

THE EAST YORK GARDEN

NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST YORK GARDEN CLUB



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 Suzanne Bond at 416-423-5857.

Visit us on the web at

www.eygc.ca

President:

Veronica Callinan

Vice President:

Linda Boyko
Susan Bartlett

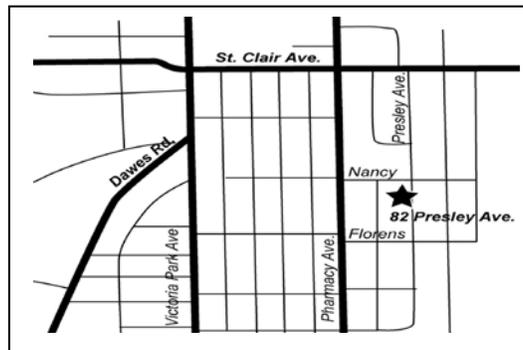
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Thursday, July 21, 2011, 7:00 p.m. Members' Pot-Luck Dinner

This year's dinner will be at the garden of Rosalind Regnier at 82 Presley Avenue. Presley is between Pharmacy and Warden Avenues, and south of St. Clair Ave. E.



Please bring a dish with six portions*, a plate, cup, personal cutlery and a lawn or folding type chair. Beverages will be provided.

**(The law requires us to give notice that the food has not been inspected i.e., eat at your own risk. In keeping with food safety, please follow general food safety practices – wash your hands when cooking, keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot.)*



Left: EYGC Members assemble for the Canada Day Parade



Right: The bustling EYGC table at Stan Wadlow Park

Saturday, August 27, 2011, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. Annual Show & Tea

The Annual Show is our largest show of the year with many categories and opportunities to enter. There will be some fabulous raffle prizes (see p. 2). Raffle tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Tickets will be for sale not only the day of the show but at the Potluck dinner. New at this year's Annual Show, a people's choice photo contest – see p. 3 for details.

Entries for the Flower Show will be accepted between 7:00 and 8:00 on Friday evening, and between 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. on Saturday morning. Judging begins at 11:20 a.m. sharp. Viewing time is between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

For the afternoon tea, we would appreciate donations of desserts, cookies, or other goodies. At the end of the day, the flowers, preserves and remaining baked goods will be auctioned off.

Regular meetings resume Thursday, September. 15.



Bees at the Fairmont Royal York!



Cathy's inspiring talk on bees had a lot of our members buzzing. The Royal York serves Tea on weekends. "Tea time includes a chance to explore the hotel's famous rooftop herb garden and bee apiary 18 stories above ground." The tour is complementary for the 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. sittings, with the \$35 menu. If you don't really care for the tour, they have a less expensive menu, ranging from \$5 to \$25. If you're interested in going and coordinating a group, let Veronica know 416-801-9659, veronica@eygc.ca

Sharing Backyards

Sharing Backyards links people with unused yard space with those looking for a place to grow food. This is a win-win situation — the homeowner's yard is beautified and fresh food is provided. Garden partners share the cost of gardening supplies and the crops. If you have a garden and want to share it with someone, or if you are looking for a space to garden, Sharing Backyards is for you. Check out their website at www.sharingbackyards.com

Canada Blooms News

Marketplace Events, organizers of The National Home Show and the Board of Directors of Canada Blooms: The Flower and Garden Festival, have signed an agreement that will see the two powerhouse events take place side by side beginning next year at the Direct Energy Centre, creating the single largest home and garden experience in North America.



Tips & Tricks

by Anna Leggatt

Are your lawns less than perfect? Are you going to eat your dandelions or do you want them removed? This tool from Fiskers is easy to use and does a good job. I find it works best when the ground is damp. Another good time is when flower buds are starting to appear. Perhaps the plants do not put so much energy into their roots and hold less tightly.

August Photo Contest

by Malcolm Geast

This year's Annual Flower Show and Tea, on Saturday August 27 will see the addition of a new competition. For the first time, we'll be holding a People's Choice Photography Contest in conjunction with the Flower Show.

