

'Through the Garden Gate'

Bulletin of
The Englehart and District
Horticultural Society



APRIL 2013 SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 17th, 2013
at Pioneer Hall, Christ Church, 5th Avenue
at 7:30 p.m.

"WHAT'S NEW FOR 2013 IN PLANTS AND ACCESSORIES"

CARRIE-ANN FIELD will show us and give information about: new varieties of plants, varieties that work well here, and accessories—motivation for turning our minds to the GARDENING SEASON! YES! SPRING IS COMING!

Come and bring a friend—perhaps a friend who would like to start gardening but doesn't know where to start.

Program will also include selected containers and other flower arranging items from Jean Wallace's collection, in a Silent Auction.

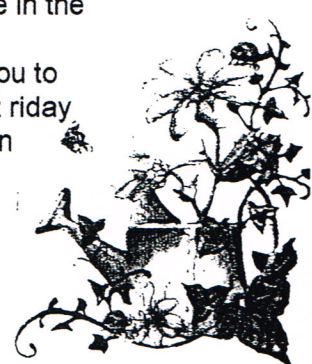
Lunch: Shared lunch (finger foods, please) Host: Claudette Black; Gift: Marg McMurray

MEMBERSHIP: 62, up two from last month. That's a long way from our goal of 100. Even though it was announced last month that March would be the last Bulletin for last year's members who had not renewed, this last issue is being mailed out to all 2012 members, as a reminder to those who have not yet renewed. Please renew your membership NOW. Send \$10.00 to Ginny Montminy, Box 952, Englehart or see Ginny at a Meeting.

Members: Please make a point of reminding your friends to join for 2013. If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail, please contact either Joyce Marie Smith - joyce@ntl.sympatico.ca or Ginny Montminy nessa@ontera.net.

PLANT & BAKE SALE: The date had to be scheduled for Sat, May 25th at the Englehart Legion Hall beginning at 10:00 a.m. Normally this date would be almost too late, but by the way this winter is lingering, the Board members feel that this date may not be too late in the season this year.

Now is the time to start cuttings and seeds (if you haven't already). We are asking you to also save newspapers, plastic bags and pop case boxes. If you can, please come out Friday afternoon at noon to help with setting up. Donations will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Friday. There will be free draws and also draws for which tickets will be purchased. If



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members have

articles they would like to donate to these draws, please bring them in on set-up day, Friday the 24th. Convenor: Les Peever and helpers

DISTRICT#12 ANNUAL SPRING MEETING: See enclosed insert.

Saturday, April 27th at the Kap Curling Club. Voting Delegates to the meeting have been nominated and their expenses will be partly paid. Any member is welcome to attend.



CROCOSMIA (also known as Montbretia): For those who ordered Montbretia through the OHA last fall, planting instructions (courtesy of the Harriston Soc Newsletter) are given below.

Choose a well-drained part of the garden and, if you can amend the soil with organic matter. The location should also be in full sun.

Delay planting until the soil is warm; Crocosmia need heat to get going. Plant the bulbs 2-3" deep and 8-10" apart (pointy end up!). Water generously.

Culture of Crocosmia is much like Gladiolas. If you have not enriched the soil at planting a side dressing of Superphosphate once they are growing well will bring larger flowers. (Be sure to dig it in well, phosphate does not move far in the soil)

The flowers are striking in an arrangement. The arched sprays show off well. After blooming is over for the season, leave the foliage in place; don't cut it off. In our climate Crocosmia need to be lifted for the winter, just like Gladiolas.



PROGRAM FOR MAY: A trip to Aidie Creek Gardens—members are asked to bring containers from home with the intention of planting them at the meeting. Plants may be purchased on site. Aidie Creek will supply soil and fertilizer. Meeting will start earlier than usual.

Watch next month's TTGG for details

SHOW SCHEDULE meeting at the home of Rick and Carole Heaslip, on Monday April 16th at 7:00 p.m. We will be making a new show schedule as well as introducing discussion about other changes. Members are invited to attend and participate in up-dating Flower Show policy, etc.

Englehart Horticultural Society Website: <http://www.engleharthort.weebly.com> The website of our Society. Keep checking to see what's new on the page.

Remember there are links to seed companies—seeds can be ordered online. If you have a favourite seed company you would like to see registered contact Rick Heaslip

Dalton Black who has so capably watered our civic plantings for several years, is asking for this summer off. If you can volunteer for the job, contact President Bruce Wilson (8024), or Civic Improvement Convenor, Carrie-Anne Field (2569).

PLANTING ANNUALS, FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES:

Last month Garden Gate published information on starting seeds indoors. Some seeds that need an early start are: Celosia

Coleus	
Dusty Miller	Fuschia
Impatiens	Lisianthus
Lobelia	Petunias
Salvia	Swan River Daisy
Verbena	

For those who like to plant seeds directly into the garden, here are some suggestions:

Alyssum	Bachelor's Buttons
Calendula	Campanula
Cosmos	California Poppies
Forget-me-not	Lavatera
Nigella	Some Marigolds
Nasturtium	Nicotiana
Sunflower	Sweet Peas
Zinnia	

Most vegetables are planted right into the garden. However, here are a few that need a head start: Eggplant; Melon; Peppers; Tomatoes, and other Squash.

