



North York Blooms

For those who love gardening.

Meetings - the fourth
Monday of the month
Jan/Feb/Mar/Apr*/May/
Jun/Oct/Nov 2019

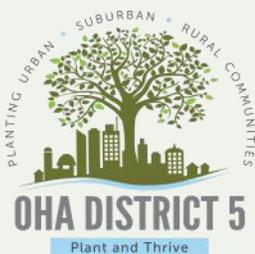
*Note April meeting is
on the fifth Monday

Willowdale Presbyterian
Church

Refreshments at 7:00
Meeting begins at 7:30



Photo courtesy of Rosalie Selick



2019 Issue 4

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Email info@northyorkgardenclub.ca

Web Site www.northyorkgardenclub.ca

Visit us on Facebook



President's Message

From Gloria Broks



What a summer we have had! Hot and humid in July with lots of rain. August was a bit better but the biggest issue of the summer was weeds! I have never seen so many or so big! Clover especially was a problem. I was out pulling them daily.

My Day Lilies were wonderful though - there were more blooms than usual and were dazzling. My roses went into a dormant phase in mid-summer but bloomed again in late August in time for the CNE Rose Show.

The weeding crew led by Mary Ann Nelson went to the church every second week and worked on the flower beds. They have never looked better and a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped out during the summer months. We have had a problem with weeds and hope to get them sprayed with an organic mixture this Fall.

We had several Pop Up Gardens this season and it was great to see how members shared their "at their best" plants with the club on different weekends.

I missed our June meeting as I was traveling to Newport, Rhode Island to see the mansions and gardens. You can read about it further in this newsletter.

I also missed the OHA Convention in Windsor as it was our 50th Wedding Anniversary and we had family and friends over on the hottest day in July! Needless to say we had to have it indoors instead of in the garden. Congratulations to our editor, Lynn Smith as our publications won ribbons at the OHA event.

NYGC's Annual Flower show was held at Willowdale Presbyterian Church for the first time on Saturday, Sept. 7th. Thanks to Janet Love and her assistants for the set up, the registering of entries, hosting the judges and helping to pack up. The nine members who entered did an awesome job as did the volunteers. However, the turn out to see the show was very low. We must rethink our Annual Show to make it more successful in drawing in the public.

Don't forget our Photography contest in October at our meeting on the 28th. The speaker will be talking on Orchids and Teena Van Andel knows all about them. Bring your orchid questions for her to answer.

Fall is approaching and we will soon be thinking of putting the garden to bed and planning for next year's events.

Have a wonderful Fall!

Gloria

Welcome - New Members

Ahuva Ratner

Robert Joseph

Our June guest speaker was Colleen Cirillo, Director of Education, at the Toronto Botanical Garden. Colleen has a passion for birds and native plants, and a wealth of knowledge to go with it.

We learned that Toronto is a hot spot for birds, being on the Atlantic Flyway and the northern shore of Lake Ontario. Life essentials for birds are insects, especially when they are young, and berries. The decline in the insect population is directly affecting the bird population. Insects need plants that they are capable of eating, therefore it is important as gardeners to consider growing native plants. Examples of good plants, bushes, and trees to grow are asters, goldenrod, virgin's bower, serviceberry, alternate-leaf dogwood, elderberry, high bush cranberry, willow, birch, cherry, and the superstar of native trees, oak. Ones to avoid are Norway maple, honeysuckle, and buckthorn. A good resource on native plants and insects, recommended by Colleen, is *Bring Nature Home*, by Douglas Tallamy.

Colleen reminded those of us wanting to attract birds with bird feeders and bird baths to clean feeders every two days and baths every couple of weeks to prevent the spread of disease. Also, she advised not to place bird feeders near windows, unless really close to the window, because the reflection can confuse birds and result in their flying into the window. She recommended, as a good resource for bird houses and nests, www.nestwatch.org.

Colleen also mentioned other valuable resources, showed us beautiful pictures of birds found in the Toronto area, and all-in-all provided a very enlightening, educational, and enjoyable evening.

