



# The Applewood Almanac

## Spring Edition – May, 2019

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### Applewood's 2019 Spring Events:

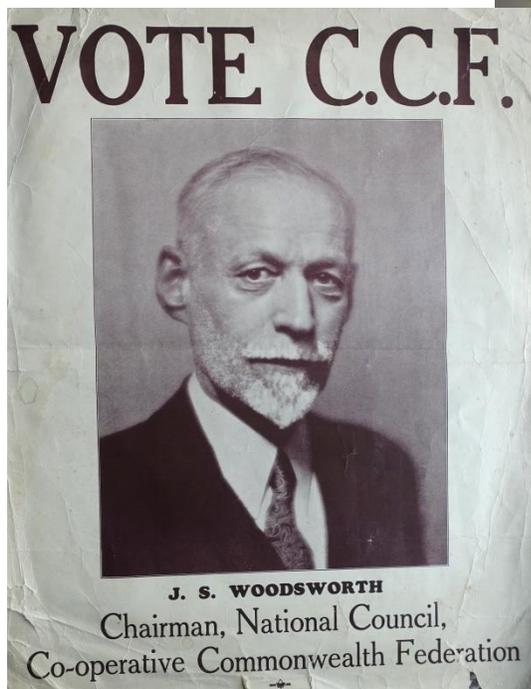
**Doors Open Tour and Plant Sale: Sunday May 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**JSWH Foundation Annual General Meeting: Sunday, June 2, 1:30 p.m.**

### President's Message

Spring seemed to take its time coming this year with May arriving like it was 'Mayvember'. But now that we're past the half-way point, things seem to be looking up. Odile, our gardener-in-chief, has put out an appeal later in this newsletter for those with botanical flair to step forward.

On another front in the 'spring cleaning' vein, our newest part-time staffer and volunteer, Jill Berni, has been going through the dusty cabinets in our storage rooms. As you can see from the photo, Jill (a genuine history enthusiast and also a member of the Etobicoke Historical Society) is making exciting discoveries.



Jill Berni, searching through our basement cabinets, found some important JSW memorabilia, including an old election poster and a personally-autographed copy of his biography.

Among the files, Jill found a 1940's era election poster, shown at the left. This original James Shaver Woodsworth placard will join another of Jill's finds, a published biography with a dedication in JSW's hand.

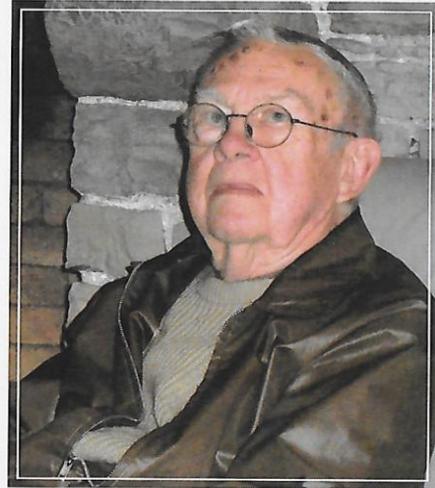
We will be placing both these unique treasures on display upstairs in the Woodsworth study so that they can be appreciated by all our visitors. And we look forward to further discoveries as Jill continues to catalog the contents of our storage

- Dave Young, President

### **Bob Given Remembered**

Long time Applewood member Robert Given passed away last October 17, 2018 at age 94. Bob was always a strong supporter of Applewood and served on our Board for many years. As Etobicoke's unofficial 'Historian', he wrote several books chronicling local history with The Story of Etobicoke in 1950 and Etobicoke Remembered in 2007. Bob was a founding member of the Etobicoke Historical Society in 1958, and played a key role in saving Montgomery's Inn from demolition in 1962.

Bob also played an important role in saving the Applewood Homestead from demolition in 1979-80. He was named to the Etobicoke Hall of Fame in 1974 and was a recipient of the Order of Ontario. Applewood members Molly Sutherland, Peter Peachey, Jean Berry, and Rob and Gay Evans attended his Memorial Visitation on October 25, 2018, to pass on our condolences to his wife Joyce.