Many of us do not have the patience to grow perennials from seed. Usually they do not flower the first year after seeding. But if you should like to here are a few that can be said to be successful from seed. In fact some of these are hard to start from pieces of other plants and may do much better from seed:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Black-eyed Susan | Columbine |
| Cerastium | Delphinium |
| Dianthus | Gallardia |
| Joe-Pye Weed | Lupines |
| Monarda | Shasta Daisy |
| Yarrow | |

With information from Ontario Home and Gardener Living Spring 2012



This photo was taken for the the Englehart weekly that was published in the 60's, The Englehart Echo. Elsie Elyea, Marilyn Lett and Marie Armstrong are in Mrs. Ruby Bryan's greenhouse working with plants destined for the local Civic Flower Beds.

SLUG BAIT ALERT! Now before they sprout, (after the snow goes) is the time to douse Hostas with a solution of 1:10 ammonia and water. That is, 1 quart household ammonia in 10 quarts water. There is one garden bed I have that is dedicated to Hostas. I have been using the Ammonia treatment for years and there is never a sign of slugs.

Speaking of Hostas,

If you do not have adequate shady places for the Hostas you have bought or would like to buy, have you thought of growing some in large pots or plant boxes? There are so many stunning varieties now that you can make a really good show, perhaps with just one variety in a pot or, several complimentary varieties together.

To over-winter potted Hostas, it is best to remove them from the pot (if it freezes the pot may split) and heel them in somewhere in the garden. Then re-pot in spring.

This idea was published by Epic Gardener, Spring 2001 and written by Paul Zammit

SOME NOTES FROM Perennials by Lois Hole:

Baby's Breath: Q: Can I move my Baby's Breath once it's well-established? A: No, Baby's Breath usually dies if you try to move it. It has a long, thick tap root that is difficult to dig up properly. (Ed. Note: I have found this to be only too true. It still grew in its original place, but not in its new place at all)

Bleeding Heart: Q: My Bleeding Heart is looking wretched. Can I prune it back a bit? A: Certainly. Go ahead and clean them up. Pruning the plant promotes new growth and opens the plant up to receive more sunlight. Bleeding Heart naturally turns yellow after flowering and gradually disappears until next year.

IMPROVE PURCHASED POTTING SOIL: In

the past, old gardeners like me mixed their own soil for starting plants and for boxes and planters. The recipe started with PRO-MIX (Aidie Creek) — or moist peat moss for half; then 1/4 sharp sand; another 1/4 vermiculite and garden soil. I mixed it in the fall. Now we all mostly buy potting soil. To aid in keeping plants moist longer you can now buy water-retaining polymers which, when added to soil, hold several hundred times their weight in water which releases gradually. Especially useful for hanging planters. Stokes carries TeraGel (T546) and one called Driwater (DR213) is also available.

Infrequent deep watering is more effective than frequent light watering

and these products allow one to apply more water at a time and not have it all run through the pot. As always, watering early in the morning is best. Soaker hoses waste much less water than sprinklers—all the water is applied at the roots where plants need it most.

This Newsletter from Stokes' Seeds also mentions that setting up a system to use rainwater for at least some of the garden is best for plants. Well water always contains dissolved minerals which are not plant-friendly.

April 2005, From the Ground Up



Lay pieces of chicken wire on the bare soil in your vegetable garden as a friendly reminder to felines to stay away. Use decorative wire in your flower beds—it comes in pieces that are easy to fit around plantings.

FOIL CATS FAST

Every spring we are reminded that cats love to visit our gardens where there is bare soil, leaving a deposit.

Chicken wire, or decorative welded wire laid flat on the ground between rows or around plants will absolutely discourage cats from using your garden as a litter box. You can obtain it in pieces that are easier to handle and fit around plants. It will be an expense the first year, but you can use it for years. The secret is that cats will not walk on it!

The same idea will keep cats away from the ground under the bird feeders in winter.

Great Garden Shortcuts, Rodale Press 1996, Joan Benjamin, Editor

NEW BULLETIN EDITOR NEEDED:

This is my farewell Newsletter for the Society. I am sorry to have to leave this job, which has been for the past sixteen years a challenging and very rewarding task each month. And sorry too to leave Horticultural Society members who have been my friends

and tutors.

Writing the Bulletin has kept me in touch with Society doings and its members and, has allowed me to practise my most engrossing hobby—writing. The sad thing is that we can no longer maintain our property or even enjoy going out on it.

With my age and irreversible difficulties with mobility, and Janet's serious renal disease (she is nearing the head of the list for a kidney transplant in London, ON sometime this year), we need to be close to the rest of our family in the Barrie area, with its younger generations.

The Society has been my inspiration and pleasure since the early 60's and I have been developing this property since 1980. I was gardening before I joined the Society, but it was as a member that I was able to learn more and more about gardens, plants and nature. I shall miss it.