Best In Show

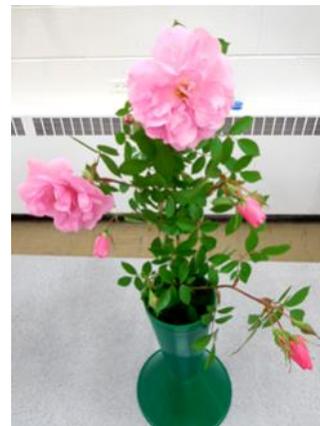
Decorative - Diane Wilton



Cultural - Mary Ann Nelson



Rose - Louise Veffer



Houseplant - Mary Ann Nelson

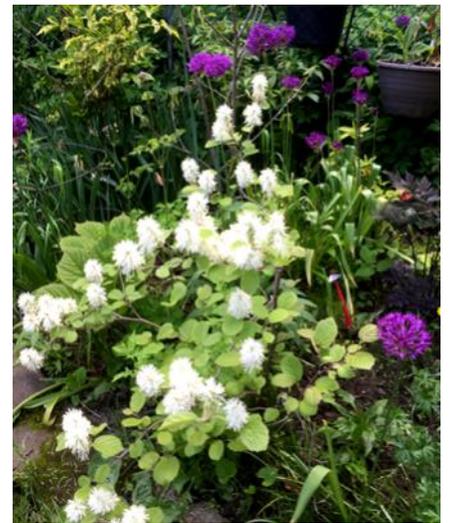
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Summer Pop Up Gardens

Joan Patterson



Pat & Giovanna Cappelli



Photos courtesy of Gloria Broks

Summer Pop Up Gardens

Gloria & Uldis Broks



Diane Wilton



Photos courtesy of Gloria Broks

In late June, we took a coach tour to Rhode Island with HNA Travels. Margaret Dailey-Plouffe was our tour director for 5 days. There were many highlights including touring several of the Mansions located on the ocean in Newport.

We were fortunate in that the Annual Newport Flower Show was on during our visit. It is held for three days in June at Rosecliff Mansion and hosted by the Newport Preservation Society. The Mansion was modeled after the Grand Trianon in Versailles, France for Louis XIV. The 11 acre property was bought in 1891 for \$140,000 from George Bancroft. He had a framed summer home built on the cliff and enjoyed two passions, horses and roses. Hence the name "Rosecliff".

The new buyer was Theresa Fair Oelrichs (Tessie), one of the New York "Four Hundred" whose father was a Nevada Silver King worth \$500 million. She was a leader of Newport Society and needed a home in which to hold extravagant summer entertainments during the 6 weeks of the season there.

She was married to Hermann Oelrichs, a wealthy German Steamship Company agent who preferred to live in San Francisco so Tessie and her son, Hermann Jr. hosted the parties, operas, balls and even a circus on the property when Rosecliff Mansion was completed in 1902 after 4 years of construction.

After the 1913 Income Tax was enacted, Tessie had a mental breakdown, died in 1921 and her son sold the home in 1941. The Monroes of New Orleans gave it to the Preservation Society in 1971.

The Newport Flower Show has been held in the mansion and on the grounds for many years. It is like a Mini-Chelsea with 154 volunteers setting up tents on the grounds for vendors and displays as well as using the mansion's main floor.

The Theme for 2019 was "Audubon Artistic Adventures". There were Presentations, demonstrations and lectures in one large tent, including a \$100 a plate luncheon where India Hicks, Granddaughter of the last Viceroy of India and God Daughter of the Prince of Wales gave a lecture. They had a "Dinner and a Movie" night for \$70 that included a box meal on the lawn and a viewing of "Greenfingers" the movie. There were also Afternoon Teas and a Jazz Brunch for \$90.



The cut specimens were held in another tent and judged with stickers indicating prizes. The Blue sticker was First place and that was confusing to us as we give red ribbons.