In Loving Memory of  
*Robert Albert Given*  
ORDER OF ONTARIO

- Rob Evans, Director

(with excerpts from "The Etobicoke Historical Society Remembers Robert A. Given")  
(photo courtesy of Turner & Porter "Butler" Chapel)

### **The Gardeners Journal**

The tulips are blooming even after this long, frigid winter. They bring so much color and cheerfulness in our lives. So far the cherry trees have not bloomed yet, but it won't be long!

There is a wonderful place in Etobicoke where we can go year round and be with flowers and trees. Bring a lunch and have it sitting under a green tree – the sandwich will taste much better!. The Etobicoke Conservatory (Etobicoke Greenhouses) is open year round, and the displays are changed often. In mid-winter, the scent of spring envelopes you as you admire the scenery.

Since the early 1990's, members of Etobicoke Horticultural Society have been teaching nearly 200 school children how to make Christmas arrangements with the leftover greenery given to the Society by Plant World. In November, in Applewood's basement 20 ladies cut this greenery down to five thousand 7-inch pieces for the arrangements. Unfortunately, Plant World is closing this September, so we are looking for other way to continue this project. If you have any evergreens needing trimming, could you wait until October to do so and let the Horticultural Society have the branches, we would greatly appreciate this. Have a great summer.

- Odile Sahl, Director

## Earth Day – Giving Back to the Planet

Each year, Earth Day on April 22 marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970. Our own environmental devotee, member and director Johann Fisch, holds an Earth Day event and tree planting every year, and this year was no exception.

Pictured at right, Johann is shown with his two helpers, Councillor (and Deputy Mayor) Stephen Holyday, and our area Member of Provincial Parliament Kinga Surma.

Earth Day this year coincided with Easter Monday. The fine weather was ideal for planting a new apple tree to replace one lost to vandalism over the winter.

Mark your calendars for April 22, 2020 as a special day to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first organized Earth Day event. We hear that the City of Toronto is planning something special for the ‘Broadacres Forest’ area that Johann initiated.



## Our 2019 Events

Every year at this time, we publish the list of events that will take us through a hopefully glorious summer, to a balmy fall and happy holiday season. (See next page.) While our fall events are not completely settled, there is something special in the works for October. The Etobicoke Historical Society is working on a new annual “Living History” project, and the first subject they have chosen is none other than James Shaver Woodsworth, to be presented at the Applewood-Shaver House.

Actors playing various parts, including JSW himself, will deliver vignettes from his life story in various rooms of the house. The audience (i.e. YOU!) will move through the rooms as you encounter different parts of the drama. In other words, history will be alive, and you’ll see it portrayed in various parts of the homestead.

Watch for details as the program dates approach (October 5 and Oct 6, 2019).

Back by popular demand this fall, we will be planning a Woodbine Day at the Races buffet lunch event. Since the date has not yet been set, watch for an announcement as we move through the summer.

## **2019 Schedule of Events**

Doors Open and Perennial Plant Sale - Sun May 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JSWHF Annual General Meeting - Sun June 2 (Reception starts @ 1:30 p.m., AGM @ 2:00)

### ***Twilight Concerts in the Park (weather permitting):***

Wednesday June 19 at 7 p.m. - Etobicoke Concert Band

Wednesday July 3 at 7 p.m. - Etobicoke Concert Band

Wednesday July 17 at 7 p.m. - Etobicoke Concert Band

Wednesday July 31 at 7 p.m. - Toronto All Star Big Band

'Living History' Theatre at Applewood - October 5 and 6 (Tickets required)

Woodbine Day at the Races Luncheon - TBA (Tickets required)

Christmas Craft Sale - Sun Nov 24 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### **\*\* URGENT \*\* How Does Our Garden Grow?**

Mary might have been contrary, but maybe she didn't have enough help! We need one or two enthusiastic volunteer gardeners to help buy and plant the spring annuals, and tend the beautiful gardens from time to time this summer. Please call the house at 416 622 4124 if you can help.

Please. Please. Please!

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***Thank you for your membership in the JSWH Foundation.  
We greatly appreciate your continued support.***