



'Through The Garden Gate'

The monthly newsletter of the Englehart and District Horticultural Society
June 2016



Englehart and District Horticultural Society was formed in 1956.

General meetings:
3rd Wednesday of most months at 7:00 p.m. in the Presbyterian Church basement

- *Speakers, workshops, demonstrations
- *Civic Improvement
- *Youth Involvement
- *Displays and Competitions
- *Environmental Stewardship

President: C. A. Field
Bulletin Editor: E. Fisher
Website:
engleharthort.weebly.com

A Word From The Editor

It's Horticultural Week here in the Englehart Area from June 11-18. This year, our special week coincides with the Ontario Horticultural Association's second annual Garden Ontario Week. Our Society will be participating in the week here in Englehart with several activities. But we can all do some things as individuals to make our communities a better place this week. Some suggestions: visit a seniors' residence or a nursing home and do some planting activities or simply take a bouquet for the residents to enjoy; visit a classroom to talk about some aspect of gardening/environmental concerns; take a child or a senior for a drive to see people's gardens or visit a local nursery; make an insect hotel to help our pollinators; get one of the many excellent books from the library on an aspect of horticulture you'd like to know more about; encourage/help a youngster (or an older person) start their own garden; go for a walk in Kap-Kig-Iwan; rake your lawn and weed your garden (or your neighbour's garden!). There's just so much you can do during this special week that will benefit you and our community.



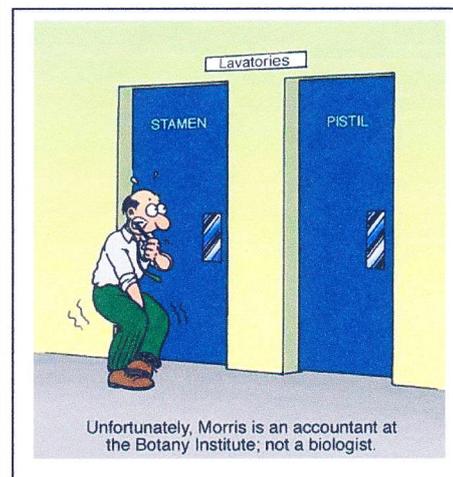
An insect hotel

Mark It On Your Calendar:

June 11 - 18 : Horticultural Week
June 15: General Meeting (Eileen and Len Fisher's house)

Looking Back:

Back we go to the early 1980s. The following is the write-up from the Northern Daily News of that year. "Rick Heaslip says flower arranging is like any other artistic form, giving him a chance to create something from raw materials. Heaslip, an Englehart resident who has won several flower arrangement shows, visited the Kirkland and District Horticultural Society to give a workshop on flower arranging."



Cute!

Looking Ahead:

There are only about two months left until the Festival of Flowers. I hope everyone has their show schedule. If not, contact Bonnie Warner for a copy. Don't forget that April's bulletin has the changes/additions to the schedule for this year. Now's the time to check out the classes you'd like to enter and check out your garden...how are your flowers/vegetables doing...will you be able to show some this year? If you have never won a first prize in our show, you may enter the Novice classes, and also try out the Intermediate and the other classes as well. It's also a great month for some photography which you might enter in the Photography section. Make sure to read the rules and helpful hints early.



Mary Schippers' lovely orchid from last year.

Youth Garden Competition

Once again, the Englehart and District Horticultural Society is sponsoring a youth gardening programme. Posters have been distributed and information has gone to the three schools. If you know of a youngster who would be interested in this, please let me know and I will get the information to them. The judging will take place in August and we would need to know if they are entering their garden by August 1st. There are classes for grade one to five, and for grade six and above. Knowing the importance of children learning about plants and the skills they learn from it, I hope that, if you have a child, grandchildren, or know of a neighbour's child who would like to participate, you will encourage them. The gardens will be judged using the following criteria:
*Quality of plants (30%) Neatness of garden area (25%)
Variety and interest (20%) Imagination (15%)
Environmental aspects (10%)*



Here's a photo of two of our winners from last year:
Lauryn and Amelia Menard

Reports from Your Directors:

Programme: This month's programme will be a visit to the gardens of Len and Eileen Fisher (first house on the right side of Kap-Kig-Iwan Road). If you wish to carpool, meet at the Presbyterian Church at 6:45. It would be best to park along the Kap Road and walk up. There will be speakers with hints and advice on preparing and showing your plants, photos, vegies, etc. in the Festival of Flowers. Last month's meeting, held at Aidio Creek Gardens, was a great success. Carrie Anne Field demonstrated how to make beautiful succulent gardens and hanging baskets. We also had some time to do some shopping and socializing. Many thanks to that busy lady, Carrie Anne, for all she does for us.

Horticultural Week: Convenor Deb Murray reports that as well as the civic planting taking place during Horticultural Week, there will be displays in the community, and make sure you listen for some great gardening tips on CJBB. It's also great that we are able to be a part of the OHA's Garden Ontario Week, as our dates coincide this year.



