

March April 2017



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

President:

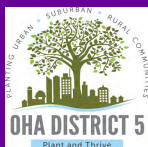
Barbara Fairbanks

Vice Presidents:

Rosalind Regnier and
Linda Boyko

Newsletter Editor:

Michael Woods



"The East York Garden" is the Newsletter for **The East York Garden Club**



Next Meetings:

Thursday March 16th, 2017, 7:30 PM

Topic: The Carden Alvar Natural Area

Speaker: Kristyn Ferguson

Learn about the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the work they're doing in Ontario, with a close look at the Carden Alvar area northeast of Lake Simcoe. Learn what an "alvar" is and what makes it so special, including the unique plants that grow there, and wildlife that use these areas. Kristyn Ferguson will share photos and experiences from the field with tips about the best times of year and best spots to visit to see the incredible features this area has to offer. Kristyn has been working with NCC for 9 years in a variety of roles, including land securement, property management and stewardship, fundraising, and conservation planning.

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

Theme for the March Peoples Choice Photo Contest: "Flags"

Thursday April 27th, 2017, 7:30 PM (Revised Date)

Topic: Building Biodiversity with Native Plants

Speaker: Paul La Porte

Please note the date for this meeting has changed from April 20th to April 27th.

Paul La Porte will discuss the definitive role that native plants have in the life cycle of insects/pollinators and the successive food chain that is supported by this relationship. He will discuss the definition of a native plant, provide examples on how to establish a native plant garden and give an overview of the North American Native Plant Society.

Paul La Porte is the owner of Ephemeral Ark Nursery (specializing in native woodland species) and consultant on ecological gardening and design. Paul maintains a strong knowledge of Ontario native plant species and their communities and fosters them in his own gardens.

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

The April Flower Show is today! Good luck to all those who enter flowers, designs, and preserves!

Volunteers Needed for Canada Blooms March 10-19!



Every year the **OHA** has a booth at Canada Blooms and needs 2 volunteers per shift to promote Horticultural Societies all over Ontario. Malcolm Geast and Nancy Serrick organize the volunteers and it is a very enjoyable few hours.

The three shifts are: 10am-1pm; 1-4pm; 4-7pm

It is great meeting other gardeners, promoting our club and others and you get free admission (but you pay for your own transportation/parking) and can visit both

Canada Blooms & the Home Show before or after your shift!

There is a binder of information for all the districts in the OHA and lots of brochures, bookmarks, plant sale flyers from all the different clubs for you to distribute to the public. Plus, there will be lots of the new and beautiful EYGC brochures to hand out to local gardeners and potential new members!

If you haven't done this before, a great opening line to draw people in as they pass is "Do you belong to a garden club?" and the chat just rolls on from there.

If you would like to be a volunteer, please contact:

Nancy Serrick of District 5 at: nser@rogers.com



Toronto Region Rhododendron & Horticultural Society Plant Sale

Sunday April 23 at the Garden Hall & Patio at the Toronto Botanical Garden (TBG)

This is a major plant sale of the Society that takes place once each year. In addition to a wide variety of interesting and unusual rhododendrons and azaleas, we plan to offer composted pine bark mulch and companion plants. Sales to Rhododendron Society members start at 9:30 and **sales to the public start at 10:00am.**

The plants are purchased from a major producer that is going out of business and will be sold at huge discounts. Most of these rhododendrons and azaleas are not available in garden centers or a box stores. Many are new crosses and 'one of a kind' specially bred for our climate and type of soil.



Prez Patch

By Barbara Fairbanks

It's Coming..... Monday March 20th !!

There is a date we gardeners are all looking forward to—*the first day of spring!*

Once again, we have had an unusual winter—snow, no snow, rain, ice, mild, cold. I think our plants are learning to adapt to not having that gentle insulating blanket of snow on them all winter.

It is always exciting to see the snowdrops emerge and see what has survived the winter and then what will thrive. It is a wonder of contrasts.



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

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



March /April Recipe by Signe Langford

Bacon-Wrapped Sunchokes with Chèvre and Maple Balsamic Reduction



Makes 4 Servings

There's a natural sweetness to sunchokes that makes them the perfect foil for smoky bacon and the tang of soft, un-ripened goat cheese and balsamic vinegar. This dish is super easy but looks like a million bucks at the table. Tastes pretty good, too!

12 sunchokes, washed and trimmed

6 to 12 slices of bacon, depending on size of 'chokes

500 mL (2 cups) decent-quality balsamic vinegar

1 cup (250 mL) Maple syrup

¼ cup (60 mL) chèvre

Fresh black pepper, optional

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C)

Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper.

Wash and dry sunchokes, trimming off any super-skinny, black, or straggly bits.

