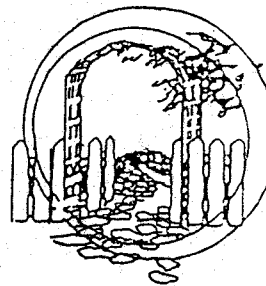


"Through the Garden Gate"

Bulletin of
The Englehart and District
Horticultural Society



SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING PRESSED FLOWERS WORKSHOP

AT PIONEER HALL, CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST 2011, 7:30 PM

Bonnie Warner and Eileen Fisher will lead a workshop session on handling and using pressed flowers. I hope you did manage to press some flowers! If you did, bring them with you. If you do not have any flowers pressed, please come to the meeting anyway. There will be some available there.

You will need: 1. tweezers; 2. white glue;
3. something to form a base for a project—e.g blank card stock; small picture frame; piece of white bristol board, etc. Come and bring a friend and learn about this varied craft

Hostess and Gift: Linda Murray .

SERVICE CERTIFICATE: was awarded this year to Lynn Coutts who has for several years been an energetic go-getter for our Society, exhibitor, planner, convenor of several committees and always hard worker for whatever was going on. Lynn and her husband, Cecil have moved to a place near Fergus. We will miss them.



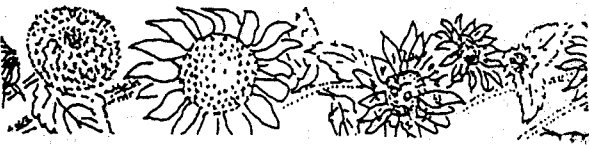
CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP: Wednesday, December 1st. Please save red pine cones. The craft will need a large number. Drop off at Rosemary Campbell's, 20 Sixth Ave or call her at 544 7437

ART TOUR: Local artists—Saturday and Sunday, Sept 25th and 26th. More information available from Berdina Beaven, 705 544 2874

FALL PLANNING MEETING: St. John's Presbyterian Church, Kapuskasing, Saturday, September 24. If you have any ideas for next year's Annual Meeting program (in April) please contact President B. Warner (544 8916).

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING: Annual Awards Night, Wed, Oct 19th—dinner first and then Meeting and Awards. Anne Plaunt will be speaker this year, "Canadian Food for Children". Come and see who won what and—bring a friend.

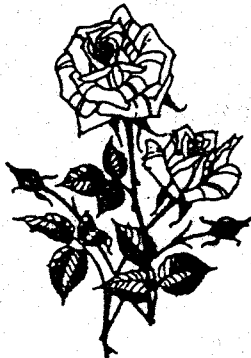
CANADA BLOOMS: Friday to Sunday, March 16th to 25th 2012, at the Direct Energy Centre, adjacent to the Gardiner Expressway in Toronto. Co-located with National Home Show, making it North America's largest Home & Garden Event. Bus Tours can be arranged. For more information see www.canadablooms.com Or call 416 447 8655 ext 21



FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS 2011

The Flower Show of 2011 was held again in the new location, Holy Family School; this new location fits the Show well and, we had the use of the adjoining kitchen. Jeff Warner added much to the attractiveness turning the entry into a show place with his displays of material from Aidie Creek Gardens. Linda Murray set up a very attractive garden centre with an oriental theme.

Lunch for workers, was provided by Johanna Paradis and her committee. Mary Schippers was convener of the Tea Garden lunches and service. Receipts from the Tea Garden: \$229.



100 corsages were made Thursday afternoon by Bertha Axcell; Verley Lamb; Eileen Fisher; Bonnie Warner, with help also from Avelyn Peever. These were presented to the first 100 people to attend.

Munroe Burton was again in his job as M.C. and general clean up guy.

Twyla and Bruce Wilson were in charge of the Silent Auction and were pleased to report that a profit of \$400. was made and they thank all who donated to this.

Rick Heaslip, Bonnie Warner and Eileen Fisher with assist from Carol Heaslip made give-away bouquets, which were drawn for periodically during the Show.

Set up started Tuesday morning with help from Claudette and Dalton Black; Len Fisher, Jeremy Fisher and Joyce-Marie Smith, joined in the pm by Bonnie Warner and Sharon Black. The job includes hauling 20 tables from the High School, props from Williams & Scott Ace Hardware and supplies from the Town Hall. And then setting it all up according to a pre-made plan.

Judges this year were: Kees Stryland, South Porcupine; Pat Groulx, Kirkland Lake; Charlie Warner, Rosemary Campbell and Annette Desilets-McCarthy from Englehart.

Louise Williams worked both days at the door giving out tickets and ballots for the Viewers' Choice exhibit. The Viewers' Choice will be announced at the Awards Night. Receipts from the door: \$351. Number of entries in total 524, down 89 entries from last year. We have to do better than that—we need the support of our members for this event, the most important of our year.

Clean-up crew included Twyla and Bruce; Munroe; Joyce-Marie, Bonnie and the Convenors, Eileen and her family, and Edie Sauer. Thanks to them all for pitching in to clear up in good order.

