



# OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

## *East Gwillimbury Gardeners' Newsletter ("Teaser" Edition)*

June/ July

Volume 22

Issue 3

### **Plant Sale Madness!**

See pg. 24 for  
more photos  
and summary  
of one of our  
best sales  
ever!



### **MEET SOME LOCAL GARDENERS!**

East Gwillimbury Gardeners gather on the third Tuesday of each month, Feb. to Nov. at 7:30pm in the Mount Albert Community Centre, Main Street, Mount Albert. There is a flower show, an interesting speaker, goodies to enjoy and wonderful people from your community to get to know.

We also have a youth club that meets at the same location at 7pm, third Tuesday of each month, Feb. to June, Sept. and Oct.

Yearly membership: \$20 single, \$25 couple and \$30 family.

Our amazing website has great information and resource links!

<http://eastgwillimburygardeners.com>

Connect on social media via:



<http://facebook.com/eastgwillimburygardeners>



[Instagram@eastgwillimburygardeners](https://www.instagram.com/eastgwillimburygardeners)



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East Gwillimbury Gardeners is a member of The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) District 5  
Gardenontario.org    President: Anne Hill    Past president: Valerie Liney    Vice President: Brenda Near

# Hello From East Gwillimbury Gardeners

Hello fellow gardener! Have we caught your attention? You have just picked up our “teaser” mini newsletter. In order to receive the entire newsletter you have to be a member of East Gwillimbury Gardeners! And how do you do that, you ask? Just fill out one of the membership forms in this booklet and come out to one of our meetings (see below). Speak to Ellen at the entrance and she will get you all set up with one of our fabulous membership packages full of great gardening goodies! Or check out our website: <http://eastgwillimburygardeners.com>

## UPCOMING EG GARDENERS’ MEETINGS & EVENTS:

**June 18<sup>th</sup>: Carefree Roses** with speaker Gloria Broks.

Flower Show: See page 16 of your Year Book for entry categories and our website for design how to’s.

Junior Gardeners Meeting: Visit to Marie Nicolle’s garden to design and plant an outdoor planter

**July 16<sup>th</sup>: Leaning into Stone** with speaker John Shaw-

Rimington. John will discuss how to create dry stone walls.

Flower Show: See page 18 of your Year Book for entry categories and our website for design how to’s.

No Junior Gardeners meeting in July & August- next meeting is September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Pop up garden tours of member’s gardens! Watch for announcements!



### **End of June/ beginning of July: East Gwillimbury In Blooms, Thumbs Up Contest.**

Judges will be out soon looking at front gardens in Mount Albert, Holland Landing/River Drive Park, Harvest Hills, Queensville and Sharon. Will your garden earn one of the 50 coveted Thumbs Up awards this year?

**Day Trips:** We are going on some outings! To be kinder on the environment, these will be car pool day trips. Peterborough Ecology garden, Pollinator gardens in Orangeville and Brechin for sculpture.

**MORE GARDEN EVENTS in full newsletter!**

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**Over The Garden Fence** is published 5 times per year: Feb. /Mar; April/May; June/July; Aug. /Sept.; Oct. /Nov. The EG Gardeners’ newsletter was first published as “Over the Garden Fence” in August 1997

All articles by Brenda Near unless otherwise noted

Editor: Brenda Near  
[brendaanear@gmail.com](mailto:brendaanear@gmail.com)  
I welcome your submissions!





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# A Tour of the Keukenhof Garden, Netherlands

*by Charmaine Hunter*

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Where does one start to describe the Keukenhof Gardens of Lisse near Amsterdam? The Director of the Keukenhof, Bart Siemerink, describes it this way: “Keukenhof is the place to enjoy Dutch tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and other flowers. The park provides an experience you will never forget. It is a unique olfactory, colourful experience featuring spectacular flower shows, surprising inspirational gardens and bustling events.”

## **The history**

The gardens go back to the 15 th century. The word Keukenhof means kitchen garden and takes its name from its use by the Countess of Bavaria, Jacqueline who would gather fruits and vegetables from there for the kitchen of Teylingen Castle. The Keukenhof castle itself was built in 1641 and the estate grew to an area of over 240 hectares. The current basis of the park was designed in 1857 by Zocher, a landscape architect, who introduced the English garden style to the Netherlands.

Between 1857 and the present day many transformations occurred. Towers were added to the original house and Keukenhof Castle was born. In 1949 the Keukenhof Flower Exhibition Foundation was established and by 1950 the first flower exhibition was held on the grounds.



And that brings us more or less to the present day and what we and another 1.4 million visitors see at the Keukenhof Gardens during the yearly eight weeks that it is open to the public.

This year is the Keukenhof’s seventieth birthday and in order to celebrate that milestone the theme Flower Power was chosen, complete with a 1970 Volkswagen van embellished with the typical stylized flowers of that era as well as the peace sign! Flowers unite the world and Keukenhof Gardens wanted to underline that fact.



***More of this article available to EG Gardener’s membership***



# Out Reach Program with CHATS

by Stephanie Stern

At the end of March, Brenda Near, Barb Elend, Anne Hill and I got together to create a model for a spring centrepiece that we could take to the ladies and one gentleman who attend CHATS (Community Home Assistance to Seniors) at the Holland Landing Community Centre. After spray painting tins a nice bright yellow, we squished in some Oasis to hold various branches, flower stems, pussy willows and a little Easter flair. Barb came up with a good general design, simple enough to create, and very pretty when made.

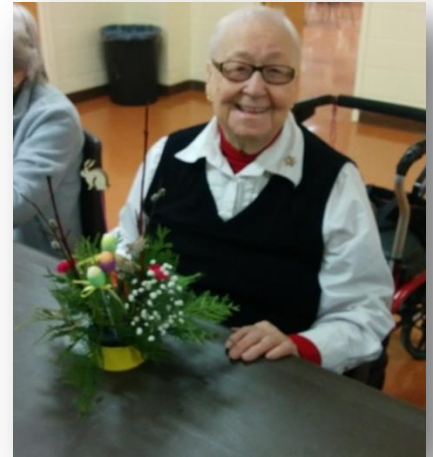
On April 2nd, we took all the bits and pieces to Holland Landing, and met with the friendly CHATS coordinator, Laura Manley, who helped set us up for the morning. Seventeen attendees soon joined us and sat down in front of their Oasis stuffed and moistened tins, while Anne gave them the rundown on how to make the centrepiece.



Anne, Brenda and I moved around the tables, offering help or more items as needed. Everyone seemed to enjoy putting the centrepieces together, despite declarations of 'no artistic sense'. They all turned out so well! The pussy willows and baby's breath were big hits.

We moved on to potting up some Aloe Vera and spider plants, donated by board member Hilary Veenstra and Anne. One lady took an extra aloe, because she said she 'could kill any indoor plant'. She was hedging her aloe bets.

We had a bit of time at the end, and Anne had also brought some work pages with puzzles and garden jokes, which she handed out. The group decided they'd like Anne to read out the jokes, so she did, which got everyone laughing and/or groaning. The attendees left with their projects, thanking us for coming. Then we made a centrepiece for Laura, to thank her for the work she does and for having us, which she happily accepted. A morning well spent.



**Outreach programs are great fun and anyone is welcome to help out. Just contact Anne or Brenda at [eggardeners@gmail.com](mailto:eggardeners@gmail.com)**