Depending on the size of the 'chokes, you will need ½ to 1 full piece of bacon per. The idea is to cover quite a bit of the 'choke's surface area with bacon. Wrap the 'chokes in bacon and set on the parchment-lined sheet, seam-side down. Roast for 15 to 20 minutes or until the bacon is browning nicely and going crisp at the edges. While the 'chokes are roasting, make the reduction. In a large saucepan or high-sided skillet over medium-high heat, add the vinegar and maple. Stir often and keep at a gentle boil until it has reduced by half and is syrupy—about 15 minutes. It should thickly coat the back of a spoon, and keep in mind, it will thicken further as it cools. Set aside to cool, then transfer to a jar or small pitcher. If you have left overs of this reduction, keep it in the fridge almost indefinitely and enjoy it on salads, grilled veggies, cheeses, roasted meat, on and on.

To serve, place three 'chokes on a side plate, drizzle with about 1 tablespoon of the balsamic reduction—more or less to taste—and crumble chèvre over top, again, about 1 tablespoon per. Finish with a grinding of fresh black pepper if you like.

Urban Farm Tour

Sign-up for the Ryerson Urban Farm tour to take place in June!

Many of you attended Arlene Throness' interesting presentation on the farm in January. The farm resides on the roof of the engineering building on Ryerson campus downtown. Last year, over 10,000 lbs. of vegetables were produced, some of which was sold at their Wednesday farmers market and also to nearby restaurants.

Now you have a chance to see the farm in operation. There will be weekday and weekend tours available with the number of tours depending on club member interest and availability of farm tour guide staff.

Details regarding actual dates and times, length of the tour etc. will be available for the March meeting and sign-up can continue into May. We are suggesting a \$5 fee to go to the Urban Farm.

For further information you can contact:

Rob Norquay at (416) 516-0563 or at rrbfjazz@primus.ca, or come to a club meeting!



A Wintery Scene in Giuliana Giacomini's Backyard.



Calling all Photographers, Artists, and Writers

By Linda Boyko

As one of the new photo contest coordinators and a past competitor I know we have some very good photographers in our club. Have you considered entering the photography competition at this year's OHA Conference? The subjects for both the 2017 and 2018 conferences are available at www.gardenontario.org/sho/pho.php

This year there are 11 classes for adults and 3 for children. Please note that entries must be submitted as prints, conform to the guidelines outlined in the rules and postmarked on or before May 1, 2017.

Another contest of interest is run by Pollination Guelph. This contest has only 2 classes – pollinators and pollinator gardens. Deadline for entries is March 1, 2017 but they request digital files submitted on-line so you still have time. Details may be found at www.pollinationguelph.cs/upcomingevents

For those who are not photographers but enjoy art or writing please check out the creative writing and art competition categories on the OHA Convention site. Links to these competitions are available from the photography URL above.

This is a fabulous opportunity to exhibit your talents. Please have a look, choose a category and enter something. Wouldn't it be great to see a lot of entries with "East York Garden Club" on the entry tag?

EXGC Bus Tour

This year's Bus Tour is heading to the **Port Perry** area, for a day of flowers, food, and wine! On the agenda are the following:

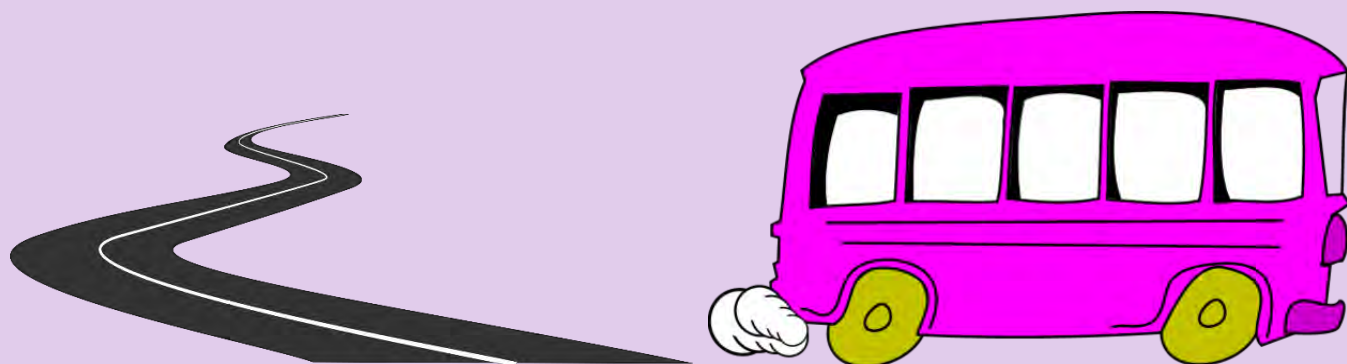
- Two Large Fabulous Private Gardens
- Lunch
- Tyrone Mill (Famous for their Apple Cider Donuts!)
- Archibald Winery
- Vandermeer Nursery

The bus will leave at 8:00 am, on **Saturday June 10th**, departing from the Stan Wadlow Clubhouse. Cost is \$80.00 per person for OHA members, and \$100.00 per person for non-members.