Ontario Horticultural Association Convention was held this year in Sudbury at the Radisson Hotel, Sudbury July 15th to 17th. Delegates' reports will be given at the September General meeting.

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## OPENING THE GARDEN GATE

Garden Tour 2011 took place Saturday and Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> with ten gardens open to visitors: Bonnie Warner; Claudette and Dalton Black; Adel McCallan; Dina Desilets and Norm Charland; Trudy and Scott Houghton; Mary Pillsworth; Pat and Albert Cousineau; Carrie-Anne Field and Ron Rivard; Marie and Ed Black; Sharon and Kerry Stewart.

Although it did rain on and off both days of the Tour, the weather was not unpleasant and people still came out.

A comment by a visitor: "The Tour lit up my interest in working in my own garden and, as a fairly new gardener, I found it so valuable to see many plants I'd like to include in it." We do have beautiful gardens in and around Englehart.

The response to requests for donations to baskets was so good, that two were drawn for. The winners are Sherry Louttit and Stephanie Black.

Committee: B. Warner; B. Wilson; Dawna Beausoleil; J.M. Smith, L. Murray and E. Fisher.

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A BALANCED VIEW OF BATS

During my lifetime Brown Bats have been abundant in this area, but now there are reports and I am actually seeing for myself, that there has been a drastic reduction in the population of bats. We believe there were only two or three reproducing females at our house this

year, where we would usually have had dozens.

Scientists have found that bats are being stricken with a fungus called "white nose syndrome" (from its most prominent symptom). Now, don't say "Good" because bats are very beneficial animals—yes, they are mammals, mammals that fly. They are not rodents.

Bats hunt in the dim hours surrounding sunset and sunrise by relying on *echolocation*, or sonar. Emitting loud, high-pitched (ultrasonic) noises through their noses and open mouths, they bounce sound off insects and solid objects and then interpret the returning echoes to home in on their prey.

Bats are primarily insect eaters and they do eat enormous numbers of insects including biting insects like mosquitos. They also take pests like June beetles, codling and corn borer moths, stinkbugs, locusts, grasshoppers, leafhoppers and others to the point that their presence makes a difference in the local insect population. Some varieties of bats pollinate plants, and disperse seeds as well as controlling insect populations.

Bats hibernate in the winter in caves or old mines, sometimes not that far from their summer home. They mate once a year and bear only one young, which they suckle for three to four weeks.

Bats are not blind; they do not want to light in peoples' hair; if they are in a building, all they want is to get out (so just leave the door open); they are no more likely to be rabid than other mammals; and, if they swoop around your yard they are looking for insects not you.

I just hope this piece on bats is not an obituary.

Jean



FALL SEASON IN THE GARDEN

It is unusual not to have had a significant frost (cucumber leaves are touched) by this time in September, and, we may well have one before you read this newsletter. My point actually is that we may be putting off fall tasks because the weather is so good.

Just to keep you in mind of the chores that should be looked after, I've compiled this long list. Take photos of the garden. It's not too late now, but it is better done when plants are still flowering. I have found photos more helpful than anything else for knowing what plants are where.

1. Plant bulbs for spring flowering any time now. Don't forget them in the fridge or on the shelf. They should usually be planted by the end of September or, at the latest, early October to give them time to make root growth before the ground freezes.

2. Lift Dahlias and Gladiolas and any other tender summer-flowering bulbs. Leave them in a sunny place during the day to dry off, clean and store in a cool place (Not in plastic bags—use paper ones)

3. Leave perennials after seeds have formed. The stalks help protect the roots in winter and the seeds make snacks for over-wintering birds.

4. Gather and account for all tools (I have found treasured tools in the compost heap!) clean and oil and store for winter.

5. Uncouple the hose and all attachments from the garden hoses—bring them in and store out of the weather.

6. Empty outdoor garden containers. Put the soil on the garden or in the compost. Clay or ceramic containers will split if the damp soil is left

in them to freeze.

7. Dig the potatoes.

8. Tidy the veg. garden for spring by pulling the spent plants—lettuce, chard, beans, etc. and adding to compost heap.

9. Rake fallen leaves from around trees and shrubs and leave in windrows. Then run the lawnmower through the windrows back and forth several times. When the leaves are broken up enough not to mat on the lawn, just leave them there. They will decay into the lawn and provide organic matter for its nourishment.

10. Note in your Garden Record Book what you want or need to do in Spring. Haven't a Garden Book? You would find one very useful—just a notebook or old ledger. We write a summary of the successes and failures each fall and it has proved really useful. It's surprising how much we can forget over winter!

And the last: get the Bird Feeders ready to put out in late October or November. We do not recommend feeding birds in the summer season. They don't need feeding in summer and feeders attract bears and raccoons.
Jean

STOP THE PRESS NEWS: A

Registration Rally will be sponsored by the Town of Englehart on Mon Sep 19th from 6: to 9: pm. upstairs at the Community Complex. Community organizations are invited to set up booths to promote their group, recruit volunteers, etc. Eileen Fisher is willing to work on this. Can you help? Call Eileen at 544 8074

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