

The East York Garden

Newsletter of the East York Garden Club

July, 2006

Saturday, July 1, 2006

Canada Day Parade, Canada Day Plant Sale & Attic Treasures Sale at Stan Wadlow Park

Information about these annual events can be found on page 2.

Thursday, July 20, 2006

**Pot-luck supper, by The Rockery in Stan Wadlow Park
Begins at 7:00 p.m.**

Our July pot-luck meeting will be held in the open area above The Rockery, the public garden that the Club has adopted. This will be an opportunity to come out and meet other members, and at the same time take a close look at the recently-planted flower beds.

Please bring a dish of food, with at least six portions. We also request that you bring your own plate and cutlery, and a folding chair if possible.

Handicapped access is available. The laneway between 966 and 970 Cosburn connects directly to the area where we'll be meeting. For more information, please call Malcolm Geast at 416-429-4719.

But we should remind you about a possible "fly-in-the-ointment". Construction of the nearby skateboard park is scheduled to begin. We're not sure how much it will disrupt our activities or even the exact date when construction may begin (some delays that have occurred in the awarding of the contract may push the start-up date past July 20). If there are any changes in our plans we will inform you via phone, and/or by email and our web site.

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.

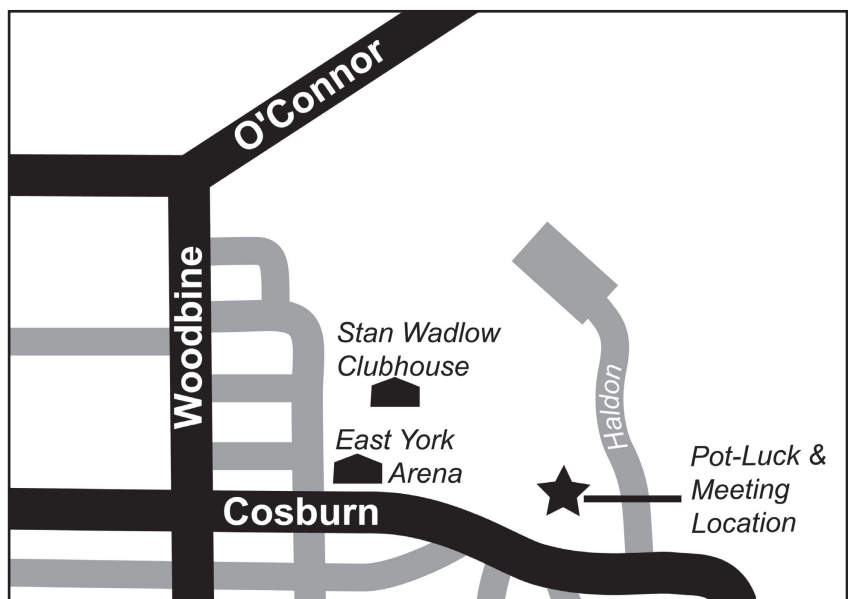
Yearly membership fees are \$20 for a single, and \$30 for a family. To inquire about membership, contact Denise Alexander at 416-759-5736.

Visit us on the web at www.eygc.ca

President:
Malcolm Geast

Vice-President:
Dawn McEachern

Newsletter Editor:
Malcolm Geast



Canada Day at Stan Wadlow

Once again this year, we'll be participating in the Canada Day festivities at Stan Wadlow Park. We'll have a booth where we'll be selling plants and Attic Treasures. If you have any plants or Attic Treasures that you can donate, they can be dropped off at the booth anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. What are "Attic Treasures"? They're second-hand items in good condition, items you no longer need or want, but someone else could use.

Canada Day Parade

Canada Day is marked not only by the festivities at Stan Wadlow Park, but by the parade that wends its way through East York to the park. This July 1, for the first time in many years, we'll be a part of the parade. If you haven't signed up, but would like to take part, please give a call to Margaret McRae at 416-429-7821. And if you wake up on Saturday morning, and decide that you'd like to walk with the rest of us, all you have to do is turn up at Dieppe Park before 9:30 a.m. (and in keeping with "gardeny" theme, you might wish to bring a garden tool, and wear an EYGC t-shirt or dress in some appropriate horticultural attire.)

New Members

Please extend a warm welcome to the following new members who have recently joined the Club. Please welcome them and take the time to answer any questions that they may have about our Club.

Pamela DeGroot Laurel Angeloff

Oops....

In the 2006 yearbook a couple of significant errors managed to sneak through. The phone numbers for both Glen Hutzul and Roz Regnier are incorrect. Please note that the correct number for Glen is 416-469-6745, and for Roz it's 416-759-6247.

2006 Flower Show Results

Once again we've had two very successful spring flower shows. Our May show had the highest number of entrants in over five years, and participation in our June show was higher than in any year since 2003. Congratulations go to Glenna Duguid and Brian Rowe for the Best Cut Specimen in May, and to Betty Meyers for the Best Cut Specimen in June and the Best Design in both May & June.

Don't forget that the George S. Henry Trophy will be awarded to the member who accumulates the most points in the three monthly shows and the Annual Show. If you didn't have any entries in either of our two spring shows, there's still time left to build up those points!

Veseys Bulbs

It's time to start thinking about some fall bulb-planting. For many of us who took advantage of the Veseys program last year, the results this spring were spectacular. As a result, in a couple of months, we'll be doing it again. Along with the August/September newsletter, you'll be getting an order form, and the opportunity to purchase any of a dozen different assortments (including mixed crocus, giant yellow daffodils, Dutch Iris, hyacinths, allium "purple sensation"). We'll be asking you to bring in the form for the September meeting. As was the case with the orders last fall and this spring, 50% of the bulb sales go to the Club, and for every \$300 in sales we received 10 free Asiatic Lilies for the Rockery.

Emailed Newsletters

If you'd like to have the newsletter emailed to you (instead of, or in addition to the mailed copy), drop us a line at newsletter@eygc.ca. If you're looking for back issues, they're available on the Club's website (www.eygc.ca).

East York Blooms

Whether you knew it as the Mayor's Blooming Contest, the East York Blooming Contest, or as the front-yard contest, it's back again. We've teamed up with the City of Toronto's Parks Department and Councillor Janet Davis to re-launch the contest after an absence of several years.

Full details are included in the nomination form included with this newsletter (also available from www.eygc.ca), but there are a few important details that we'd like to emphasize. First of all, for residential properties, only the front and side gardens are judged (the portion that is seen from the street). Up to three gardens can be nominated. And most importantly, the deadline for nominations is July 14.

Our role in the competition is in the area of judging. Ten members have already volunteered to play a part in deciding who the winners will be, but we still need a few more. This promises to be a very enjoyable activity, as the judges will have the opportunity to review some of the most attractive gardens in the community. If you are interested, please call Malcolm Geast at 416-429-4719, or send an email to malcolm@eastyork.net.

September Bus Tour

There are still some more spaces available for the bus tour on Saturday, September 9. We'll be leaving from Stan Wadlow Community Centre at 8:00 a.m., returning about 6:00 p.m. In the morning we'll be visiting the garden of Norm & Lynne Limpert in Acton, and spending some time at Lost Horizon Garden and Nursery, also in Acton. Lunch will be at the Holiday Inn in Guelph. At the moment the afternoon schedule is a little uncertain. Our original plans of viewing a couple of gardens in the Fergus area have hit a bit of a snag. A trip to the Cox Creek Winery near Guelph, or the Halton County Radial Railway are a couple of the possible replacements.

There are a still a few more spots available. Please contact Roz Regnier at 416-759-6247 to reserve a seat, or for more information.

It's That Time Already...

The summer may be just beginning, but it's already time to think about the event that marks the end of summer for many of us. As always, this year's CNE has a horticultural show that will draw from around southern Ontario. Houseplants, roses, chrysanthemums, marigolds, hostas, and vegetables are just a sampling of the hundreds of classes available for individual entrants. As well, there are numerous design categories. Included this year is a Patio Planter competition, which is entered on behalf of the Club. If you are interested in participating, either in the Patio Planter competition or through an individual entry, please contact Malcolm Geast at 416-429-4719. We have several of the information booklets. Entry forms for the Patio Planters are to be in by June 30 (and the Club will pay for materials). All other entry forms must be received by July 21.

