

THE NEW WESTMINSTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Club address: Suite 392, 104—1015 Columbia St., New Westminister, V3M 6V3

www.newwesthortsociety.org

Editor: Audrey Barnes, 604-526-8284 before 8pm; sgbarnes@telus.net

May 2007

CLUB MEETING CALENDAR:

MAY MEETING: Tonight, Tues, May 8th, 7:45, to get you set and keen to exhibit next month at our June Show, MARGARET NAKA-HARA, president of the BC Council of Garden Clubs and qualified show judge, on "HOW TO SHOW". And yes, we did do well at the sale—Mary will give you the numbers.

JUNE MEETING: Tues, June 12th, 7:45. Our JUNE IN-CLUB SHOW! After Margaret's prep-talk, it's sure to be very good. Plus a GARDENING QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION WITH A PANEL OF NWHS EXPERTS. We are looking at this as another great way to share knowledge within the club. Non-panel members are urged to respond to the questions as well. If possible, we would like your questions in advance—in writing. An email to Audrey, sgbarnes@telus.net, is the best way to go. If before the meeting does not work for you, please submit them written at the start of the meeting.

CLUB OUTINGS: by Carole

Carole Forsythe (604-515-1927; carole.forsythe@shaw.ca) is the person in charge of outings. She deserves accolades for the great job she is doing. Contact her if you have questions, want to get your name off or on a list, or to offer suggestions.

City Farmer Compost Demonstration Garden: Sat, May 12, 1:30pm. There's more to this garden than composting! It's a mecca of urban agriculture, waste reduction and sustainability. Come see the organic food gardens, innovative cold frames, permeable laneway, green roofed cob shed, worm bins and, of course, composters galore. Sharon Slack, Head Gardener, will show us around and answer our questions. And, while we're in Kitsilano, we'll also take a look at the adjacent community garden to see what can be done on a very small lot. Sign-up tonight. We hope to carpool. www.cityfarmer.org Note: last month we stated that we would visit Southland's Nursery as a second half of the trip—this is no longer the case. Of course, feel free to zip over to it on your own. We are lining up a club visit to the nursery for a weekend in June.

Winner takes All: Thurs, May 10th, 7:00pm, at Carole Forsythe's home (807 Cherry St). Lets add to our club's long and glorious history of being in the winner's circle at the Garden Show at Van-Dusen Botanical Garden. The categories for your consideration are: Most Colorful Container, Most Outstanding Use of Foliage in a Container, Most Unusual Planter, Best Contemporary Design, Best Use of Edibles in a Container, Best Incorporation of Show Theme (Window on the World). Want to be part of the production? Bring your competitive ideas and skills to the first meeting of minds at Carole Forsythe's at 807 Cherry St. Can't make it? Give Carole a call or email.

Plant sale evaluation meeting: Tues, May 22, 6:30pm at Carole Forsythe's, 807 Cherry. This will be only 1 hour long as the executive meeting starts at 7:30. Can't make it? Please submit suggestions in writing to Audrey at sgbarnes@telus.net.

NWHS Annual Garden Tour & Pot-Luck Picnic: Sat, July 14th. Is this the year, *your* garden will be on the tour?

PRESIDENT'S CORNER: by Audrey

Well we pulled it off! Just wait until Mary gives you the numbers! Many thanks to all of you who came out and helped. What an event! No way that crowd would have fit into the mall. A few glitches which we plan to correct next year. *The plant sale evaluation meeting will be in two weeks: May 22, 6:30 to 7:30 at Carole's, preceding the executive meeting. If you have something to say come to the meeting or submit it in writing to me. Thanks.*

With our move to Glenbrook Middle School, the club has a whole new set of friends and supporters—prime amongst these is Phil Cookson, the school principal, who was absolutely fantastic in promoting the sale. Then there is the PAC group. We can see working with them for many years to come. The graduating class put on the concession in the hallway. They'll be back again next year with a potentially expanded menu. What a great bunch of kids who volunteered to pull the carts! Thank you all so much. We submitting our reservation, right away, to rent the gymnasium next year.

"The Raffle at our Plant Sale":

Just as with the sale, the raffle took in an all-time high total: \$600!!!! Many thanks to the donators of the prizes: Hong's (the fantastic 18" moss hanging basket), Leong's (the smaller "just perfect" hanging basket), Peter & Bonnie of The Frame Shop (the exquisite porcelain set and the custom framing gift certificate), GardenWorks (\$30 Gift Card), Solar Greenhouse Supply (propagation kit), Black Bond Books (2 gardening books) and Pat & Victor of our club (watering can).