Tickets for the bus tour will be available at the March meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Rosalind Regnier, 416-759-6247



Winter Musings...

Thank you to Betty Meyers for spotting this poem by Linda Stauth in Mark Cullen's column in the Toronto Star. I'm sure we're all longing to get back to gardening in the spring...

A Poem by:

Linda Stauth

"The spiders. The weeds.
The bird stole my seeds.
My aching sore back.
My pebble-marked knees.
A vine with a choke-hold.
A flowerpot crack.
A kinked garden hose.
Oh! The neighbourhood cat.
But the colours. The shapes.
The smells. The sights.
Nothing compares to those flowering delights.
As I sit on my swing and sip my tea,
I laugh and giggle with glee.
Sleep well, my garden, but promise one thing,
You will come back to visit next spring."

Jump on Spring 2017 at the TBG Report by Linda Boyko

Were you one of the 1400+ people at the Toronto Botanical Garden on Saturday February 18th for the annual Jump on Spring celebration, the first major garden related event of the year in the GTA? If you were, thank you for helping set a new attendance record. If you missed the event you missed a wonderful day of interesting speakers, opportunities to purchase plants, and other garden related items, chat with members of other garden or specialty groups and, perhaps most importantly, get to spend time with like minded people who are also waiting for the day they can get back into their gardens. Admission was free but for a donation people received an entry for the hourly gift basket draw. Even though no EYGC member won a prize their donations went toward helping maintain the garden.

A sincere **THANK YOU** to the club members who manned the EYGC table. We had a good location and lots of traffic.

For those of you who have never visited the Toronto Botanical Garden located at 777 Lawrence Ave. E (Lawrence Ave E and Leslie) perhaps it is time to do so. Parking is free, it is accessible by TTC AND there is no admission charge. During the summer months free volunteer led tours of the garden run Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 6 p.m. Made up of 17 small city sized gardens it is a great place for you to get ideas to incorporate into your own garden.

Various courses are offered throughout the year on a variety of garden related topics and the largest botanical garden library in Canada is also located here. It is a lovely place to spend a day.



Volunteers Velma and Carol at the EYGC table at the "Jump on Spring" event at the Toronto Botanical Gardens in February.

JAPANESE FLORAL EXHIBITION

Presented by
Ikenobo Ikebana Society of Toronto



Sunday, March 26, 2017
12:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Japanese Canadian
Cultural Centre
6 Garamond Court, Don Mills
(Wynford Dr. & Don Valley Pkwy.)

Demonstrations

Tea Room

Ikebana Displays

Admission \$5.00 at the door

For further information, phone: 416-467-4962 or email: ikenoboto@sympatico.ca



Letters to the Editor

Re: East York Backyard Hens

I can't really say for sure when I first thought of building a chicken coop in my East York backyard. My fondest childhood memories took place on my grandparent's city farm in Jackson, Michigan in the '60s and '70s...picking berries in the early morning with my grandmother Frieda, playing hide-and-seek with siblings in the late summer corn and singing Neil Diamond songs to the chickens in the backyard, only a few hundred feet from a busy city street. My grandfather, Johan Ulrich Longenegger, a Swiss immigrant and professional baker, kept a few strikingly beautiful roosters and around 25 hens for breakfast eggs and to use in his wonderful breads and pastries. My grandparents emigrated from Switzerland to Michigan in the 1920s. They travelled with few possessions and with many dreams of their new life in America.

A few springs ago I was struck with the desire to have my own small flock of city hens and to my surprise I wasn't the only one with 'chicken fever' – it was the rage across the United States and in many cities in Canada. I found everything I needed to know in "Chickens for Dummies" and identified building plans for a coop appropriate for my backyard. Of course, like most projects, the coop took twice the time to build and cost twice what was anticipated but when I opened the nest box the first morning and removed the first two freshly-laid eggs, it was all worth it. According to my spouse, based on cost amortized over the first year of production, each egg cost \$8.80, and more affordably after two years, \$1.30 per egg. So, obviously backyard hens are not about saving on your grocery bill, at least for the first several years. The real beauty is the satisfaction that comes from pets with delicious benefits and a backyard system, which is very sustainable. With backyard hens you can utilize kitchen scraps and lawn and garden clippings as feed to produce fresh and delicious eggs. Chicken manure and eggshells compost into rich fertilizer for flower and vegetable gardens. Free-ranging hens are effective in keeping the insect population down while providing summer entertainment for onlookers. For more information on keeping backyard hens in Toronto, go to: www.Torontochickens.com

C. J. (An East York Garden Club Chicken Keeper)





Re: A Trip to the Garden Centre

While the spring season brings thoughts of the first tulips, the return of robins, and milder weather, true horticulturalists know the most exciting event is the first trip to the garden centre. Any dismay felt at the sad demise of plants during a cold, hard winter is quickly displaced by the joy of considering what can be selected as their replacements. In addition, while tried and true nurseries are a mainstay, nothing beats going for a drive and coming upon a previously undiscovered plant source. But before loading up the car...a few pointers.

Like grocery shopping, we are always told to have a list with our specific requirements. Unfortunately, the perfect species of plant in the colour we want is almost never to be found and we are forced to substitute, but in my experience, some of my best garden purchases have been made on impulse and frequently fill the bill better. So always shop with a mind open to alternatives.

Secondly, prepare to take the information on the plant tag with a grain of salt. It annoys me that almost all plants desire "moist, well drained soil" "...well don't we all! Whether you have the dry sandy soil typical of East York, or the heavy clay found towards Scarborough, you'll never have the ideal soil, so be bold and try planting regardless. As I was once told, "you've got to grow it to know it", and experience will tell you what plants like your soil best.

Finally, a word of caution about recent introductions. Several years ago, the rage for ***Coreopsis Limerock Ruby*** had all of us buying this new hardy perennial, and then discovering that it wasn't hardy at all, but a 'tender' perennial, and wasn't surviving our winters. Best to wait a season or two and let others discover a new introduction's true reliability. Patience is also a virtue where costs are concerned, and usually fall as new species are more widely propagated and available. So, that widely sought after ***Hosta White Feathers***, which was \$30 dollars plus this past year, may well be much more affordable next year.

In short, when visiting the garden centre this spring, be carefree, sensible, impulsive, and frugal, but above all be sure to ignore your spouse's invariable comment of..."*and where are you going to plant that?*".

Alan Barber, An East York Garden Club Plantsman

Photos of your Canada 150 tulips?

Don't forget to take some photos of the Canada 150 tulips that EYGC gave you last fall...



Hopefully you got them planted and hopefully the squirrels weren't watching you and hopefully when they do come up the squirrels don't chomp off the bloom! If all goes well, send [Barb Fairbanks](#) a photo to include in the monthly meeting scroll!



East York Garden Club Photo Contest

The photo contest has been taking place for 16 years and has continued to be a successful club activity. More and more members of the club take part each year.

[Malcolm Geast](#) and [Dawn McEachern](#) were on the Board of Directors of the Garden Club in the year 2000 when Malcolm came up with the idea of some sort of photo contest and Barb Foster, then President, asked Malcolm to pursue it.

Dawn and Malcolm created the guidelines and have continued to run the contest since then. In 2006, Malcolm created an additional award which was first given to a contest participant in that year. Malcolm donated the actual award and continues to cover any expenses associated with it.

[We thank Malcolm and Dawn for their dedication to and enthusiasm for the contest!](#)

They have decided it was time to pass along the responsibility to others. [Linda Boyko](#) and I, [Anita Millar](#), have agreed to take on the challenge of running the contest. We have both participated in the contest over the years and hope we have the necessary skill to keep it going as successfully as they did.

[Anita Millar & Linda Boyko, Photo Contest Coordinators](#)

NEW Date for the EYGC April Flower Show is: Thursday April 27th, 2017.

This is the first flower show of the year, where our members will show off their talents in four main categories: *Cut Specimens, Houseplants, Design Categories and Preserves*. So if you enjoy canning now is your chance to show off your talents. We will be accepting Chili sauces (or salsa's), Jam's, Jellies (clear), Marmalade's, Pickles, flavoured vinegar, and any other kind of preserves you have worked hard to produce in the last 12 months. All entries need to be vacuum-sealed and no more than two entries per class per household will be accepted. Ingredients must be listed.

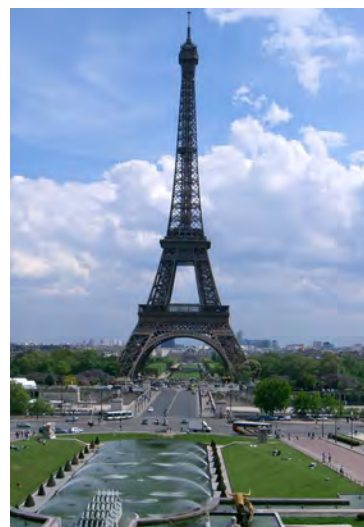
Our show theme for this month is "April in Paris".

The first category is open to both experienced and novice designers with the theme of *"Le Marché"* – a design using a basket.

Then the others are:

- *"Eiffel Tower"* – a vertical design.
- *"Arc de Triomphe"* – a crescent design.
- *"The Seine"* – a waterviewing design, and
- *"Un bonbon"* – a fresh miniature design.

Don't forget to start your cell pack of seedlings for the



Read or re-read the flower show rules, the definitions and the helpful hints in your yearbook or on the eygc.ca website to refresh and refine your entries. For those of you who purchased an OHA Exhibiting Standards booklet use that as a resource too.

If you are new to competition, enter a few cut specimens and try a *Le Marché* design in the novice category.

Jenn McDougall
Flower Show Coordinator

Flower Show Rule Change for 2017 onwards:

Please note that this year we have changed Flower Show Rule # 18 stating that you can now display your cut specimens in your own containers as long as they are similar to club containers (glass vases, jam jars etc)

We will be marking the base of our club containers with a bright red dot of nail polish. You are responsible for taking your containers home or putting them in the recycling bin after a show.



Certify your Garden as a Wildlife Habitat

It's a very worthwhile endeavour, especially with many natural wildlife habitats succumbing to development every day. We need to put back some of those habitats, in every way we can. It doesn't matter how small your garden is, it can still make a big impact by providing a respite for wildlife. The **Canadian Wildlife Federation** has had this program for a few years, and we thought the East York Garden Club should show our support and celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday by encouraging as many EYGC members as possible to get their gardens certified!

Some additional information to help you get your garden certified:

- The easiest place on the internet to get the information about The Canadian Wildlife Federation's Program is to go to <http://wildaboutgardening.org/>. This is part of their website, but it takes you right to the certification program. Once that page opens, just scroll down to the bottom series of boxes, ("Gardening 101", "Gardening for wildlife", etc.) and scroll to the left or right until you get to the box that says:
"Get Certified! CWF's Backyard Habitat Certification Program", and click on **"Read More"**.
- This is where you will find all the instructions about the program, including a link to print out your own certification application form. These forms will also be at the next EYGC meeting, at the Certification Table, if you would like to pick one up then. You can also apply directly online.
- The website will also walk you through what you need to do to provide a habitat, many of which you may be doing already, such as:
 - **Provide Food** – Provide plants that have seeds, nuts, or fruit, in addition to feeders.
 - **Provide Water** – A pond is great, but not necessary. A birdbath provides an excellent source of water.
 - **Provide Shelter** – This is done by have trees and shrubs of varying sizes, in addition to bird houses, bat houses, and bee houses.
 - **Practice Green Gardening** – Avoid chemical pesticides, and chemical herbicides.
 - **Incorporate Native Plants** – It only needs to be one or two native plants, not your whole garden. Their website also has a native plant encyclopedia that you can use.
- You may have some native plants already, some of the common ones are: asters, columbine, Bee Balm, Liatris, ferns, Dogwood, Lupines, Joe-Pye Weed, and wild roses, just to name a few.
- ***If you didn't pick up a copy of the CWF Certification handbook at the last meeting, please do so at the Certification Table at the next meeting.***



EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB



Certify Your Garden: Update

Some of you have already started on your certification journey, and a few people have already been successful in receiving their certification! **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Please let us know when you have received your certification and we will let everyone know in the upcoming newsletters. We will be tracking names, but also the numbers so we know how we are doing in our goal of 50 certifications.

The following gardens have received certification so far:

1. **Alan Barber & Michael Woods**
2. **Austra Gulens**
3. **Rob Norquay**
4. **Margaret McRae**



Good luck to everyone in being successful getting your gardens certified! The helpful hints on the previous page have been updated to clarify some of your questions.

Articles and Photos Required for the Newsletter

Our membership is full of people who have a lot of knowledge, information, experience and talent, and we would like to hear from you. This is your newsletter, so why not write something and send it in for publication?

To spur you on, we will have a different question in each issue of the newsletter that will hopefully nudge some of you to do some writing. So this issue's question is:

“What is one of your favourite perennials to grow and enjoy? Why? Does it grow well for you, & if so, do you have any tips for others who might want to grow it?”

If you have a few photos to accompany your article, please send those along too, preferably as JPEGs. Please send your articles to:

Michael Woods, Editor, EYGC Newsletter

woods-eygc@bell.net

If you have any ideas for questions that you would like to see posed to the membership, please send those along too.

March/April 2017 EYGC Newsletter Photo Credits:

Various: *Linda Boyko, Malcolm Geast, Anita Millar, Michael Woods, Giuliana Giacomini, Barbara Fairbanks*



2017 OHA Convention Information



We, District 5, are hosting the Convention this year. Please save the date and consider attending.

Dates: Friday July 21 to Sunday July 23, 2017

Location: Sheraton Parkway North and Best Western, at Hwy 7 and Leslie Street

Theme: Green from Shore to Shore

OHA Website & Registration

Information is on the OHA website about our convention.

http://www.gardenontario.org/sho/up_conf.php

The Registration form is now on the website.

District 5 Event at Convention

On the night of Friday July 21, District 5 has an opportunity to sparkle. District 5 is planning a fun and impressive celebration for attendees with a **Canada 150 Anniversary theme**. We will have a story teller, a magician, Canadian style food, Canadian trivia, the best silent auction in the history of silent auctions, and much, much more. We encourage all our members to attend this evening if they are coming to the convention.

Bus tours

Friday bus tours will head north due to traffic congestion south of the hotel. Saturday bus tours will head south.

Friday, July 21st - 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Tours of Private Water Gardens. The Greater Toronto Water Garden Society is planning garden tours of three fascinating private gardens with streams, waterfalls and ponds for your viewing pleasure. These gardens were specially chosen for our convention, and will be toured in an air conditioned coach. Prepare to be awestruck.

Pathways to Perennials is a very intriguing garden centre, and landscape company. Their facility is beautifully designed, provides a boutique and café, and while there, tea or coffee, and a tour of the property, and the owner's private garden will be offered. This tour will be on an air conditioned coach.

Aurora Community Arboretum, winner of an OHA Environment Award in 2015. This is a lovely 100 acre space in the heart of Aurora. It was established 20 years ago, has been planned with a vision for future generations, and as a living museum for trees in Zone 5.

After the guided tour, the bus will pass by Hillary House National Historic Site, and The Koffler Museum of Medicine, then on to a therapeutic garden at a community facility for refreshments provided by the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society.

Saturday, July 22nd - 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Tours of Private Water Gardens by The Greater Toronto Water Garden Society. A repeat of Friday's tour.

Evergreen Brickworks is a community environmental centre that inspires and equips visitors to live, work and play more sustainably. Formerly, a quarry and industrial site which operated for nearly 100 years and provided bricks used to construct many well-known Toronto landmarks, such as Casa Loma, Osgoode Hall, Massey Hall, and the Ontario Legislature. This bus tour will include a 90 minute guided tour and nature walk. An air conditioned coach will transport you to this location.

The 90 minute guided tour, with small groups of 8 to 10 participants, will take in the Toronto Botanical Garden (TBG) and Edwards Gardens. You will delight in seasonal flower beds, a ravine, a pond, an arboretum and a teaching garden. Plans are in place to join the Edwards Gardens and the Toronto Botanical Garden to create a 32 acre garden. The tour will end at the TBG Garden shop with time to enjoy the facilities including the seasonal café.

Volunteers

Nancy Serrick has started recruiting volunteers for onsite roles. Contact her at: nser@rogers.com

Volunteers putting in 15 hours of volunteer time (before or during the convention) will qualify for a special registration fee of \$50 that covers all three days. We have a limit of 90 such registrations.

All volunteers will need to register through Nancy Serrick. Nancy will send out special volunteer registration forms later in the year.

Note that if you register with the volunteer form, you do not qualify as a voting delegate for your Society. The OHA is asking that all voting delegates pay full registration. In addition, as a volunteer, you can sign up for a bus tour, however, the registrar will fill the buses with people paying the full registration fee first.

Volunteers who register can purchase meals via their registration form.

You will need to arrange for accommodation separately. Please identify that you are with OHA to get the convention rate.



2017 OHA Convention Competitions

The convention has many ways for you to express your talents. There are competitions for art, creative writing, photography, and floral design. The deadlines are earlier than the actual convention, so that they may have time to have all the entries in hand and judged prior to the convention the weekend of July 21-23.

Please look at the OHA website: www.gardenontario.org and click on 'convention' and then on 'competitions' for full details of registration.

If you require a printed version of any of the competition details or registration forms, please contact Barb Fairbanks.

Photography: Entries must be registered and postmarked no later than May 1st

ADULT CLASSES

- Class 1** **Perfect Partners** – Outstanding plant combinations
- Class 2** **Green, Yellow & Blue** – Your favourite hosta(s)
- Class 3** **Where's The Dirt?** – A scree garden
- Class 4** **Growing Small** – A container garden
- Class 5** **The Gardener** – Picture of a person(s) in the garden
- Class 6** **My Town** – Your town's community garden or planting
- Class 7** **Call Me Herb** – Your favourite herb
- Class 8** **A Rolling Stone Gathers No ...** – A b&w photo of moss (BLACK & WHITE CLASS)
- Class 9** **At Home** – Your favourite house plant
- Class 10** **It's In the Details** – A close up of a flower
- Class 11** **Let it Rain** – A rain garden