2019 Newport, Rhode Island Tour & Flower Show text by Gloria Broks

Inside the mansion's first floor were the Floral Design classes. Class 1 was "Winged Fantasy" a fictional bird made of dried plant material. Class 2 was "Out Birding" a Hanging bird cage made of dried plant material. Class 3 was "Flight of Fancy" a jewelry piece of a bird brooch. Class 4 was "The Lost Birds", a hat inspired by an extinct bird. There were also Floral Designs named after birds such as "Swan". Tables decorated to represent Bird themes were set on the outdoor patio overlooking the back lawn.



Leading down into the garden were dozens of vendors from garden décor to jewelry and floral inspired clothing. Near the ocean walk there were food vendors and a covered tent with tables to eat the tasty offerings of lobster rolls, salads and even wine to have with your meal.



The 2020 Flower Show will be June 19-21. The Theme will be "Voices in the Garden". It should be as awesome as this year's show. Entrance fee is \$20 U.S.

Photos courtesy of Gloria Broks

OHA 2019 Convention - Windsor July 19-21, 2019

Come to the deep south where everything grows This was the theme of the 2019 Convention that was hosted by District 11 (Essex, Chatham-Kent, Lambton) in Windsor, Ontario. We were welcomed to the convention by Marg Laman, OHA District 11 Director, the host of the convention and Katharine Smyth the President of the Ontario Horticultural Association.

They had several interesting speakers and we especially enjoyed the presentation on *The Green House Industry*. This was presented by Matt Korpan, from Nature Fresh Farm, located in Leamington, Ontario. His many years working with the greenhouse industry gave us an inside look at how these greenhouses are operated and how they grow their Peppers, Tomato & Cucumbers. Visit www.naturefresh.ca for more information.

Another interesting speaker was David Phillips, the Senior Climatologist, Environment and Climate Change Canada. David reviewed the past and gave us an insight of what we can expect in the Weather for the future. The new way of judging the upcoming weather is by looking at the past seven years and expect our weather will continue on this path into the future.

During the day members enjoyed seminars, bus tours, shopping with local vendors, visiting local sites in Windsor, bidding on the silent auction, viewing the flower show and spending time with friends.

News from the Convention

Garden Ontario Website is up and running. Take a few minutes to browse the website there is a lot of good information available. The North York Garden Club has a webpage on the site with our events and club information www.northyorkgardenclub.ca

Garden Ontario now has a merchandise site available at VistaPrint. The society or individuals can purchase materials direct. <https://gardenontario.go.customprintcenter.ca/>

Merchandise presently available are tote bags, t-shirts, caps, notebooks, yard signs, banners, etc. The banners and signs can be personalized with your club information to use at meetings, plant sale, and handouts.

Volunteer Hours for 2018 was 499,287 hours from 278 societies.

Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards (OJES) booklet is now available. Cost \$10.00 - This booklet has been updated and all revised rules are in effect now

Flower Show 2019 The flower show was a beautiful display of many lovely exhibits done by very talented individuals in the OHA.

The North York Garden Club submitted printed materials from our club.

Congratulations! Lynn Smith, Editor

Class 5 Publications Yearbook Third Place Class 12 Publications Newsletter Second Place



Perhaps we're preaching to the converted, as Buffalo, New York's annual Garden Walk is not exactly a secret to the gardeners of Toronto, but our wonderful experience at the 2019 event held the last weekend of July compelled us to share with the NYGC members.

2019 marks the 25th anniversary of this well-organized event which is held the Saturday and Sunday of the last weekend of July. Over 400 gardens were open for visitors, with 60,000+ expected. This event is totally free of charge.

Gardens are open between 10 am and 4 pm. Signage is posted on each house to inform visitors which part of the garden (front, rear and side) is open, and in most cases guests may explore the entire property. All gardens are on a homeowners property; none are located on apartment or multi-unit buildings.

Visitors receive maps and materials from one of 3 Headquarter Sites. These include washroom facilities and a staff of volunteers. The tabloid-sized magazine is very clearly laid out including street maps, house numbers, names of gardeners and a list of highlights.