Volunteers are also needed to help out at the Ontario Horticultural Association's booth at The Ex. You won't be expected to answer complicated gardening questions (there'll be a Master Gardeners booth nearby to give those answers), but instead will be providing information about garden clubs (and there's lots of information on hand to help you). It's often a good opportunity to meet gardeners from other parts of Ontario. To volunteer, please contact Malcolm Geast at 416-429-4719 or send an email to malcolm@eastyork.net. Volunteers receive free admission to the CNE.

EYGC Shirt-Update

We had hoped that the T-shirts and golf shirts that many of you ordered at the May meeting would be available for the June meeting. Unfortunately, the delivery time was a little lengthier than we had expected. However, they will be delivered before the end of June, so that you will be able to wear them in the Canada Day Parade and at our booth at Stan Wadlow Park. We will be delivering them on Thursday and Friday (June 29th & 30th). If you haven't already paid for your shirt, please be prepared to pay for it when it's delivered.

Rockery Update

Glen Hutzul

Thank you to all of the volunteers who came out to clean up, plant and weed. This is the third full season and to my mind the hardest year. Most of the perennial weeds are gone, some of the evergreens have been removed and we've planted 52 flats of annuals. We envisioned a 10 year plan, when we began: 5 years to fully reclaim the beds and replant, with another 5 years for the plantings to mature. We planted over 60 perennials last autumn, all with landscape fabric and mulch (to keep down future weeds). Speak to me (Glen), if you wish to know what we will be purchasing this year.

Information for our volunteers: Diane Ronan is heading up the rockery project; the three team-leaders are Roz Regnier, Maxine Cashore and Glen Hutzul. This year we have group maintenance days, a selection of Wednesdays and Saturdays when you know that there will be other volunteers to work alongside. At least one team leader will be present on each of these days. If you prefer to set your own timetable, feel free to weed, water and deadhead anytime. We have a handout for everyone that lists these "group days", plus the combination for the water access lock (we cannot list it here, for security reasons). Pick up one from your team leader if you haven't already.

Watering is usually required over the summer regardless of the amount of rain we receive. Even if we water on maintenance days, we have a schedule for in between days. Around July 2, Glen's team will look after it; around July 12-13, Maxine's; and July 23-24, Roz's. There are two hoses (which can

be connected together), two watering wands and a water gun. All of these are stored inside the water box. We expect construction of the skateboard park to begin at any time. The Rockery may be fenced off during that period. We may have to work around that. If you have any questions, please contact one of us and we'll do our best to help you out. Our phone numbers are:

Glen Hutzul	416-469-6745
Roz Regnier	416-759-6247
Maxine Cashore	416-696-5795

Roz's team

Barb Foster
Darina Quinn
Anita Millar
Jean Quinn
Sonia van Heerden
Bev Woods
Brenda MacKinnon

Maxine's team

Ruby Brett
Helen Linzer
Diane Brockman
Heather Landon
Judy MacDougall
Mary Furlong
Janet Carrington

Glen's team

Diane Bickers
Leslie Steinberg
Wini Stoddart
Dawn McEachern
Gail Gregory
Malcolm Geast
Veronica Callinan
Susan Bartlett
Cynthia Townsend
The Penmans

August Flower Show & Tea

As you know, 2006 marks our 80th anniversary. We've brought back an old trophy, held a garden tour, and we're participating in the revival of the East York Blooming Contest. And in August, our Annual Flower Show & Tea will include some special items and events. Details will be available in our August-September newsletter, but for now, we're

asking you to look through your sheds, garages, attics and basements to see if you can find any memorabilia related to the Garden Club, or to horticulture in general. If you do, please let us know. We're also looking for a few volunteers to help out in the tea room for an hour or so on August 26.

Who may nominate a garden?

You may nominate your own garden or someone else's. You do not have to be a resident of Toronto to nominate a garden.

How to nominate:

Just fill out the attached nomination form in this brochure. Nomination forms may be copied and written facsimiles and e-mails will be accepted. No more than three gardens may be nominated by any one person.

Completed nomination forms must be submitted by **Friday, July 14, 2006** to:

Return by mail:

East York Blooming Contest
c/o Councillor Janet Davis
East York Civic Centre
850 Coxwell Avenue
Toronto, ON M4C 5R1

Return by fax:

416-397-9289

Return by email:

eastyorkblooming@toronto.ca

Drop-off:

East York Civic Centre
850 Coxwell Avenue
Toronto, ON M4C 5R1

Garden Award Categories

Residential Gardens

Residential Gardens will include only the front and side yard which can be judged from the sidewalk (backyards are excluded). The gardens will be judged in one of the following categories.