YOUTH CLASSES

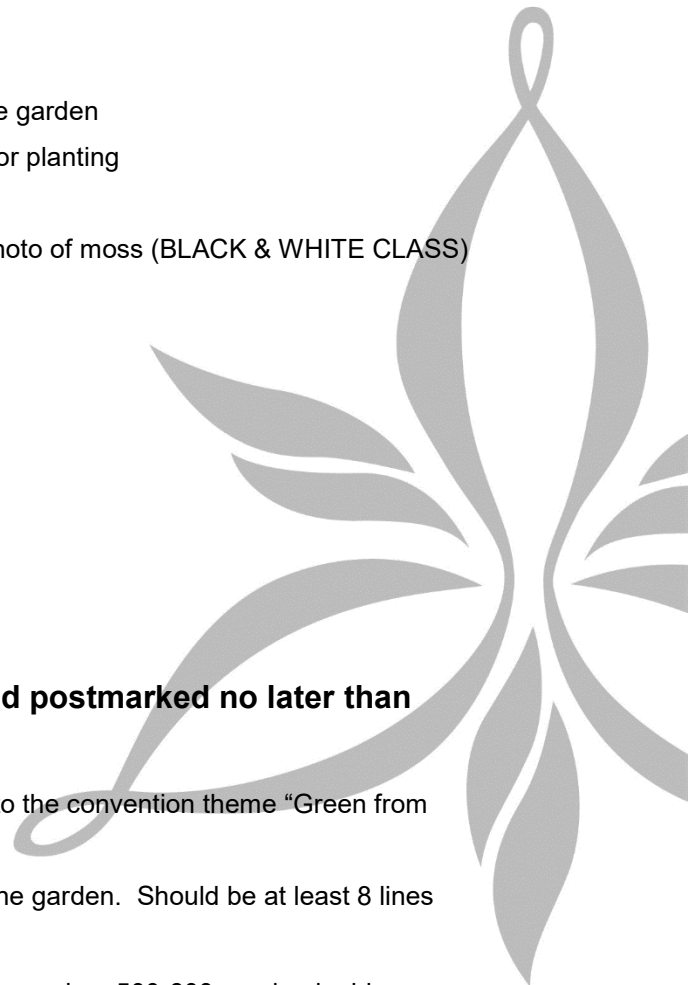
a) Ages 6-11 b) Ages 12-17

Class 12 a & b Garden Visitors

Class 13 a & b Tree Leaves

Creative Writing: Entries must be registered and postmarked no later than June 1st

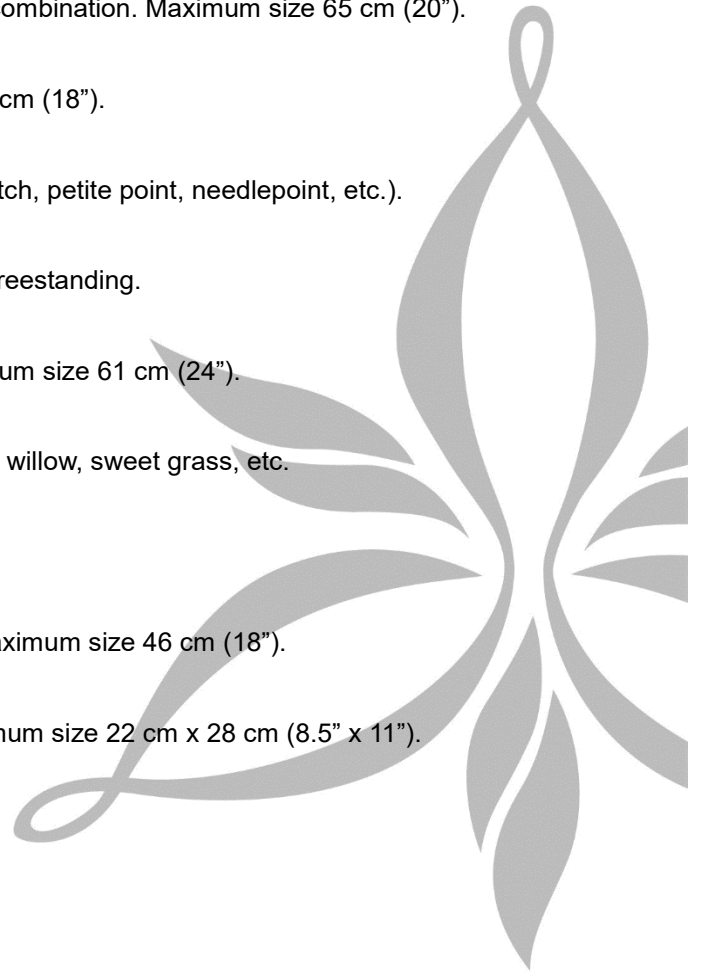
- Class 1** **Song** - Name the tune and create lyrics related to the convention theme "Green from Shore to Shore".
- Class 2** **Free Verse Poem** - About your favorite time in the garden. Should be at least 8 lines long.
- Class 3** **Narrative** - Write about "Perfect Partners" in your garden, 500-600 words, double spaced.