And the winners are:

Hong's Basket: Nicole Revel

Leong's Basket: Anna D.

Porcelain set: Derek Apel

Framing Gift Certificate: Marilyn Chambers

GardenWorks Gift Card: Cheryl Snider

Propagation Kit: Merril Hall (aka Eva)

"New Garden Book": Cyndy Miller

"Organic Gardening Book": Annie Sarazin

Watering Can: Julia Goulden

Congratulations to you all! And to all NWHS members for putting on such a great event. No rest for the wicked—keep your eyes open for those plants for next year's sale. Call me, I'll come over & take photos of them in their prime!

IN YOUR VEGE PATCH: by the Urban Gardener, also known as Roy Pegler (604-520-6467), He would love talk “grow’n veges” with you.

Hi everybody! Owing to this late spring, we must hope we can sow & plant most of the veges this month. We need to have the night temperatures at least above 10°C for most summer crops. Please don’t transplant the tomato plants before the Victoria Day weekend. Keep them in a warm sheltered spot because the cool winds could damage the plants. Corn & squash should also be planted near the end of the month. The plants will like it better.

The top ten tips for successful vege gardening:

1. Grow what you like to eat in amounts you’ll use.
2. Plan your space in advance, aiming to keep it filled as much as possible.
3. Choose high value crops—expensive or hard-to-find ones
4. Select high yielding varieties to make the best use of space.
5. Mix edible flowers, herbs and veges. It will look attractive and also help with pest control.
6. Keep sowing & planting—an on-going supply is the key.
7. Space the plants according to the size of vege you want.
8. Vege need regular attention—observe, act if necessary and keep notes.
9. Size does matter—harvest crops when young for the best flavour & texture.
10. Keep harvesting, eating and enjoying—that’s what it’s all about! Good luck!

GardenWorks Appreciation Day: Thurs May 17th

NOT A ORGANIZED CLUB OUTING BUT ONE YOU WILL WANT TO ATTEND:

“Period Gardening to Flatter your Heritage Home & Much More”, Wed May 9 (tomorrow), 7:00pm at Galbraith Manor, free admission. A presentation by Steven & Kimberly Azyan, winners of the 2000 New West Heritage Garden Award. Their 2nd Street garden was on our tour a few years back—gorgeous! For info 604-525-1910. Part of the New West Heritage Presentation Society 2007 Speaker Series.

DONATIONS: Our club thrives because of donations by club members. That is the main reason our membership fee can be so low. You just witnessed our biggest event of the year—the plant sale. It is only possible because members donate plants, materials, time and skills to pull it off. Members volunteer to bring goodies for tea. Often members have something garden-related that they no longer want. Bring it to the meeting—give it to Sharon (at the raffle), Monica (at the library) or Audrey (at the head table). They will accept the article and guide it to its final place of exchange—as a raffle prize, kept for the library, at the free table or saved for the October Silent Auction. For the Silent Auction, items do not need to be garden related.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF LAST MONTH’S PRESENTATION.

Fred Wein Sr. talked on “Growing Vertical with Climbing Plants”. Much of the talk was on clematis: great photos; how to plant them; how to prune them (why they are grouped into A, B and C) and developing new varieties. As promised he showed how to incorporate them and other vines which he highlighted into your landscape. His donation of 3 gorgeous plants to the raffle was the prime reason our raffle hit an all-time high in ticket sales. Thank you, Fred. Best news of the evening, Clearview has opened a seasonal retail outlet at 23743 48th Ave in Langley! www.homeofclematis.net Thanks Fred.

BRING TO SHARE: by Sharon Seki

Many thanks to the exhibitors who participated in last month’s Bring to Share. There were 20 exhibitors who brought a total of 32 exhibits. A thank you to all who made the effort to bring in one (or more) things to share. Winners of the \$10, \$15 and \$25 “participation prizes” were Maria MacKenzie, Jean List and Brenda Forsythe.