There are three categories in the show:

- CN Tower (a photo incorporating the CN Tower)
- My Favourite Tree
- The Edible Garden

Entries will be accepted between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Friday and between 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. on Saturday.

Voting will take place when the show opens at 2 o'clock, and continue until 3:45. Winners will be announced at 3:55. All who attend the show will be eligible to vote.

Summer is also the time to think about entries in the Fall Photo Contest, with a dozen categories including The Garden at Night, Roadside Blooms, TBG (a photo taken at the Toronto Botanical Garden), Cemeteries, Along the Waterfront, and Fences. And don't forget that we have a category especially for children and youth — Anything Grows, which can cover any horticultural subject.

Full details on all our photography contests can be found in your yearbook on pages 28 to 30, and on our website at www.eygc.ca/photocontest.



2011 OHA District 5 New England Garden Tour by Sonia van Heerden

Four members of East York took this tour of Boston and Salem in Mass. and Newport, Rhode Island, sponsored by District 5, OHA as a fund raiser.

Our first stop was the World Association of Flower Arrangers International Flower Show in Boston. This show is held every 3 years. Toronto sponsored the show many years ago. The next show will be in Ireland in 2014. The entranceway to the show was a little eerie as it was so dark. We became accustomed to the dark as each display was spotlighted and it was dark between displays. There were 29 countries participating in 34 categories. Most categories (such as Magic, Chameleon, Space, X-Ray, Sunset, Butterflies, Storm, Zipper, Mirage, Electricity) had about 20 submissions. Cameras went off right and left.

Some people went back for a second day, but most of us took a day trip to the witches town of Salem, and toured by trolley in a bit of rain. There were many witches houses. The House of the Seven Gables, famous from the Hawthorne novel, with its secret staircase, was interesting. Many wooden cottages from the 17th century had lovely gardens surrounding them.

We had some time to walk around Boston, through the Public Garden and Boston Common, most of which was filled in land. We saw where the Boston Pops would have their July 4th concert near a statute of their famous late conductor, Arthur Fiedler, and took the Freedom Trail past Paul Revere's House and the Old North Church.

Then it was off to Rhode Island, after trying to escape the Bruins hockey team celebration parade in Boston. Our first stop was the Green Animals Topiary Gardens. Topiaries were grown by a Portuguese gardener for the owner from a variety of green shrubs, California privet, yew and English and Japanese boxwood. Nearby was the 45 room Blithewold Mansion built by coal magnate, Augustus Van Wickle in 1890. Its gardens were extensive and filled with over 50 types of trees which had been planted on the grounds. We were ooing and aching over the flowering dogwoods and rhododendrons which grow to tremendous heights, a 100 foot giant sequoia, and a bamboo grove.

OHA...cont'd

That evening the bus had to dodge around the Gay Pride Parade to reach our hotel in Providence, RI. Back we went to Newport area to take audio tours of the 70 room Breakers, of railroad president Cornelius Vanderbilt II, 1895, and The Elms, of coal magnate Edward Berwind, 1901, inspired by an 18th century Chateau. Their grounds consisted of very long grass lawn and some shrubs. The Elms reminded me of the Sam McLaughlin house in Oshawa, though these Newport houses were used solely as summer homes for about 2 months each year. We also had a Secret Gardens of Newport walking tour of small wooden homes with their tiny yards. One garden of a member of the American Rose Society had a greenish rose with a fragrance of lemons. Then our guide drove with us to the southern end of Newport past numerous private mansions (of the Asters, the Bouviers, more Vanderbilts, Doris Duke) with their large manicured lawns to another garden which is being looked after by 2 full time female gardeners. They kept roses in large pots so they could move them around with the sunlight, and dahlias were also in pots to discourage animals and would be planted out just before bloom.

The last day we stopped at the New York Wine & Culinary Centre at Canandaigua, NY to peruse their culinary garden and have lunch at their theatre style restaurant where the pastry chef made our desert, Chocolate Carmel Tart, while we ate our home grown salad with its herb dressing and pork chop.

A lot of walking and memorable meals and oh, those gardens and dogwoods!!