2017 OHA Convention Competitions

Art: Must pre-register by June 1st

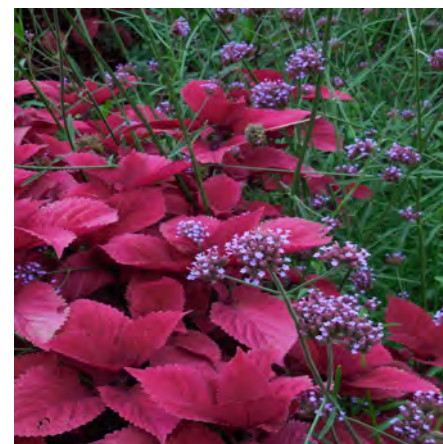
- Class 1 A Native Ontario Wildflower**
A pencil drawing using coloured or graphite or a combination. Maximum size 65 cm (20").
- Class 2 Reflections on a Lake**
A framed watercolour painting. Maximum size 46 cm (18").
- Class 3 City Scape or Country Scape**
Any hand stitchery (embroidery, crewel, cross-stitch, petite point, needlepoint, etc.).
- Class 4 Canadian Wildlife**
A carving using soapstone or wood; mounted or freestanding.
- Class 5 Group of Seven**
Fabric art inspired by the Group of Seven. Maximum size 61 cm (24").
- Class 6 Our Native Heritage**
Handcrafted basket or container using birch bark, willow, sweet grass, etc.
- Class 7 Early Harvest**
A traditional corn husk doll.
- Class 8 Perfect Partners**
Sculpture - Garden art from recycled material. Maximum size 46 cm (18").
- Class 9 Rouge River**
A mosaic, incorporating seeds, in a frame. Maximum size 22 cm x 28 cm (8.5" x 11").
- Class 10 A Symphony of Green**
Stained glass. Maximum size 36 cm (14").
- Class 11 My Favourite Garden**
A painting. Maximum size 46 cm (18").



2017 OHA Convention —Speaker Schedule

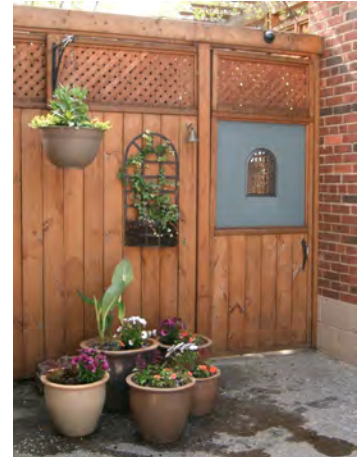
Type of Presentation, Date and Time	Topic	Speaker
Friday July 21		
11:00 a.m. Plenary	"Biodiversity with Native Plants"	Paul La Porte
Friday Seminars		
1:30 -2:30 p.m.	"Meet the Queen - Bee, that is"	James Murray
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	Design Demo, Modern Mass Design	Margaret Taylor
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	"Your Pane is their Pain" Windows are everywhere: in our homes, offices, stores, restaurants, vehicles, bus shelters...everywhere. Many ornithologists now claim that collisions with human-built structures are the leading cause of migratory bird mortality in North America.	Paloma Plant FLAP Canada (Fatal Light Awareness Program)
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	"Habitats, Green Links and Environmental Gardening"	Anna Leggatt
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	"GardenOntario Website"	Susan Lusted
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	"Troughs and Alpines"	Nikola Warnock
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	"Insects in the Garden"	Malcolm Geast
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	" Judging Photographs - a Behind the Scenes Look"	Russ Talbot
Saturday July 22		
11:00 a.m. Plenary	Green Roofs	Scott MacIvor
Saturday July 22 Seminars		
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	"Garden Smarter: 10 ways to be a responsible partner with Mother Nature"	Beckie Fox
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	"Permissible Pesticides - What products can I use for pests and problems in Ontario?"	Cathy Kavassalis
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	"The Winning Entry"	Connie Hunter
1:30 – 4:00 p.m. **Includes a workshop	"Caring for the Earth: How Gardeners Can Help"	Clement Kent
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	"Easy Roses - a look at the latest in roses"	Christine Moore
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	"Judges on Judging"	Penny Stewart
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	"Alliums: Elegant and Edible"	Michael Erdman
Keynote at the Banquet	A new topic to be launched at the convention	Paul Zammit
Sunday July 23		
11:00 a.m. Plenary	Impact of outdoor spaces on the environment	Carson Arthur

A Collage of Colour Companion Planting:



Container Garden: From Planting in Spring to the Fall

By Michael Woods



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:

April 17th, 2017.

Please email your comments regarding our newsletter, or your submissions for the next issue, to **Michael Woods** at:

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



EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB

"The East York Garden" is the Newsletter of the **East York Garden Club**