

November/December 2012

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday November 21st
at 7:30 p.m. Anglican Church Hall (downstairs)

"CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS"
A Presentation by Amber Elliott



Amber Elliott, of Amber's, New Liskeard has several times been our guest speaker at this November meeting time. She demonstrates beautiful material and shows imaginative and dramatic ways of using it. She has new ideas every year and, she often gives away some of the designs to the members present. Her program inspires us all to go home and do our own. This is an entertaining meeting—it's a good one to *ask a friend* to come with you.

Please bring something to munch on—finger foods.
Hosts and Gift: Bruce and Twyla Wilson



38th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP
Wednesday, November 28th.

The workshop project this year will be to decorate Pine Boughs for Christmas. Boughs can be used in many ways and displayed inside or out-side. Each person will be supplied with a kit that contains large cones and berries from Amber's shop, and boughs will be supplied as well.

It's open to all people (not just members) so please bring all your friends. The cost will be \$10.00.

The Workshop will be in the Anglican Church Hall, with demonstration beginning at 7:30 p.m. Kits go on sale at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your own wire cutters and branch cutters, if you have them.

There will also be refreshments supplied by the Society. At the meeting on the 21st, Host Mary Schippers will circulate a sign-up list of items required to provide the lunch. There will be an attendance Gift provided by Rosemary Campbell, who is also the Convenor of the Workshop.



COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR 2012: Reminder to all Convenors and Officers that Committee Reports for the past year are due any time now. Please forward to Joyce Marie Smith, Secretary so they can be prepared for the Annual Meeting to be held Wednesday, January 16th, 2013. Be sure to include the volunteer hours of your committee. Do it now before the Christmas rush takes it out of mind.

CHRISTMAS UNVEILING: On Friday, Nov. 16th this year. Chamber of Commerce has again asked the Society to provide a basket filled with items for the Silent Auction. If you have any items to donate to the basket, please drop them off to Eileen Fisher's on Kap-Kigi-wan Rd. To complete the basket she will need to have any donated items by Wednesday, Nov. 14th, please. Proceeds of the Auction will go to the Food Bank and to the Fire Rescue Van.

WEBSITE: Remember to surf over to Englehart's website, if you have internet and see what's new on it. If you haven't looked for a while, do look. There are new items all the time. englehartort.weebly.com

MEMBERSHIP: Remember that our Membership year is from Jan to Dec. If you won prize money at the Festival of Flowers, your membership for 2013 will have been paid out of that. If not, your \$10.00 is due any time. In order to keep receiving the TTGG bulletin, be sure to renew soon. See Ginny Montminy at a meeting or send her a cheque to Box 677 for the fee to keep up to date. We have 38 for 2013 so far.

A Society Membership would make a great gift for a friend at Christmas!

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE: All Society Flower beds have been cleaned and we send out a special "Thank You" to the mystery persons who helped clean up the beds. If you 'fess up, we'll thank you in person!

BOARD MEETING: There will not be a Board Meeting nor a General Meeting in December. *Come to the Workshop instead.*

ANNUAL MEETING 2012: Wednesday, January 16th, 2013. Meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. Reports for the year will be given and Election of Officers for 2013 will take place. Details in January.



It is only by doing the common things uncommonly well, doing them with pride and enthusiasm, and just as well, as neatly, as quickly and as efficiently as possible, that you take the drudgery out of them. This is what counts in the final issue. How can you expect to do a great thing well when you half do the little things? These are the stepping stones to the great things.

Orison Swett Marden from Seeds of Friendship from The Brownlow Corporation, Fort Worth, Texas, USA

HELP! FOR HOUSEPLANTS

"Like people, houseplants need a bit of TLC to make it through the Canadian Winter"

Larry Hodgson

(following material contains some new hints and has been condensed from article of the same name in Canadian Gardening, Winter 2004)

Begin by going over the plants, removing yellowed or damaged leaves and trimming away weak growth. Shower leaves to remove dust and dirt letting more light onto the leaves' surfaces to take advantage of what light there is. If pots dry out faster than you can keep them watered, you may need to re-pot into one size larger pot. At the same time trim dead roots and excessive taproots that run around the inside of the pot. They are grown for stability on outdoor plants and indoors are not needed. Finer, fibrous roots will expand and absorb more water and nutrients.

As you probably realize, forced-air-heated homes are drier than the Sahara where humidity is about 25%, while in your home it's about 15%. Cacti and succulents deal better with cool, dry air.

As much as possible, group plants together for added moisture retention. One suggestion is to place plants in a waterproof tray which has gravel or stones in a layer on the bottom. When watering, do not fill to cover the base of the plant pot. Plants for the most part, don't like standing in water. If you can arrange cooler temps at night, that will also be of benefit to many plants.

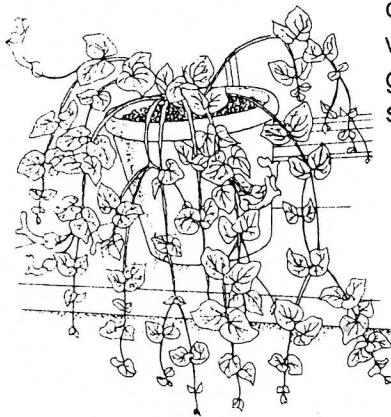
To take advantage of what light there is, consider moving some plants closer to light sources, even in windows (not against the glass though). Choose locations that get the most light in winter. A further tip is to have light colours around the plants—walls and/or furniture—to reflect light. As an alternate solution purchase fluorescent 40 w. tubes and mount about a foot above plants. No need for special horticultural tubes, use one ordinary cool white with one warm white tube

In the first catalogue to arrive for the 2013 season, Stokes Seeds, there are some nifty accessories for gardens and gardeners, including a light stand that is more inexpensive than any I have seen (for 2' tubes). Alternately you can use hand-made shelves or existing shelves to place tubes under. STOKES SEEDS
Box 10, Thorold, ON
L2V 5E9

www.StokesSeeds.com

Set a timer for up to 16 hours daily

We have been told never to fertilize houseplants after July. The truth is that if plants don't receive adequate light even fertilized growth will be spindly. For plants that are showing signs of continued growth a good plan is to add a small amount (maybe a quarter) of usual fertilizer every watering. I might mention here that I make a habit of adding a small bit of fertilizer to almost every watering in the summer too—much less than the



directions specify.

You can't keep all plants growing—some go dormant in winter. If they do (and aren't dead) place them in an out-of-the-way spot and water occasionally until signs of life re-appear.

Desert cacti, both the stubby, short ones and the tall, candelabra ones are a special group; they like their winters cold and dry with temperatures between 4 and 7C. If cacti are put in this temperature with no light, they will shrink but will plump back up when you begin watering.

Improve air quality: The following plants have been shown (Ongoing NASA studies) to measurably improve the air in which they grow:

Reed palm
Areca Palm
Dracena
Jade Plant
Rubber Plant
Ficus maclellandii
English Ivy
Boston Fern
Peace Lily
Miniature Date Palm



Editor's View (not necessarily that of the Englehart & District Horticultural Society)

In an interview with Sue Nielsen, in The Temiskaming Speaker Weekender, (Nov 9, 2012), Joanie McGuffin (who with her husband, Gary is well-known in canoe and "wilderness" circles) answered Sue's question about which was scarier—effects of climate change or government's denial of climate change by saying:

"Effects of climate change are scarier because that is the truth of the Earth's condition from the melting of the ice caps to the massive extinction of species, the acidification of oceans, to the disruption of the Earth's hydrological (water) cycle.The responsibility for change is falling to citizens who set an example of living in a more long-term sustainable way by supporting local communities, local resources, local food and water, local citizens and using less, having less and giving more."

Members who have been reading this newsletter for years will recognize that I often feature material about "reduce, recycle and re-use". That is deliberate. It is my effort to

encourage readers to individually make a smaller "footprint" on their environment.

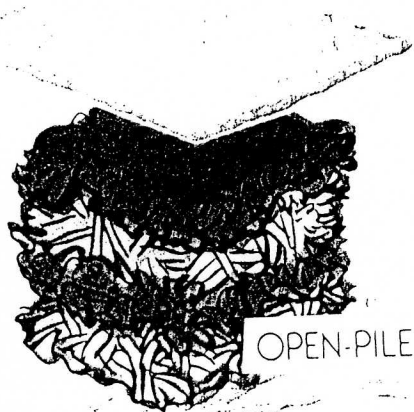
For this issue, the last of 2012, I have included some fall material and summarized some I may have written about before

Remember: "Next season's apples are already on the tree"
Selwyn Hughes

"Dirty Work: Making Compost"

"Now she is really repeating herself!" It's true, I am. I have written about compost many times before. Compost is the single most effective garden amendment you can apply—soil improver, fertilizer, and top dressing. What you want to do in making compost is simply layer carbon-rich materials (i.e. the browns, such as dry leaves, shredded paper and straw (Hay contains many, many weed seeds that could germinate) with nitrogen-rich materials (greens, such as uncooked veggie and fruit peelings, coffee grounds and grass clippings). Note: Never add meat, fat, dairy products, pet waste or bad weeds [w. seeds that is] . . . Occasionally add a thin layer of soil to bolster the microbes, worms and other organisms that inhabit natural soil. Purchased compost accelerators are not necessary. Keep it damp but not sopping. If you are strong and determined you could aerate the pile by turning it with a fork, but it will eventually compost without that.

Two very simple composting methods are shown: With information from article of the same name by Karen York, Canadian Gardening magazine, Fall 2012



TRENCH COMPOSTING



Better Late Than Never: by Larry Hodgson in Canadian Gardening, Winter 2004

"Two years ago I discovered a box of bulbs I had forgotten to plant. Although there wasn't any snow, I simply chucked them directly onto the frozen earth in the garden and covered them with about 8" of commercially bagged soil. They bloomed the following spring as if they'd been planted properly."