Bring to Share Evaluation: Thank you to the 59 members who took time to complete the evaluation sheet. We learned from the evaluation that the overwhelming reason why people were not able to exhibit was lack of time to put something together. As far as checking out the exhibits during tea time, the strong majority of people felt that there was enough time. The suggestions on how to improve the event are appreciated. The most frequently offered suggestion was the need for specific categories for exhibits, for example, pests, diseases, plants needing identification. This is an excellent idea which will be incorporated for the September “Bring to Share”. If you have any suggestions for categories (or anything else) please talk with Sharon or Audrey. Hope to see even more exhibitors participate in September!

THIS ‘N’ THAT:

- Two new members last month: Valerie Newman and Nicole Steeves. Welcome to the club who holds the best plant sale in town! Hope you bought some plants!
- Free to good home! Indoor fig tree with pot. Due to good nurturing by its owner, this tree has grown to roughly 5’x5’, just too big for Laberta’s apartment. Two people or a dolly would be required to move it. If interested phone Laberta at 604-520-0171 before May 21st.
- Found/left behind at the plant sale: silver mechanical pencil; loop (stud) earring, blue vest. Lost and hopefully found: clip earring with pearl. See Audrey, if yours.
- T-shirts are in as most of you know. We ordered a few extra short-sleeve T’s in both colors (med & large). For sale at the treasurer’s table for \$15. Ordered shirts can also be picked up from Mary.
- Amazingly, we still have some plastic plant saucers available—12, 14 & 18”. Back to the normal club member price of \$1 each—see Audrey if you would like to buy some. The supply is diminishing so act quickly.

NWHS JUNE IN-CLUB SHOW 2007

Welcome to the 2nd Annual June NWHS In-Club Show. It is our hope that your participation in the show will enhance your appreciation of the beauty and perfection of plants—from your own garden and from your fellow NWHS members' gardens.

GENERAL RULES:

1. The show is only open to paid-up members of NWHS.
2. In each class, there is a limit of two (2) exhibits by any exhibitor.
3. The exhibitor must supply containers for each of his/her exhibits
4. Within each class, the exhibits will be judged against each other to determine which will be awarded first, second and third. It is possible that there may be a tie. If the quality of all exhibits within a class is low, it is possible that there may be no placing awarded. Ribbons will be awarded to the winners of the placing entries. Judging will be done by qualified judges.
5. Two exhibits will be selected for "Best of Show" awards. One for the Floral Art classes and one for the remaining (i.e. non-floral art) classes. These will be determined by popular choice. Everyone in attendance at the meeting will be given two ballots (2 colors) to vote for the exhibits he/she consider the best in the show within these broad classifications. All exhibits will be identified by a number on the lower left corner for ease of voting. Prizes will be sets of Felco secateurs and, of course, rosette ribbons.
6. Members are welcome to view the exhibits but they must not disturb the judges or touch the exhibits. After the judging is completed, the exhibitor names who won ribbons will be written on the slips.

EASY STEPS FOR EXHIBITING:

1. Read the list of classes to determine which plants or vegetables you are growing and are looking good. Obviously all exhibits must be pest free! Select a container which would show the flowers or vegetables well. The container itself is not judged but judging can be affected by how a container supports an exhibit. All judging takes place above the rim of the container. Think about the Floral Art categories and do some internal brainstorming.
2. To exhibit see the show secretary, either at the May meeting or at the start of the June meeting, to get your unique exhibitor number and pick up your exhibit slips.
3. The slip is easy to fill out. The plant details (if you know them) goes above the first line. Your unique exhibitor number is put in the box on the second line. The number of the class within which your exhibit falls is put in the box on the class line. The rest of the slip is for the judges to fill out. Obviously each exhibit needs its own slip.
4. In June, the tables for the show will be set up by 7:00pm. There will be cards laid out indicating which class goes where. The class number and the class name must be written on each card.
5. Closing time for exhibit set-up is 7:40. If an exhibit is not in its correct spot on the table by that time, it will not be entered in the show.
6. At the end of the meeting, please collect your exhibits and clean any spilled water or plant material.

THE SHOW SCHEDULE:

VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS:

General Rules and Guidelines: In this category all exhibits must be in harvested form and must have been grown by the exhibiting member. Select a container or plate that holds your exhibit to show it at its best. If a class asks for multiple units, match them as well as possible i.e. if exhibiting tomatoes, pick your three tomatoes that are most consistent in size, shape colour and ripeness; remember it is better to have 3 tomatoes at the same degree of semi ripeness than 1 very ripe and 2 green. Exhibits should be in prime eating conditions. If the colour of your entry is variety specific, it is important to put the variety name in the exhibit description at the top of your exhibit slip.

Judging Criteria: condition, color, shape, ripeness (not over or under-ripe except for green tomatoes) and uniformity within the exhibit.

Classes:

1. Pod vegetables: Beans or Peas: Five (5) items for each exhibit (*Do not wash. Beans should be straight and of good length. Indicate variety as that dictates expected colour. Pea pods should be smooth with the internal peas should be large, of all the same size, and developed but not overripe. Snowpea pods should be large, broad & thick with the small peas just showing inside.*)

2. Root vegetables: Potatoes or Carrots or Radishes: Five(5) items for each exhibit (*Do not wash potatoes—just brush the dirt off lightly. Select smooth skinned spuds with eyes few & shallow. No green is important. For carrots keep root intact unless they have extremely long tap roots. In that case it is acceptable to trim excess root slightly. The carrot tops should be trimmed to the diameter of the carrots. Watch for discolored tops. State variety as that determines ideal length. Radishes may be washed but not scrubbed. Show them with leaves & roots intact.*)

3. Leaf vegetables: Lettuce or Swiss Chard: One (1) head for each exhibit (*Lettuce heads should be well formed. Remove roots & small or damaged outside leaves. For Swiss Chard, the head should be compact with broad stalks and the base should be cut off evenly. Try wrapping your exhibits in damp paper towels until setting up your display to help to keep them fresh looking. Exhibits should be dirt free.*)

4. Green Onions: Three (3) stalks for each exhibit (*Bulb should be slim—no thicker than a pencil. Tops should not be trimmed as it is important to see the onion was green to the tip. Cut roots off evenly.*)

5. Tomatoes: Three (3) individual fruits for each exhibit. (*State variety in description as it is an indicator of desired size and form. Leave stems attached. Colour should be uniform all over each tomato and within each exhibit.*)

6. Herbs: Three (3) distinct varieties of three (3) cuts each for each exhibit (*List the herb names in the description. A "cut" means a branch. Herbs are graded higher if not in flower as they lose flavor once the flower has developed.*)

7. Rhubarb: Three (3) stalks for each exhibit. (*Select straight stalks of preferably 18" in length and ½ to 1¼" in diameter. If larger heritage variety, longer length and larger diameter is acceptable if rhubarb is tender. Stalk should be left intact as it is pulled from plant. Gently pull off the brown membrane. Do not wash. Trim leaf to a 1" to 2" fan shape.*)

8. Berries: Blueberries or raspberries or strawberries: A plate of six (6) berries for each exhibit. (*Do not wash. Exhibit blueberries with stems off and bloom retained. Raspberries should have hulls and cores removed. For strawberries leave hulls and short stems attached.*)

9. Any other vegetable or fruit: One (1) unit for each exhibit

CUT FLOWERS:

General Rules and Guidelines: All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibiting member. Selection of container is important. Not because it is judged but because the shape and size of the container determines how stems are held. Judges consider only what shows above the rim of the container. You can use anything below the rim (styrofoam chips, crumpled plastic, florist frog, wire, etc) to hold those stems in the orientation you want. Aim for uniformity within an exhibit. If 3 stems are required, select 3 stems of the same colour and the same size. Exhibits should be at their peak—be watchful of selecting specimens that are starting to over-mature. Refer to the definitions listed below for bloom, spike, stem and truss to determine exactly what each class asks for.

Judging Criteria: health, shape or form, condition, consistency of blooms within the exhibit.

Definitions:

Bloom: a single flower on a stem.

Cut: a branch from the main stem. It may include buds, leaves and flowers.

Spike: any unbranched inflorescence bearing either stalked or stalkless flowers with an elongated axis eg. Gladiolus, foxglove, delphinium.

Stem: a main supporting structure in plant. Includes one or more flowers but may not have side branches.

Truss: a compact cluster of flowers growing from one stem.

Classes:

10. Alliums: One (1) stem for each exhibit. (*As different allium varieties have different shapes, it would be wise to add the variety name to the description. All sections of the dome of flowers should be in the same state of maturity. Do not include leaves.*)

11. Aquilegia (Columbine): One (1) cut of flowers for each exhibit. (*The cut (or branch) should be long and slender but still stout enough to hold the flowers well. Foliage should be bright green and undamaged. Show with or without the side-buds. Assuming equivalent condition, a variety with long spurs would score higher than one with short spurs.*)

12. Delphinium: One (1) spike for each exhibit. (*The spike should have as many florets out as possible with them arranged symmetrically around the stem. At least 3/4 of the florets should be out.*)

13. Dianthus: Carnations, Pinks, Sweet Williams: Three (3) stems for each exhibit

14. Gladiolus: One (1) spike for each exhibit (*The ideal ratio is open florets 40%, buds in colour 30% and green buds 30%. Also make sure the stem is long enough—even with the small floret varieties, it should be 17-18". Longer giant varieties should be 20-22"*)

15. Iris, Bearded: One (1) stalk for each exhibit

16. Iris, any variety other than Bearded: One (1) stalk for each exhibit

17. Lilac: One (1) cluster or cut for each exhibit

18. Lily: One (1) stem for each exhibit (*Remember that a stem does not have side-branches*)

19. Pansies or Violas: Three (3) blooms for each exhibit

20. Peonies: One (1) bloom for each exhibit

21. Phlox: One (1) cut for each exhibit

22. Roses that flower in a spray form: One (1) spray for each exhibit. (*The flowers in a spray should include flowers in all stages of development with at least 3 open flowers. No blooms should "stick out" from cluster. Exhibit with at least one five-leaflet leaf attached to the stem. "A bud is not a bloom."*)

23. Roses that flower with a single flower on a stem: One (1) bloom for each exhibit (*With a multi-petal rose, 1/2 to 2/3 open is optimum. With hybrid teas, the centre should be pointed. Show with at least one five-leaflet leaf attached to the stem. Stem length is ideally approximately 7 x the depth of the bloom; depth being the bloom's point to calyx.*)

24. Sweet Peas: Three (3) stems for each exhibit. (*Stems should be as long as possible and should contain 4 or more blooms per stem.*)

25. Spathe-shaped flowers: including Calla lilies. One (1) bloom for each exhibit.

26. Any other flower: One (1) bloom or One (1) stem or One (1) cluster, whatever is appropriate to the plant. The exhibit must be identified so that judging can be done relative to that flower's criteria.

FLORAL ART:

General Rules and Guidelines: Plant materials used in the floral art classes do not need to be grown by the exhibiting member. Shop and create! Select a container that complements your creation. Please be conservative in the size of your display. *Fresh plant material cannot be altered with color or surface adornment. Cut fruit or vegetables cannot be used.*

Definitions: Check these definitions of the terms used in the class descriptions:

Arrangement: Consists of only fresh cut material in a container with a base, if necessary.

Composition: May consist of dried, weathered or treated materials and/or accessories with or without fresh cut plant material.

Design: May be either an arrangement or a composition.

Judging Criteria: Design, balance, scale, colour, conditions of materials and originality.

Classes:

27. "Let's Cook": A design incorporating kitchen utensils (one or more) and fresh vegetables and/or fresh flowers. i.e. besides the container it must include the utensils but can use both or either flowers or vegetables.

28. "Tea Time": A small arrangement in a teacup or mug. Maximum size is 12" in all directions. Use fresh cut materials only.

29. "Light-Up My Life": A composition suitable as a table center. Must include one or more candles and fresh cut materials (refer to the definition of "composition" above for other ideas of what to include). Must be no taller than 12" except, possibly, for the candles.

30. "Get It Done!": A design incorporating a "to do list" plus one or more tools necessary for at least one of the jobs. Use dried or fresh plant materials

ADDENDUM TO THE NEW WESTMINSTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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REVIEW OF APRIL PRESENTATION: “Growing Vertical with Climbing Plants”

By Candace McGuire & Debra Halbig

The Clematis, a popular climbing plant, was the main focus of our April speaker: Fred Wein Sr. Clematis can be planted any time, but best in spring. A key to growing your clematis to its full potential is to determine (and label or memorize) what type of clematis each cultivar you own is – is it A, B1, B2 or C? Fred’s explanation of why there are types and the growing habits that each type refers to helped to take the mystery out of this vine and encourage everyone to try one.

The pruning of the different types of clematis often sounds intimidating, but Fred led us through the basics. Most reassuring was his message that pruning is not essential. Incorrect pruning will not kill your clematis, but will instead delay blooming, or result in no flowers that year. Prune to contain growth or open up plant after blossoms fade. General tip: Don’t cut branches larger than Fred’s little finger (!)

Type A: These varieties bloom early in the season on last year’s wood. Prune right after flowering if necessary to contain plant or shape.

Type B1: Most bloom May or June on old growth, then in September on new growth. Prune after first blooms fade.

Type B2: Bloom May or June, intermittent summer blooms. Prune after first blooms fade (if necessary).

Type C: Bloom in summer on this year’s growth. Starts to grow from last year’s growth, so blooms will be higher and higher each year if you don’t prune. If you want blooms close to ground, or where they were last year, prune in early spring (end of February, early March).

Feed your clematis like a rose. Give Type A blood meal in spring, then after blooming. Types B and C, feed until buds swell, then after bloom, do not feed after mid-August.

The clematis cultivars are available in an amazing range of colours, growing patterns and even fragrances. Fred showed us several beautiful clematis varieties and assured us that instead of being intimidated, we should all be excited to try this friendly and versatile plant.

HOW TO VISIT THE VANCOUVER SUN GARDEN SHOW ON THE CHEAP:

We all probably plan on attending the big garden show June 7 to 10 at VanDusen Gardens. Normally tickets for adults are \$15 at the door. But there are several ways in which you can get reduced rate or free tickets.

Buy advance tickets: Tickets are available now at Garden Centres, advance adult tickets cost only \$13.—and you avoid the big line-up.

Group tickets: Special rate if you have a group of 10 or more attending at one time.

Show your VanDusen Membership when buying tickets: Adult tickets for members are only \$12. There will a line-up designated for VanDusen members.

Enter the Container Contest: Sure it costs to enter the contest but each entry gets one free \$15 ticket. You have the fun of competing and perhaps winning some great Miracle Gro prizes.

Volunteer to help at the BC Council of Garden Clubs booth. Contact Elaine Senft, rosebloom@telus.net or 604-929-2928, or Lorna at 604-929-5382. Work a shift, get a pass.

Volunteer to help with the show itself. They need a huge number of volunteers. Each person who works a 4 hour shift gets one free ticket and a show cap. (1 ticket per volunteer). The application on the website (click on “Volunteers” and go from there) will show you just how your skills can be matched to a job.

Check out the website www.vancouvergardenshow.com and mark your calendar for which day you want to attend. It is going to be a first rate show—rain or shine!!

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- Amazingly, we still have some plastic plant saucers available—12, 14 & 18”. Back to the normal club member price of \$1 each—see Audrey if you would like to buy some. The supply is diminishing so act quickly.

NWHS JUNE IN-CLUB SHOW 2007

Welcome to the 2nd Annual June NWHS In-Club Show. It is our hope that your participation in the show will enhance your appreciation of the beauty and perfection of plants—from your own garden and from your fellow NWHS members' gardens.

GENERAL RULES:

1. The show is only open to paid-up members of NWHS.
2. In each class, there is a limit of two (2) exhibits by any exhibitor.
3. The exhibitor must supply containers for each of his/her exhibits
4. Within each class, the exhibits will be judged against each other to determine which will be awarded first, second and third. It is possible that there may be a tie. If the quality of all exhibits within a class is low, it is possible that there may be no placing awarded. Ribbons will be awarded to the winners of the placing entries. Judging will be done by qualified judges.
5. Two exhibits will be selected for "Best of Show" awards. One for the Floral Art classes and one for the remaining (i.e. non-floral art) classes. These will be determined by popular choice. Everyone in attendance at the meeting will be given two ballots (2 colors) to vote for the exhibits he/she consider the best in the show within these broad classifications. All exhibits will be identified by a number on the lower left corner for ease of voting. Prizes will be sets of Felco secateurs and, of course, rosette ribbons.
6. Members are welcome to view the exhibits but they must not disturb the judges or touch the exhibits. After the judging is completed, the exhibitor names who won ribbons will be written on the slips.

EASY STEPS FOR EXHIBITING:

1. Read the list of classes to determine which plants or vegetables you are growing and are looking good. Obviously all exhibits must be pest free! Select a container which would show the flowers or vegetables well. The container itself is not judged but judging can be affected by how a container supports an exhibit. All judging takes place above the rim of the container. Think about the Floral Art categories and do some internal brainstorming.
2. To exhibit see the show secretary, either at the May meeting or at the start of the June meeting, to get your unique exhibitor number and pick up your exhibit slips.
3. The slip is easy to fill out. The plant details (if you know them) goes above the first line. Your unique exhibitor number is put in the box on the second line. The number of the class within which your exhibit falls is put in the box on the class line. The rest of the slip is for the judges to fill out. Obviously each exhibit needs its own slip.
4. In June, the tables for the show will be set up by 7:00pm. There will be cards laid out indicating which class goes where. The class number and the class name must be written on each card.
5. Closing time for exhibit set-up is 7:40. If an exhibit is not in its correct spot on the table by that time, it will not be entered in the show.
6. At the end of the meeting, please collect your exhibits and clean any spilled water or plant material.

THE SHOW SCHEDULE:

VEGETABLES, HERBS & FRUITS:

General Rules and Guidelines: In this category all exhibits must be in harvested form and must have been grown by the exhibiting member. Select a container or plate that holds your exhibit to show it at its best. If a class asks for multiple units, match them as well as possible i.e. if exhibiting tomatoes, pick your three tomatoes that are most consistent in size, shape colour and ripeness; remember it is better to have 3 tomatoes at the same degree of semi ripeness than 1 very ripe and 2 green. Exhibits should be in prime eating conditions. If the colour of your entry is variety specific, it is important to put the variety name in the exhibit description at the top of your exhibit slip.

Judging Criteria: condition, color, shape, ripeness (not over or under-ripe except for green tomatoes) and uniformity within the exhibit.

Classes:

1. Pod vegetables: Beans or Peas: Five (5) items for each exhibit (*Do not wash. Beans should be straight and of good length. Indicate variety as that dictates expected colour. Pea pods should be smooth with the internal peas should be large, of all the same size, and developed but not overripe. Snowpea pods should be large, broad & thick with the small peas just showing inside.*)

2. Root vegetables: Potatoes or Carrots or Radishes: Five(5) items for each exhibit (*Do not wash potatoes—just brush the dirt off lightly. Select smooth skinned spuds with eyes few & shallow. No green is important. For carrots keep root intact unless they have extremely long tap roots. In that case it is acceptable to trim excess root slightly. The carrot tops should be trimmed to the diameter of the carrots. Watch for discolored tops. State variety as that determines ideal length. Radishes may be washed but not scrubbed. Show them with leaves & roots intact.*)

3. Leaf vegetables: Lettuce or Swiss Chard: One (1) head for each exhibit (*Lettuce heads should be well formed. Remove roots & small or damaged outside leaves. For Swiss Chard, the head should be compact with broad stalks and the base should be cut off evenly. Try wrapping your exhibits in damp paper towels until setting up your display to help to keep them fresh looking. Exhibits should be dirt free.*)

4. Green Onions: Three (3) stalks for each exhibit (*Bulb should be slim—no thicker than a pencil. Tops should not be trimmed as it is important to see the onion was green to the tip. Cut roots off evenly.*)

5. Tomatoes: Three (3) individual fruits for each exhibit. (*State variety in description as it is an indicator of desired size and form. Leave stems attached. Colour should be uniform all over each tomato and within each exhibit.*)

6. Herbs: Three (3) distinct varieties of three (3) cuts each for each exhibit (*List the herb names in the description. A "cut" means a branch. Herbs are graded higher if not in flower as they lose flavor once the flower has developed.*)

7. Rhubarb: Three (3) stalks for each exhibit. (*Select straight stalks of preferably 18" in length and ½ to 1¼" in diameter. If larger heritage variety, longer length and larger diameter is acceptable if rhubarb is tender. Stalk should be left intact as it is pulled from plant. Gently pull off the brown membrane. Do not wash. Trim leaf to a 1" to 2" fan shape.*)

8. Berries: Blueberries or raspberries or strawberries: A plate of six (6) berries for each exhibit. (*Do not wash. Exhibit blueberries with stems off and bloom retained. Raspberries should have hulls and cores removed. For strawberries leave hulls and short stems attached.*)

9. Any other vegetable or fruit: One (1) unit for each exhibit

CUT FLOWERS:

General Rules and Guidelines: All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibiting member. Selection of container is important. Not because it is judged but because the shape and size of the container determines how stems are held. Judges consider only what shows above the rim of the container. You can use anything below the rim (styrofoam chips, crumpled plastic, florist frog, wire, etc) to hold those stems in the orientation you want. Aim for uniformity within an exhibit. If 3 stems are required, select 3 stems of the same colour and the same size. Exhibits should be at their peak—be watchful of selecting specimens that are starting to over-mature. Refer to the definitions listed below for bloom, spike, stem and truss to determine exactly what each class asks for.