The Society now needs a new Editor and I hope that one of our members will volunteer for this job. It is a tradition started in the very early days of the Society's organization and has, I believe, continued (mostly) uninterrupted for over 50 years.



Some interesting succulents. At the front of the strawberry-jar planter hangs the burro-tail sedum; then, clockwise, are Sedum pulchellum, sempervivums, and, on top and in front, a collection of echeverias, and at lower right, another sempervivum. In the metal bowl are more sempervivums and a taller Sedum spectabile.

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Printing: Courtesy Englehart & District Hospital



Insert April, 2013:

DISTRICT 12 ANNUAL MEETING April 27, 2013

The day's activities:

8:00 Hall opens for competition

9:30 Competition closed

9:45 Welcome, Election of Officers and Business meeting until 12:00 noon

Lunch until 1:00

1:00 p.m.. Laurier Guillemette will speak about Fruit Trees followed by a short break until 2:15 when Nicole Blais, Florist, Classic Flowers, Kapuskasing will present "Unique Floral Designs"

Cost for the day, including lunch: \$24.00

Registration only \$18.00

Lunch only \$18.00

COMPETITIONS

THEME: UP NORTH DOWN TO EARTH

Prize Money: 1st \$5.00 2nd \$4.00 3rd \$3.00

Please Note: One entry per person per class

Section A Design

Staging and accessories permitted, no artificial flowers/greenery unless specified

Class 1: Sunshine and Shadows

Class 2: Firefly – a miniature design using dried plant material, maximum 12.7 cm (5") in any direction.

Class 3: Nature's Sculptor – a design incorporating decorative wood.

Class 4: Glamorous Amethyst – a design featuring purple

Section B Potted Plants

Class 5: Plant for decorative foliage

Class 6: Blooming Plant

Class 7: Succulent Plant

Class 8: African Violet – single plant with single crown, in flower

Section C Photography

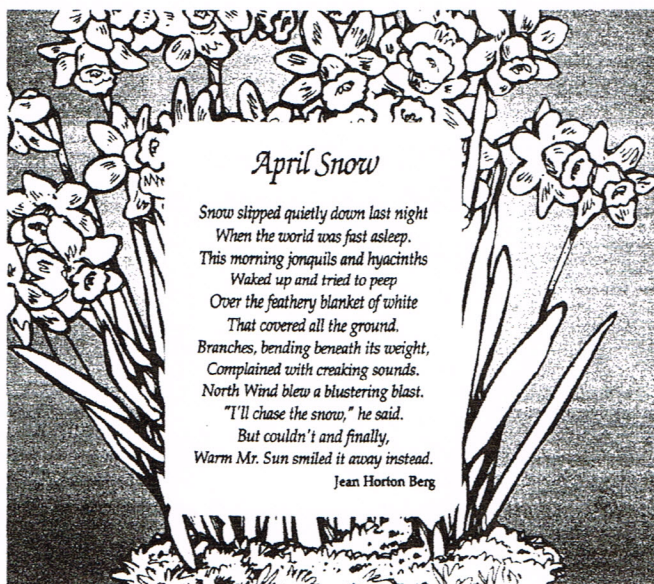
Entries must be 4"x6", mounts not to exceed 6"x8"

Class 9: "I Fall to Pieces" (Fall shot showing fall colour)

Class 10: "Shades of Amethyst" (Any purple coloured flower)

Class 11: "Kitchen Harvest" (Any grouping of veggies and/or herbs that you use together e.g. Salad makings [lettuce, tomato, cucumber], Pasta sauce [tomatoes, peppers, onions, basil])

Class 12: "Up North and Down to Earth" (depicting your vision of this theme)



Section D Publications

Class 13 2012/2013 Special Event Poster
Must cover an event taking place between April
2012 and May 2013, inclusive
Minimum size 8.5" x 11"

Class 14 2012/2013 Special Event
Brochure/Pamphlet/Flyer
Must cover an event taking place between April
2012 and May 2013 inclusive
Folded or unfolded, Under 11" x 14" in all
dimensions

Class 14. 2012 Show Schedule
(Submission in the original colour, format & size)

Class Society Newsletter from 2012

Section E Creative Writing

Class 15 Acrostic A form of poetry that is written
vertically in capital letters
GARDENS- Please print "Gardens" in 14 font bold
print and rest in 12 font

Class Free Verse or Rhyme 16 Up North, Down
to Earth
(10-40 lines and horticultural related)

GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING
KAPUSKASING, ON
SATURDAY APRIL 27th, 2013

CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE

NAME OF SOCIETY:

NUMBER OF MEMBERS ATTENDING:

REGISTRATION: Number of Full-Day – lunch
included: _____

 Number of Full-Day – lunch
not included: _____

Total Cost: _____

Please make cheque payable to District 12, Ontario
Horticultural Association, AGM Registration.
Attention: Kees Stryland, District Director, 173
Columbus Avenue, Timmins, ON P4N 3H7
Payment can also be made at the door in cash

DISTRICT 12
NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO
ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION