

## **F.W. Caulfield, The Man Behind the F. W. Caulfield Trophy for Highest Points in Tall Bearded (TB) Classes**

*By Kate Brewitt*

Frederick William Caulfield did not seem to have had as an illustrious career as Robert D. Little, last month's featured biography. My thanks go out to Jacqueline Stuart, Research Volunteer, with the Aurora Historical Society in Aurora. If it had not been for her perseverance I would not be able to present to you what I have here.

Mr. Caulfield was born May 18, 1893 to Mr. and Mrs. W. John Caulfield of Mount Forest. He married Beatrice Nellie Ridley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Ridley of "Fairview Farm", Richmond Hill, in May 1927. It was at this time that Frederick and Nellie moved to Aurora.

Mr. Caulfield was an auto mechanic and operated an auto repair shop at 17 Centre Street in Aurora. He was also very active in gardening societies including the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society. Perhaps it was here that R.D. Little and F.W. Caulfield got together over their irises, as they were both went on to become Founding members of the Toronto Region Iris Society in October 1962.

Frederick and Nellie had one daughter, Verna June, who married Donald Arthur Skinner of Toronto, son of Mr. and Mrs. Blake Skinner of Schomberg. They would live in Islington (west end Toronto). After her father's death it was Mrs. June Skinner who donated a trophy to the Society for annual competition in honour her father's great horticultural interests. It was presented for the first time under this name at the June 1972 Toronto Region Iris Society show held at the Civic Garden Centre in Toronto. June passed away in 2002.

Nellie predeceased Frederick, passing away on October 16, 1968.

Frederick died February 2, 1971 at his Temperance Street home in Aurora. He had a heart attack in his driveway. He was 78 years of age.

Both Frederick and Nellie are buried in the Aurora Cemetery.