Judging Criteria: health, shape or form, condition, consistency of blooms within the exhibit.

Definitions:

Bloom: a single flower on a stem.

Cut: a branch from the main stem. It may include buds, leaves and flowers.

Spike: any unbranched inflorescence bearing either stalked or stalkless flowers with an elongated axis eg. Gladiolus, foxglove, delphinium.

Stem: a main supporting structure in plant. Includes one or more flowers but may not have side branches.

Truss: a compact cluster of flowers growing from one stem.

Classes:

10. Alliums: One (1) stem for each exhibit. (*As different allium varieties have different shapes, it would be wise to add the variety name to the description. All sections of the dome of flowers should be in the same state of maturity. Do not include leaves.*)

11. Aquilegia (Columbine): One (1) cut of flowers for each exhibit. (*The cut (or branch) should be long and slender but still stout enough to hold the flowers well. Foliage should be bright green and undamaged. Show with or without the side-buds. Assuming equivalent condition, a variety with long spurs would score higher than one with short spurs.*)

12. Delphinium: One (1) spike for each exhibit. (*The spike should have as many florets out as possible with them arranged symmetrically around the stem. At least 3/4 of the florets should be out.*)

13. Dianthus: Carnations, Pinks, Sweet Williams: Three (3) stems for each exhibit

14. Gladiolus: One (1) spike for each exhibit (*The ideal ratio is open florets 40%, buds in colour 30% and green buds 30%. Also make sure the stem is long enough—even with the small floret varieties, it should be 17-18". Longer giant varieties should be 20-22"*)

15. Iris, Bearded: One (1) stalk for each exhibit

16. Iris, any variety other than Bearded: One (1) stalk for each exhibit

17. Lilac: One (1) cluster or cut for each exhibit

18. Lily: One (1) stem for each exhibit (*Remember that a stem does not have side-branches*)

19. Pansies or Violas: Three (3) blooms for each exhibit

20. Peonies: One (1) bloom for each exhibit

21. Phlox: One (1) cut for each exhibit

22. Roses that flower in a spray form: One (1) spray for each exhibit. (*The flowers in a spray should include flowers in all stages of development with at least 3 open flowers. No blooms should "stick out" from cluster. Exhibit with at least one five-leaflet leaf attached to the stem. "A bud is not a bloom."*)

23. Roses that flower with a single flower on a stem: One (1) bloom for each exhibit (*With a multi-petal rose, 1/2 to 2/3 open is optimum. With hybrid teas, the centre should be pointed. Show with at least one five-leaflet leaf attached to the stem. Stem length is ideally approximately 7 x the depth of the bloom; depth being the bloom's point to calyx.*)

24. Sweet Peas: Three (3) stems for each exhibit. (*Stems should be as long as possible and should contain 4 or more blooms per stem.*)

25. Spathe-shaped flowers: including Calla lilies. One (1) bloom for each exhibit.

26. Any other flower: One (1) bloom or One (1) stem or One (1) cluster, whatever is appropriate to the plant. The exhibit must be identified so that judging can be done relative to that flower's criteria.

FLORAL ART:

General Rules and Guidelines: Plant materials used in the floral art classes do not need to be grown by the exhibiting member. Shop and create! Select a container that complements your creation. Please be conservative in the size of your display. *Fresh plant material cannot be altered with color or surface adornment. Cut fruit or vegetables cannot be used.*

Definitions: Check these definitions of the terms used in the class descriptions:

Arrangement: Consists of only fresh cut material in a container with a base, if necessary.

Composition: May consist of dried, weathered or treated materials and/or accessories with or without fresh cut plant material.

Design: May be either an arrangement or a composition.

Judging Criteria: Design, balance, scale, colour, conditions of materials and originality.

Classes:

27. "Let's Cook": A design incorporating kitchen utensils (one or more) and fresh vegetables and/or fresh flowers. i.e. besides the container it must include the utensils but can use both or either flowers or vegetables.

28. "Tea Time": A small arrangement in a teacup or mug. Maximum size is 12" in all directions. Use fresh cut materials only.

29. "Light-Up My Life": A composition suitable as a table center. Must include one or more candles and fresh cut materials (refer to the definition of "composition" above for other ideas of what to include). Must be no taller than 12" except, possibly, for the candles.

30. "Get It Done!": A design incorporating a "to do list" plus one or more tools necessary for at least one of the jobs. Use dried or fresh plant materials