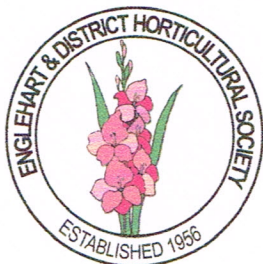




'Through The Garden Gate'

The monthly newsletter of the Englehart and District Horticultural Society
2015



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:
englehartort.weebly.com

Just For Fun!

As a member of the OHA, our Society has a constitution which we must follow. We do our best to provide learning experiences for our members, and to be concerned with civic endeavours and education. However, we also know how to have fun. This month's general meeting promises to provide us with an opportunity for that. Not only will we make those beautiful bulb gardens, but we each get to adopt a new baby. Deb Murray will be providing us all with a baby 'Crassula ovata' (Jade Plant) as part of the '**Jaded Gardener Competition**' (jaded meaning worn out/exhausted, which, of course, we may well be by then!). Anyone who wants to may adopt a baby Jade, take it home and care for it for a year. Next September, we will bring them back to show off our baby "Jadies" and possibly win a prize. Some rules and suggestions will be available at the September meeting. So, make sure to come out and have some fun on September 16th!

Mark It On Your Calendar

September 10-12: Englehart Fall Fair
September 16: General Meeting
September 26: District 12 Fall Planning Meeting
October 21: Awards' Night and Potluck Supper

Looking Back:

It was 60 years ago early this month that the germ of an idea occurred to some wise people in our little town. There were plenty of avid and experienced gardeners who had always enjoyed entering their plants and garden produce in the Englehart Agricultural Society's competitions. However, in the year 1955, the Fall Fair was delayed by a week. The wise gardeners realised that it was unlikely that their beautiful blooms would last until then. As a result, a 'mini Flower Show' was held at the home of Ruby and Syd Bryan. Seventy-two guests came to view the 128 exhibits. It was from this event that our Englehart and District Horticultural Society was born in 1956. What a legacy!



Looking Back

Our Festival of Flowers has come and gone and it was a very successful event. It was rather tricky, working in a much smaller venue, but we did our best to display your entries properly. Many thanks go to Legion Branch 104 for allowing us to use their facilities, to everyone who came out to help set up and take down the show, and especially to all who entered exhibits into our show. We are so lucky to be members of such a hardworking, civic minded, friendly organization. When the time comes, such as the Festival of Flowers, everyone shows up and pitches in. Thanks to all who helped make this year's show the success it was! Congratulations, also, to our President Carrie Anne Field, on being presented with the Society's highest honour, the Service Certificate.



OHA/District 12 News:

The District 12 fall Planning Meeting will be held in South Porcupine on September 30. Our delegates, Ginny and Bruce, as well as several past District Directors from Englehart, will be representing our society. We will be making plans for the 2016 Annual Meeting next April, which will be held here in Englehart. Look for results from this meeting in next month's bulletin.

Reports from Your Directors:

Festival of Flowers: Convenors Bonnie Warner, Rick Heaslip, Jean Bott, and Eileen Fisher wish to thank ever one who made the show a successful one. It was difficult to plan ahead for this show but it all worked out very well. We were pleased with the number of visitors, but sure would appreciate some more exhibitors! Special thanks go out to Carol Heaslip, for volunteering to take on the job of the 'tea garden'. Without her, we would not have been able to provide the delicious refreshments we all enjoyed. Check out our website and the Face Book page for info and photos of the event.

Programme: Our September meeting will feature our own Carrie Anne Field. She will be demonstrating how to plant a 'layered bulb garden' with spring blooming bulbs. This will be in workshop form, with members planting their own garden to enjoy early next spring. Bring your own container (10" is great-smaller is fine), and we will supply the soil, bulbs, and the 'know how'. Don't forget to bring a long some finger food for the shared snack.

Social: Convenor Mary Schippers reminds Linda Murray that she is the hostess for the September meeting and that Deb Murray will bring the gift for the free draw.

Website/Facebook Page: Webmaster Rick Heaslip has added photos and information from the Festival of Flowers as well as past meetings. Make sure to check it out. It's full of past events and info on upcoming activities as well. Eileen Fisher reports we are now in the third month of our Society's own Facebook Page and it seems to be quite successful. We have 30 members, including people from Kirkland Lake, Temiskaming Shores, southern Ontario, Nova Scotia, and the USA, as well as members of our Society. Anyone on Facebook is able to view the page and see and 'like' the posts as well. In order to be able to post to the page, all you have to do is click 'Join' and I will add you to the members' list. Try it out... it's fun and I try to include information about all aspects of horticulture- gardening, houseplants, environmental issues, etc., as well as club news.

September's Garden Hints and Tips

Here are a few helpful hints from 'Canadian Gardening' (and from experience!) to help us get our gardens through our long cold winters:

- *Remove the debris of summer annuals, then be honest with yourself: Will you really go out in early spring to remove remaining perennial debris? Clean up as much as possible now, leaving strategic clumps for attractive winter display and food for birds. Sedums, hostas, astilbes and ornamental grasses are beautiful in snow.
- *Tender hybrid teas, floribunda and grandiflora roses need hilling up about 25 centimetres above their crowns with fresh soil or triple mix. (I like to add a good mulch of dried leaves, too)
- *Squirrels "read" the disturbed soil and marks you leave when planting their favourite tulips and crocuses. Outwit them by concentrating spring bulb plantings in large groups and disguising your marks by flooding the soil surface with water, then cover them with five centimetres of leaves topped with some shrubby branches. (thorny rose branches are great!)
- *As for garden hygiene, pick up or rake diseased leaves from under roses (blackspot) and crabapples (scab) and dispose of them in the garbage, not the compost pile. Left on the soil all winter, they'll reinoculate the plants with disease spores the following spring.
- * Top dress gardens with compost/well-rotted manure
- * Collect seeds and herbs for drying
- * Check houseplants for pests, treat with insecticidal soap, then move them indoors (isolating them for a week or two to avoid spreading pests which may be on them.

Youth and Gardening

Our children are our future, not just of our families, or of our country, but of the world. One of the best things society can do is to encourage children to become involved in gardening. Gardening benefits children's health and well-being, their attitudes towards learning and the environment, their connections to community, and so much more. Solving gardening problems through hands-on activities, planning for future problems, learning patience are just a few of the positive things children can internalize while enjoying the benefits of fresh air, exercise, and a feeling of accomplishment which comes from working with plants. Our Society has sponsored a Youth Gardening Competition for years, which has encouraged children to get their hands dirty in their own gardens, no matter the size. This year we had 5 young people build and grow their own gardens and enter them in the contest. Many thanks go out to Lois Dekker and Judy Brownlee who gave up their time to visit the gardens and talk to the children. Well done, kids! Winners of this year's contest are: JK-SK: Lauryn Menard; Gr. 1-5: 1st: Aaron Mowbray; 2nd: Amelia Menard; 3rd: Ashley Marshall Gr. 6+: Ryan Warren. We also enjoyed the youth entries in the Festival of Flowers...they were a real point of interest. Below are some photos from the Festival of Flowers Youth Competitions:



Plant of the Month

Fuchsia

Many of us get a lovely fuchsia in the spring to enjoy during the summer months, but with a little care, we can keep that pretty plant alive to enjoy next summer. This plant is grown for its beautiful hanging blossoms, which come in shades of pink, purple, white, and bicoloured. In the late summer, bring the plant in (being careful to segregate it for a while and watch for or treat for pests, such as spider mite. Cuttings may be taken now and started in pots. Fuchsias like a cooler winter temperature (50-60 F) so a cool spare room near a window or in a basement under lights is perfect. Water the mother plant sparingly during the winter, just enough to keep it alive. The leaves may drop, but should shoot again come spring, when watering should increase, with light fertilizing through until fall. Pruning is recommended early, and pinching off growing shoots should continue regularly, to produce blossoms, which form on new growth, and to keep the plant compact.



Poetry and Prose

Autumn Fires

*Lifting high their long branches
The birches reach for the sun.
Around them the woods
dance with colour,
For autumn has truly begun.*

*The woods dance as on fire,
With colours of orange,
gold, and red.
The azure blue sky,
the saffron of leaves...
The palette is nature's instead.*

The Hillardton Marsh Garden Party was a roaring success this year. There were over 300 visitors that day, many of them spending time in the gardens, interested in and enquiring about plants to attract birds and insects, and just plants in general. Member Deb Murray did a fabulous job with the garden past of the day, and had provided many plants for people to place in the Friendship Garden. We had 28 children and two adults (one being Vida Digulla, a long-time member of our Society) plant that day.



Our 7th President, Lloyd Briggs

Lloyd Briggs was a lovely man, soft-spoken and hard-working, both at his job as Town of Englehart foreman, and in his garden. I remember him quietly participating in Society events, especially in civic planting and the Festival of Flowers. Lloyd loved marigolds, and as a result, our trophy for the champion Marigold is named the "Lloyd Briggs' Memorial Award", in his honour.



*Lloyd Briggs
1973-1974*

Published 11 times a year
Englehart & District Horticultural
Society
Box 677, Englehart, ON
PoJ 1H0

President: C.A. Field
Secretary: Bonnie Warner
Treasurer: Ginny Montminy
Editor: Eileen Fisher
Mailing: Joyce Marie Smith
Labels: Rick Heaslip

Printing: Courtesy of Englehart &
District Hospital