Bonnie Warner is making arrangements for the planting of the Centennial Park and Deb Murray and Judy Eastman are planting the Legion and Cenotaph. I'm also hoping to round up a few volunteers to do a bit of work in the Millennium Garden one day that week. If you can give me a hand, just give me a call please at 544 8074 or 544 3771.

Membership: Ginny reports that we have 77 members. Don't forget that a membership can make a great gift for a friend or relative.

Festival of Flowers: The convenors are looking for volunteers for the following jobs: **Set Up** (on the Tuesday afternoon); **Judges' Helpers** (people who would accompany the judges, attach ribbons, etc.); **Silent Auction; Clean Up; Social**, and more. If you can give us some time, it will make the show run much smoother. Don't forget to read through the show book, paying special attention to pages 1-7 (rules and regulations/definitions/hints and information for showing, etc., and remember to attend the June 15th meeting for more help and advice.

Website/Facebook: Rick Heaslip reports that we had 392 hits on our website in April, 333 in May, and that we have had 1861 individual visits this year to date. The site is full of current information and photos, so take a look and keep up to date with the Society happenings. Our Facebook page now has 63 members who regularly use and/or post articles and photos centering on our Society and horticulture in general. Check us out on the internet at englehartort.weebly.com and **Englehart Horticultural Society** on Facebook.

Plant and Bake Sale: Convenor Jean Bott reports that it was a very successful sale. Although it was a latish spring, members went all out, bringing in lots of plants and baking and preserves. Jean was very pleased with the help at set-up on Friday and we were cleaned up in record time on Saturday. Treasurer Ginny reports that we made \$ 1,112.90, which, I believe, is a record! Thank you to all who brought plants and baking in, to those who donated something for the draws, to those members who helped staff a sales table or worked carrying and giving advice to shoppers, and to those who stayed behind to help make the Legion Hall spic and span. Many thanks to convenor Jean Bott for her hours of work getting things ready for this important event. Above, happy shoppers, Karen Watchorn and her daughter, are served by Twyla Wilson



Social: Mary Schippers reminds Joyce Smith that she is the hostess for this month and Deb Murray brings the gift for the free draw. Don't forget to bring a small something for the shared snack. Tea, coffee, and water will be provided.

Weird and Wonderful

Rafflesia Arnoldii

This is the largest flower in the world and is found in Indonesia. It gives off a terrible smell, which is why its other name is Stinking Corpse flower. It uses this odour to attract flies and other insects that spread its pollen. It grows right on the ground and has huge red petals with raised spots. The *rafflesia arnoldii* can weigh between 15 to 24 lbs. and can grow to be 3 feet in diameter. A weird plant indeed!



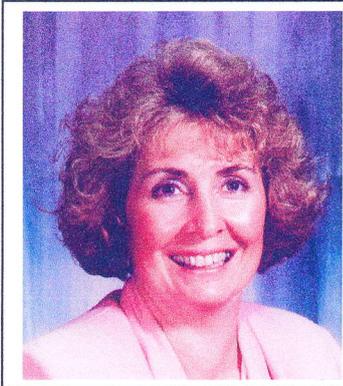
Plant of the Month

The Allium

Alliums (and there are many varieties, including chives, onions, garlic) make a bright display in our gardens in late spring, early summer. The more common decorative one we see in our area is 'Purple Sensation', a tall stemmed variety but there are also dwarf varieties, and yellow, white, blue, and pinkish flowered allium as well. Allium christophii produces huge spiky heads of pale mauve on short stems. Most allium varieties are hardy in our area and prefer full sun and well-drained soil. All alliums seed and produce babies which can be transplanted or pulled. The dried seed heads are attractive in the summer and fall garden and make interesting dried floral designs as well. Plant these interesting bulbs in the fall for spring bloom. Look for some at our Plant and Bake Sale each year.



Our 15th President: Eileen Fisher 1989-89, 2001-02, 2011-12



Eileen loved gardening as a child, following in her mother's footsteps. She entered the Festival of Flowers as a youth, particularly enjoying flower arranging. She joined the Society in the late 1970s and became involved in various committees. She served served three terms as President and was a Junior

Garden leader for over 20 years, again following her mother's lead. Eileen became involved in District 12, serving as Secretary-Treasurer for several years, before becoming District Director for three years. She has received the Society's Service Certificate, the District 12 Service Award, and the OHA's highest award given to a woman, the Silver Trillium. Some of her happiest times are when she sees children enjoying time in a garden. The Millennium Garden at EPS remains one of her favourite projects and she still enjoys volunteering to work with students in the elementary schools. Gardening is her passion and she has certainly enjoyed the past few years serving as Bulletin Editor.

Gardening is not our whole life, but it makes our life whole.

Poetry and Prose

The Days are Clear

*The days are clear,
Day after day,
When April's here,
That leads to May,
And June
Must follow soon:
Stay, June, stay! -
If only we could stop the
moon
And June!*

Christina Rossetti

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