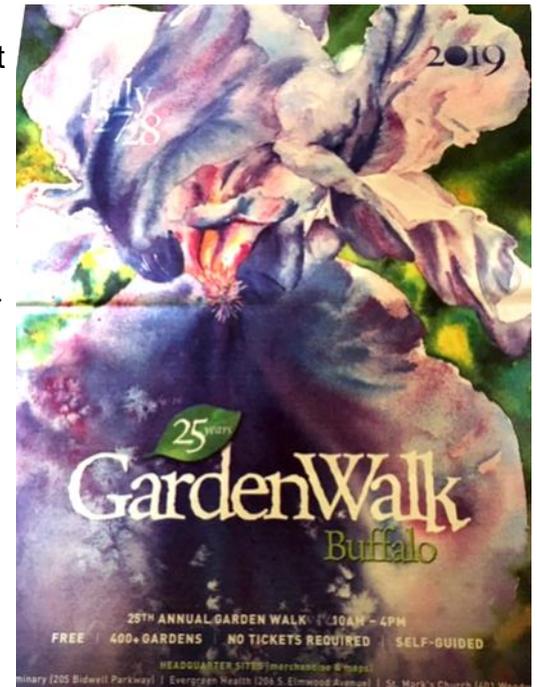
There are free shuttle buses on a number of different routes connecting the various neighbourhoods. Those buses proved very welcome to us as, even considering Buffalos size compared with Toronto, the residential areas are still a bit far-flung.

Buffalos economic fortunes are presently rising. The city is clean and easy to navigate. People are extremely friendly and helpful. The Allentown and Elmwood Village districts offer interesting and offbeat shops and good restaurants. Street parking is free on weekends.

The city is full of well-preserved Victorian and older era homes. Streets are tree-lined and often curve. There is a surprise around every corner and bend. Properties are often unexpectedly deep but narrow providing the guest with an eye-popping vista once you have rounded the house en route to the back yard.



Among the trends we noted are frequent absence of a lawn, inventive and original paving of open spaces, water features and fountains and clever use of upright structures to create outdoor rooms.



A Visit to Buffalo Garden Walk text by Rosalie & Avram Selick



Mature hostas and massive daylilies abound. Hydrangeas were absolutely prize-winners. Vegetable gardens abound.

Buffalonians love their plants in pots which they display in most varied and inventive ways.



Rosalie's photos will provide a glimpse into the beauty that surrounds one on the Buffalo Garden Walk. We hope you enjoy them.

The website for the event is www.gardenwalkbuffalo.com

For excellent hospitality and an outstanding breakfast we recommend the Buffalo Harmony House Bed and Breakfast. This 1885 mansion is a short and easy drive from the Peace Bridge and is also in the Garden Walk.



Photos courtesy of Rosalie Selick

Annual Flower Show - Best In Show



Decorative - Diane Wilton
Theme - Tennis



Cultural - Pat Cappelli



Vegetables
Giovanna Cappelli

Houseplants
Giovanna
Cappelli



Roses - Pat Cappelli

Annual Flower Show Highlights



Photos courtesy of David Arnett & Lynn Smith

Introducing Gail Bebee

I inherited my love of gardening from my mother. She grew both flowers and vegetables on our suburban property near Ottawa. Mom was an active member of the local garden club (City View Horticultural Society). I tagged along when she attended the club's annual flower show. Soon, I was competing as a junior member. For a few years, my sister and I even entered the garden competitions at the annual Central Canada Exhibition. My proudest memory of my childhood gardening days was winning first prize for my garden in the club's junior gardener's competition in 1963. I still have the trophy to prove it!



Gardening was not on my agenda when academic studies took me away from home, first to Queen's where I earned a B.Sc. (Honours Biology), and then to Western for an M.Eng. in Environmental Engineering. Before attending grad school, I worked for about 1½ years as a plant taxonomy technician at the Department of Agriculture in Ottawa where I learned the finer points of plant nomenclature.

