <a href="#">People's Choice Photo Contest "Winter Fun"</a>	Signe Langford
Mar 16	The Carden Alvar Natural Area <a href="#">People's Choice Photo Contest "Flags"</a>	Kristyn Ferguson
Apr 20	Building Biodiversity with Native Plants <a href="#">Flower Show</a>	Paul LaPorte
May 18	Members' Plant Sale	
Jun 15	Raised Bed Revolution: Making and Growing in Raised Beds <a href="#">Flower Show</a>	Tara Nolan
July 27	Event 'To Be Determined'	
Aug 19 (Sat)	Annual Flower Show & Tea <a href="#">People's Choice Photo Contest</a>	
Sep 21	Ferns <a href="#">Flower Show</a>	Cathy Kavassalis
Oct 19	Let it Bee: Conserving Wild Bees in the City <a href="#">Fall Photo Contest Entries Accepted</a> <a href="#">People's Choice Carved Pumpkin Contest</a> <a href="#">Seed Exchange</a>	Sheila Colla
Nov 16	Annual General Meeting, Awards Presentation & Pot Luck Dinner <a href="#">People's Choice Photo Contest: 2018 Yearbook Cover</a>	





## *From Strawberry Pot to Basil Pot*

*By Michael Woods*

Several years ago, Alan received a beautiful terracotta “Strawberry Pot” as a birthday present. You know the kind, classic urn shape, with openings on all sides at different levels, so you can plant it up with strawberry plants and have them tumble down the sides in lush profusion, producing a bumper crop of the sweetest strawberries that you’ve ever tasted.

Well, in theory anyway. Since our experience didn’t quite live up to the hype, over the years we’ve tried a variety of plants in the pot, trying to find something that would give us at least semi-lush profusion. Herbs worked well, if you plant ones that have similar growing and watering requirements. We finally settled on a single herb, basil, and have re-named it the “Basil Pot”. We try different varieties of basil every year, and usually end up with a good harvest, provided we remember to water it regularly – by mid summer you need to water it every day!

The basil tends to find its way into a large batch of pesto that freezes nicely, so we can enjoy that delicious taste of summer throughout the year.



## *A Record Number of New Members for 2016!*

*Welcome to everyone who joined the East York Garden Club this Year!*

Allen, David Allen, Sarah Amodeo, Joe Angelo, Wendy Auer, Karl Bannister, Andrea Barber, Alan Boyd, Theresa Brown, Nancy Bruner, Bana Cavanaugh, Dianne Dericsen, Deanna Donevan, Zurry Donovan, Mary Durrant, Margaret Francis, Anna Eloi Gauthier, Monique Giacomini, Giuliana Gillis, Heather	Granton, Pauline Gulens, Austra Gurkova, Nadia Heath, Dan Heath, Linda Hennessy, Mary Heximer, Jeff Heximer, Julia Heximer, Kate Heximer, Kathy Isaacs, Suzanne Jones, Dennis Johnson, Chris Karpenko, John Ko, Velma Law, Susan Lee, Anne Lee, Carolyn Leggatt, Alexander	Loveless, Pamela Lovell, Elizabeth Lowe, Amoy Lubek, Lynne Luoma, Kaarina MacLeod, Lee Medeiras, Margaret Middleton, David Norquay, Rob Ottenhof, Marilyn Papazoglou, Gus Papazoglou, Jack Papazoglou, Morgan Perry, Cynthia Piercey, Hugh Poon, Flavia Probert, Catherine Pyette, David Ramik, Robert	Rooney, Frances Schwaiger, Elizabeth Serlin, Kalina Serrick, Nancy Sired, Maija Smith, Jan Smith, Jennifer Smith, Steve Smith, Tracey Smoyer, Caroline Stanley, Anne Taggart, Terri Tait, Sheelagh Van Andel, Tena Vincent, Beverley Vincent, Geoff Watpool, Karen Woods, Michael Zablocki, Janet
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*"The East York Garden" is the Newsletter of the East York Garden Club*

If you would like to make a submission to be included in the next issue of "The East York Garden" newsletter, the next deadline is:

**February 20, 2017.**

Please email your comments regarding our newsletter, or your submissions for the next issue, to Michael Woods at:  
[woods-eygc@bell.net](mailto:woods-eygc@bell.net)

We're on the Web! Find out more information and get back issues of this newsletter at our website:

[www.eygc.ca](http://www.eygc.ca)



**EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB**

## East York Garden Club Membership Form - 2017

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Your privacy is respected. We will only use your email address to send you EYGC information. We do not distribute your email address to anyone else.*

- |   |                                   |   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New                      | Age Bracket:                      | Do you want your name in the yearbook's members list? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Payment          |                                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cash                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 18-60    | <input type="checkbox"/> No                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership (\$20) | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 60  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (\$30) |                                   |   |

*Note: it is strictly voluntary if you choose to check one of these boxes. The rental rate at **Stan Wadlow Clubhouse** 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.*

### Personal Information & Privacy Act Disclaimer

*The information provided on this form is for the exclusive and confidential use of EYGC. Personal information of members, such as your name, address and telephone number is published in the EYGC Yearbook to identify a contact person for a specific event. This will be maintained in accordance with Canada's Personal Information and Electronics Document Act.*

Membership fees are due by January of each year.  
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 2A5

*The East York Garden Club is a member of the Ontario Horticultural Association, District 5*