The ground is just now beginning to freeze and here is hope for those procrastinators among us who bought bulbs in an excess of enthusiasm but haven't got around to planting them. But plant them soon! (Larry lives in Quebec City)

But some bulbs can be forgotten until spring renews interest in gardening tasks. What then? If they haven't shrivelled up they could still be salvaged. Plant in garden while soil is still cold (but not frozen) and water well. You might add a good bulb starter fertilizer. They won't bloom the first summer, perhaps produce only foliage, but they will bloom the year after.

Caution: This works for tulips, hyacinth, narcissus and crocuses as long as they have been kept cool, dry and well-ventilated. Fall-blooming bulbs such as *erythronium* (Trout Lily); *anemone*, trillium (buy nursery-grown only) need to be planted as soon as available in the fall

The next issue of Through The Garden Gate will be published in January, 2013

With Best Wishes for
the Christmas Season
and the New Year
from all the Newsletter
Committee



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Cut Flower Awards

CHAMPION

Aster
 Marigold
 Petunia
 Sweet Pea
 Zinnia
 Perennial
 Begonia
 Dahlia
 Lily
 Red Rose
 Rose
 Gladiolus
 Cut Flower
 High Point Winner

DONATED BY:

Society
 Lloyd Briggs Memorial
 Society
 Clint & Marie Hack
 Society
 Family of Alma Cozac
 Society
 Rick & Carol Heaslip
 Jean Kent
 Red Rose Tea Trophy
 W. & B. Yurkewich Memorial
 Society
 Society
 Society

WINNER



Carrie Anne Field
 Vi Tucker
 Carrie Anne Field
 Carrie Anne Field
 Carrie Anne Field
 Claudette Black
 Rick Heaslip
 Rick Heaslip
 Claudette Black
 Carrie Anne Field
 Carrie Anne Field
 John Beausoleil
 Claudette Black
 Carrie Anne Field

Potted Plants Awards

Potted Plant
 High Point Winner

Marie Armstrong Award
 Jean Kent

Eileen Fisher
 Eileen Fisher

Pre-Novice

Entry
 High Point Winner

Julie Anne Gareh
 Society

No Winner
 No Winner

Novice

Entry
 High Point Winner

Bruce Wilson Family
 Rick & Carol Heaslip

Janice Warren
 Dee Hill

Intermediate Decorative

Basket
 Floral Design
 High Point Winner

Society
 Society
 Dianne Gendron

Vi Tucker
 Dawna Beausoleil
 Rosemary Campbell

Winner's League Decorative

Basket
 Floral Design
 High Point Winner

Society
 Mary Pillsworth
 Ann Cambridge

Eileen Fisher
 Eileen Fisher
 Eileen Fisher

Fruits & Vegetables

CHAMPION

Beans
Beets
Cabbage
Carrots
Cucumber
Potatoes
Tomatoes
Raspberries
Fruit or Vegetable
Best Vegetable Collection
High Point Winner

DONATED BY:

Heaslip Willing Workers
Herb & Rubena Kiehna
Jackie Antler
Herb & Rubena Kiehna
Society
Society
Heaslip Willing Workers
Alma Cozac
Society
Walter Fisher Memorial
Aidie Creek Gardens

WINNER

Marie Black
Janice Warren
Vi Tucker
Dalton Black
Claudette Black
Dalton Black
Claudette Black
Vi Tucker
Vi Tucker
Jean Bott
Claudette Black

Photography

Entry
High Point Winner

Society
Dianne Gendron

Eileen Fisher
Rosemary Campbell

Special

Champion
Basket of Glads
Bryan's Achievement Award
Helen Peterson Founder's Award
Special Open

Marta Brabender Memorial
First President Award
Ruby Bryan
Mary Pillsworth
Timiskaming Credit Union

Eileen Fisher
Eileen Fisher
Claudette Black
Eileen Fisher
Rosemary Campbell

Junior Garden Club

Super Gardener JK - SK
Super Gardener 1-3
Super Gardener Gr. 4 and up
Kindergarten High Point Winner
Gr. 1 - 3 - High Point Winner
Gr. 4 - 8 - High Point Winner
Champion Entry
People's Choice Award
People's Choice Junior Award

Bonnie Warner & Eileen Fisher
Society
Society
Society
Society
Society
Chris & Greg Heaslip
Society
Bonnie Warner & Eileen Fisher

Aaron Mowbray
Maggie Mowbray
Ryan Warren
Aaron Mowbray
Maggie Mowbray
Ryan Warren
Kristelle Rivard
Claudette Black
Ryan Warren

*Insert for Nov/Dec 2012, provided by Joyce Marie Smith (Secretary)
and Virginia Montminy (Awards & Trophies Convenor)*