A career in various environment, health and safety roles at Kodak, Petro-Canada and Canadian Tire, and raising a son left little time to devote to gardening. Our yard was mainly grass, some shrubs, a few flowers and a small veggie garden. As my son got older, my gardening pursuits ramped up once again. The grass gave way to more flower beds and shrubs. I began keeping a binder of plant tags of all the plants I purchased, a useful practice which I commend to all gardeners. After a particularly brutal summer for grass, my husband and I turned our backyard into a grass-free zone.

In 2000, an ad in the North York Mirror for a lecture on African violets enticed me to attend my first meeting of the North York Horticultural Society. I joined the club that evening and have been a member ever since. I served as VP/President/Past President in 2010-2012. During my term on the Executive, I focused on improving the club's public face. This included changing the operating name to the North York Garden Club, adding the motto *For those who love gardening* to the club logo, and launching the North York Great Front Gardens Contest. I have entered many of the club's flower and vegetable shows and my garden has been part of the Club's garden tour twice.



After retiring from my last corporate job, I wrote and self-published a book on investing, *No Hype The Straight Goods on Investing your Money*. This led to a new career writing, speaking and teaching about personal finance, which I pursued until the end of 2018.

Amazing Members

Introducing Gail Bebee - cont'd

Over the years, I have volunteered for our local residents group, the Bayview Village Association including a stint as President in 2005-2006. My most recent volunteer activity is training to become a Master Gardener which is a wonderful volunteer opportunity to help the public garden better.

For me, gardening is a joyful journey of exploration. My current focus is reducing the amount of work needed to keep the garden in reasonable condition. I have been planting dwarf shrubs and perennials with drought tolerance an important consideration. This fall, I am planning to relocate my raised vegetable bed to a sunnier location.

My husband says, "Gail never met a plant she didn't like." While this is largely true, I do detest invasive species, and do claim to be rather partial to Japanese painted ferns.



Photo courtesy of Gail Bebee

You're Invited! September 21, 2019

Please join PNG Volunteers at our 10th Anniversary

The volunteers at Parkview Neighbourhood Garden are so grateful for the assistance and advice we have received from the North York Garden Club over the years. We'd very much like to invite your members to join us to celebrate our 10th anniversary on Saturday September 21, 2019 from 11:30 AM- 1:00 PM. Councillor John Filion will say a few words and we will have cake and refreshments.

After the brief speech, visitors will be encouraged to stroll through the garden where we will have music and opportunities for art, weather permitting.

Volunteers will be scattered in various parts of the garden to answer questions and point out the various plants.

We hope you can join us in celebrating this event.



Parkview Neighbourhood Garden

The city of Toronto is lucky to have four watersheds that course throughout the city creating a series of ravines that are hidden below the skyline. These ravines are situated along side the creeks and rivers of Toronto. Trails exist by many of them that provide opportunity for walkers, hikers, birders and explorers of nature. Most are accessible by public transit and some have parking for cars at their entrances.

Murry Seymour has outlined 6 areas of trails in his book, "Toronto Ravines" available in the TBG library. Three are in the west end, by the Etobicoke Creek, the Mimico Creek and the Humber River. Three are in the east end by the Don River, the Highland Creek and the Rouge River. His book includes information on how to get to each area with Public Transit and car parking opportunities. Descriptions of what to see along each walk in included.



By the Don River Watershed there are 14 different walks along the tributaries of the East and West sections of the Don River, the German Mills Creek, Burke Brook and Wilmet Creek. The trails start at Steeles Ave. and go right down to Lake Ontario along the Don Valley Parkway.

The Highland Creek Watershed has two main branches. There are 6 walks that go from Markham Rd. and Progress Ave. south to the Lake along both sides of Highland Creek in Scarborough.



The Rouge River Watershed runs from Steeles Ave. to Hwy 401 and Kingston Rd. There are 5 walks outlined in Murray's book. The Rouge River National Urban Park opened in 2015 and include several walks including an Orchid Trail. It is located off Meadowvale Rd. north of Sheppard Ave. and extends to Kingston Road.