Traditional

This is a garden with a predominance of grass. First, second and third place winners will be named.

Environmental/Alternative

An 'Environmental/Alternative Garden' for the East York Blooming Contest is a garden that substitutes plants for lawn, or significant areas of lawn, and utilizes environmentally sensitive gardening practices. The use of organic gardening methods including the elimination of garden chemicals is essential. Although points are awarded to gardens that have native plants and help create wildlife habitat by providing food, shelter and water for indigenous birds and animals, an alternative garden does not have to include these components. A first, second and third place winner will be named.

Commercial and Industrial Gardens

These properties will be viewed from all sides and from within property limits. A first, second and third place winner will be named.

Other Properties

This category may include apartment buildings, churches, townhouse complexes, schools and any other properties that do not fall into the above categories. This category may be subdivided if there are significant numbers of entries.

These properties will be viewed from all sides and from within property limits. A first, second and third place winner will be named.

What will the judges be looking for?

The judges will look for the gardens that reflect an effective and creative use of available space. The size of the property is not important. The judge will evaluate the garden based on inspiration and creativity and the garden's contribution to the surrounding community. Upon arriving at an address, the judge will take a few moments to get an overall view and feeling of the space and will then evaluate the garden using the criteria listed on the next panel. Bonus points will be awarded for the planting of native species and the use of environmentally friendly gardening practices.

Judging Criteria

Scale of Points for All Gardens:

Design:

Creativity and originality of design. Balance and scale of garden to building. Selection and arrangement of plant material including placement of trees & shrubs giving the garden overall year-round appeal. Use of colour and texture in relation to building (at time of judging). Design of traffic flow, both pedestrian and vehicular.

Use of Plant Material:

Use of plant material that is suitable to the location. Use of perennials and annuals as to diversity, suitability, spacing and balance. Use of plant material that encourages beneficial insects, butterflies, birds, toads etc., indigenous plant species.

Condition & Maintenance:

Overall cleanliness of property including driveways, parking areas with respect to weeds and garbage. Hedges, flowerbeds, borders with respect to pruning, edging of beds, control of weeds, disease and insect damage. Lawn or ground covers - good colour, dense growth, well maintained. Some unobtrusive weeds may be considered acceptable.

Hard Landscaping:

Condition of driveway surface and walkways. Appropriate use of stones, rocks, walls, fencing, statuary, garden art, containers, water features, outdoor structures and furniture, bird houses and toad houses etc.

Environmental Practices:

Use of good environmental practices such as mulches, rain barrels, compost, etc. Overall reduced pesticide use.

Community Contribution:

How the property contributes to the beautification of the neighbourhood as viewed from the street.

Distinction:

Impact and special overall appeal and special features.



An invitation to residents of
Wards 29 and 31

East York Blooming Contest 2006



**The East York Blooming Contest is
back for 2006 and we want you to
show us your stuff!**

Nominations are now being accepted for the East York Blooming Contest 2006. This is East York's way of recognizing the efforts of residents, businesses and other property owners in making their neighbourhoods beautiful, and your chance to showcase your beautiful gardens. Each garden nominated will be judged by a panel of experts from community horticultural societies. Winners in each category will be honoured at an Awards Ceremony in the Fall. These winners will go on to compete in the City of Toronto's City Wide Garden Contest 2007.

Nomination forms are to be sent to the addresses listed on the back of this form by **Friday, July 14, 2006**. All winners will be contacted and the results will be announced in August.

Coordinating committee:

Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation
East York Garden Club
Councillor Janet Davis

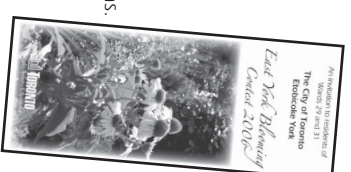
Nomination form

Deadline date:
Friday, July 14, 2006

Form may be copied for additional nominations.

Please print

I nominate:



Name _____

Address _____

Category _____

Name _____

Address _____

Category _____

Name _____

Address _____

Category _____

Nominated by:

Name _____
(optional)

Telephone _____

For more information call 416-392-4034.