To Learn More:

On Thursday, October 10th there will be an Urban Ravine Symposium hosted at the Toronto Botanical Garden from 8:30-4:30. Tours, lectures, displays on Toronto's Ravines will be highlighted. Lunch and coffee breaks included. For tickets see the TBG website under "Learn". www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca

NOTE: There are also opportunities to explore the Wilket Creek ravine on a free guided tour from the Toronto Botanical Garden every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:30 until October 29th of this year. Meet in the front lobby by the shop to greet your guide.

October 28 7:30 p.m.	Orchids Teena Van Andel, Master Gardener Photography Contest - see Yearbook for categories
November 25 6:30 p.m.	Annual General Meeting & 2019 Awards Pot Luck Supper & Entertainment VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Cannabis Policy

The North York Garden Club is excluding and prohibiting the use of Cannabis in any shape or form, including seeds, from participation in any of the North York Garden Club meeting locations or flower show entries, as either a cut specimen, potted plant, or as part of an arrangement.

Ontario Judging and Exhibiting Standards for Horticulture and Floral Design (OJES)

***New* Revised Edition Available Now!**

OJES is a reference publication that covers a variety of topics related to the organization and running of a flower show. It includes schedule writing, information on classes of plants to include, and the standards regarding judging of horticultural specimens and floral designs. It addresses everything you need to know about staging a flower show and preparing your entries. The rules and guidelines in this book will be used by the judge to assess the quality of exhibits and the awarding of prizes. This publication is a joint effort of the OHA and GCO. OJES is used by Judges as a reference when they judge and is a training book for new judges.

Cost is \$10.00

If you wish a copy please contact Gloria Broks at
gbroks@rogers.com





AURORA COMMUNITY ARBORETUM TREE TOUR

Join us for a guided tree tour through the Aurora Community Arboretum to learn about the variety of trees found in the community and the benefits they provide!

\$5 SUGGESTED DONATION
REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED
www.yourleaf.org/events
www.auroraarboretum.ca

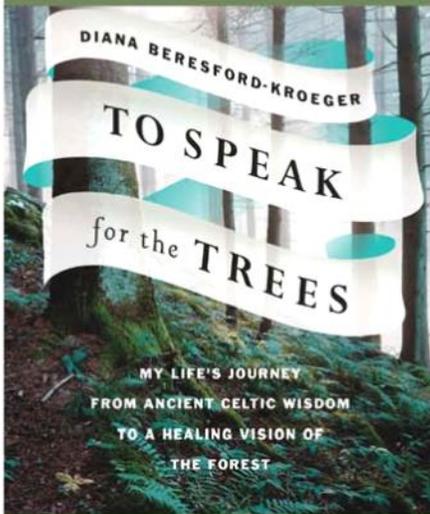
AURORA COMMUNITY ARBORETUM
115 INDUSTRIAL PKWY N
AURORA, ON

MEETING LOCATION: THE GAZEBO



To Speak for the Trees

With Diana Beresford-Kroeger



Please come to support
the trees,
Diana Beresford-Kroeger,
& Living Ways

Please join us & be inspired!

Canadian botanist, biochemist and visionary Diana Beresford-Kroeger's startling insights into the hidden life of trees have already sparked a quiet revolution in how we understand our relationship to forests. Now, in a captivating account of how her life led her to these illuminating and crucial ideas, she shows us how forests can not only heal us but save the planet.

Please join us to hear this remarkable author share her story and insights into why trees matter. Diana's wisdom for why trees are a viable, achievable solution to climate change is inspiring and hopeful in these critical and heart-wrenching times of droughts, floods and fires.

Diana is a world-recognized author, whose work uniquely combines western scientific knowledge & the traditional concepts of the ancient world. Her books include *The Sweetness of a Simple Life*, *The Global Forest*, & *A Garden for Life*. She is the author of the documentary, *Call of the Forest*.

Where: The Michener Institute Auditorium, 222 St. Patrick St., Toronto, ON, M5T 1V4

When: Sat Oct 19, 2019 2 - 4 PM (doors open 1:30 PM)

Tickets: Online \$20. - \$30.
tospeakforthetrees.eventbrite.ca or
Another Story Bookshop, TO, Cash \$25.
At the Door: \$30. Cash

Host: Leslie Fell on behalf of the non-profit
Living Ways info@livingways.org

Annual TBG Holiday Market

Thursday, November 28, 2019, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Garden Shop will be well-stocked with holiday home décor and seasonal, fresh greens along with a **honey tasting station** featuring TBG's very own honey (limited quantity).

OHA Convention 2020

July 17-19, 2020

District 10



Does anyone remember Tiny Tim's Song "Tiptoe through the tulips?"

If this image appeals to you, why not sail next April 22, 2020 on the Avalon Visionary for Tulip Time an eight day cruise. This 128 passenger river boat will sail through the Dutch Waterways of Holland and Belgium. On board there are spacious accommodations, gourmet dining and local entertainment. A professional Cruise Director delivers educational commentary as you travel through the waterways.

Why not walk through the Keukenhof Gardens where more than 7 million tulips, daffodils and hyacinth are planted each year. How about going to the Aasmeer Flower Auction, the largest flower auction where 20 million flowers are sold.

Now is the perfect time to talk with me about how to get your name on my list to hold a spot on this Tulip Time River Cruise where you can savour all the magic this colourful season has to offer. Be prepared to explore breathtaking tulip filled gardens, historic villages, lush country sides dotted with windmills, medieval cities and more.

I'd love for you to join me. What are you waiting for?

If this is not the cruise or land vacation that you had in your mind and you are looking for something else please feel free to reach out to me anyway as I would love to help you with your travel plans.

Warmest Regards, Sandy Matthews, Expedia CruiseShipCenters

Phone # 416-226-6667 or Cell #647-991-4069

Email: smatthews@cruiseshipcenters.com

Website: www.cruiseshipcenters.com/sandymattews

FREE to a good home! Crown of Thorns houseplant is looking for a new home. An indoor houseplant that enjoys spending the summer outdoors. It adapts well to normal room temperatures and in dry indoor environments and forgives occasional missed waterings and feedings without complaint. Place the plant in a sunny window where it will receive three to four hours of direct sunlight each day.

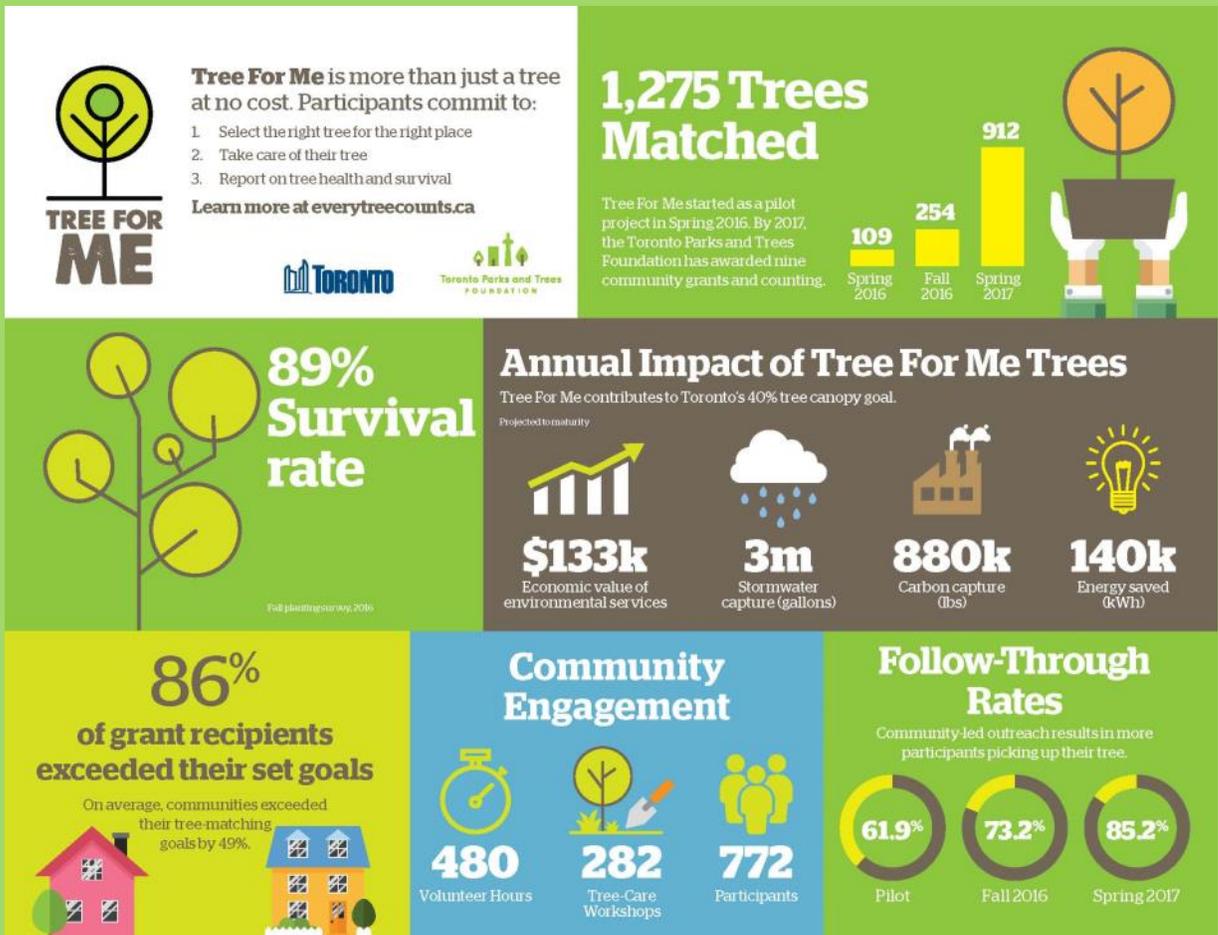
For more information or if you would like to adopt this plant please contact Gloria Broks at gbroks@rogers.com or 416-222-2222



Recommendations from our June speaker

Books: Bringing Home Nature, Douglas Tallamy

Web Sites: www.allaboutbirds.org www.nestwatch.org
www.yourleaf.org www.ericdavies.ca
www.NANPS.org/commercial_growers



Keeping in Touch

Committees & Committee Chairs

Annual General Meeting (Nov)		
Annual Plant Sale (May)	Soo-Ling Huang	soolinghuang@gmail.com
Community Outreach	Mary Ann Nelson	nmaryann56@gmail.com
Flower Shows (Apr/May/June/Sept)	Janet Love Mary Ann Nelson Rocco DeMiglio	2014lovewolf@gmail.com nmaryann56@gmail.com rdemiglio@gmail.com
Flower Show Judges	Diane Wilton	thewiltons@rogers.com
Hospitality/Raffle	Mary McLean Sarah Fernandes	marykmclean@rogers.com spfernandes25@yahoo.ca
Membership	Lorraine Luski	ladeleluski@gmail.com
Newsletter	Lynn Smith	photoholic@bell.net
Photography Shows (Jan/Mar/Oct)	Pat Cappelli	patcappelli8@yahoo.com
Program	Joan Patterson	jmpatterson@bell.net
Publicity	Pat Cappelli	patcappelli8@yahoo.com
Sunshine	Marion MacLeod	info@northyorkgardenclub.ca
Web Site	Joan Shean	sheanjoan@yahoo.com
Workshops	Pat Cappelli	patcappelli8@yahoo.com
Yearbook	Lynn Smith	photoholic@bell.net



Monthly Raffle

If you would like to donate a prize for the Monthly Meeting Raffle please contact

Mary McLean at marykmclean@rogers.com
or Sarah Fernandes at spfernandes25@yahoo.ca



Newsletter Photo Credits: David Arnett, Gloria Broks, Joan Patterson, Rosalie & Avram Selick

Abbreviations: AGM-Annual General Meeting NYGC-North York Garden Club TBG-Toronto Botanical Garden