

Newsletter



November is time to vote: for the 2010 executive and for your favourite contest entries

November is the Club's Annual General Meeting which means the 2010 executive will be voted on. All positions are available:

- President
- Vice-president
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Show Chair
- Member-At-Large (5)

The president and vice-president positions are two year terms; all others are one year.

Please consider putting your name forward this evening.

At the November meeting the entries for the "Container Contest" and the "Three Seasons Contest" will be posted on the wall. This is your opportunity to be the judge of the wonderful entries received from your fellow club members. Ballots will be available for you to select the entry that you feel is most deserving. Take a few minutes to look at the photos and then vote for your favorite in each category. Photo contest entries are being judged by professional photographer, Steve Grover. All winners will be announced at the Christmas party in December.

Adriaan Romein

Adriaan Romein passed away on October 27th. Our sympathies are with his wife, Reit and their family. Adriaan joined NWHS in 1993 (a few years after Reit, who joined in 1989). He was the kind of fellow who accomplished tasks with care and vigor. Before Reit and he downsized to apartment living, their garden was on tour. Meticulous! When help was needed with plant sale set-up, he would outwork younger members. It is not often that one person can have an impact on the landscape of a city. Look around. Notice the numerous monkey puzzle trees? They have become almost a defining character for New Westminster gardens. Adriaan propagated the majority of those trees from seed.

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 p.m.

Executive Elections

Speakers:

Jennifer Lukianchuk on

*New Westminster Pesticide-use
Bylaw effective March 2010*

Ayuko Inoue

Gardening in Small Spaces

Future Meetings

Tuesday, **December 8,**

Annual Christmas Celebrations

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Buffet 6:30 - 7:30

Party continues ...

Tickets must be purchased prior to the event as seating is limited.

*Deadline for ticket purchase is
November 20th.*

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The Club's Christmas Events

Christmas Crafts

Do you like socializing? Do you like creating things? Have you run out of space for the things you have made? Would you like to meet other members in a small group setting? We have just the thing for you! Join in creating the prizes for our Christmas party raffle. Workshops will be in Audrey's basement for three weeks, starting Sunday, November 15th and finishing Sunday, December 6th. You can come any time between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., weekdays and weekends—IF you tell Audrey to expect you!

At the meeting tonight, there is a sign-up calendar. Just put your name and phone number and the hours you would like to craft, or contact Audrey at least one day in advance. Audrey will confirm your attendance the evening before she expects you. It is best to have no more than 5 at one time. The reason to limit group size is because the materials take up almost the whole basement. People usually come for 2 to 3 hours. Come as often as you like. If you have non-member friends who would like to join in, they are welcome. If you feel craft-challenged, that is no reason to feel you cannot attend. The workshops are to socialize while the prizes are being created. Work with fresh materials is restricted to the daylight hours of last four days of creating (Thursday, Dec 3rd onwards).

We make one-of-a-kind Christmas wreaths, swags, and table arrangements. Our aim is to produce approximately 50 or 60 quality prizes. Often, several people have input into one prize.

Materials for use: You name it, we probably have it! The club does purchase some materials (such as ribbon, picks, glue sticks, styro forms, wire wreath forms), but the majority has been collected by members (cones, seed heads, greenery) or donated. Any Christmas decorations of which you are tired would gladly be accepted. Please leave it at Audrey's kitchen, NOT basement, door. In the past, people have spent their first visit to the basement just skulking out the materials and getting inspired. If you have fresh green material, please talk to Audrey.

A Word about Fragrance: Audrey is one of the many unfortunate individuals that have severe reactions to fragrance. For this reason, only fragrance-free materials can be used in the crafts. Please, when coming to craft, refrain from using fragrant personal products. Thanks.

The Club Christmas Party

With space restricting the seating to 120, dinner tickets will soon become coveted, so get yours while they are available. They can be purchased tonight from Carla: \$15 for members; \$20 first guest; \$25 additional guests. If some are still available, contact Anna after tonight. Deadline for purchasing tickets is November 20th. Cheers, last year's caterer, will again be providing us with a sumptuous feast. If you want to sit with certain friends, make sure you get your table reservations to Anna by December 1st. Reservations are strongly advised.

Although a group will be



setting up the room early in the day (If you want to help with transfer of the prizes and room set-up, please talk with Anna or Audrey. The doors for the evening will open at 6:00 p.m. When you arrive collect your two, free wine tickets; find your table; chat with friends; check out the contest entries and winners; work on the trivia quiz; pre-select your raffle prize(s) and buy your raffle tickets. The buffet will run from 6:30 to 7:30. After dinner festivities: door prizes, raffle draws, contest winners rewarded and applauded, more raffle draws, Christmas trivia quiz, more raffle draws

The raffle: Although most of the prizes will emerge from Audrey's basement, that does not stipulate that all must come from there. If you would like to create prizes at home make sure that you tell Audrey so that space will be reserved for them on the display tables and wall. (Hint: home baking is always a delight

Christmas continued ...

to win.) Every year we select a local compassionate charity to receive the raffle proceeds. This year *New Westminster Family Place* was chosen. From the website www.nwfamily.bc.ca: "New Westminster Family Place is a family resource program for families with children from newborn to five years old. The mandate is to promote, encourage and provide family related services and learning skills programs with a preventative and educational focus aimed at low income individuals." It offers drop-in and parenting programs, a resource library, clothing exchange and toy lending library among other services. If you would like to just donate to the charity, without buying raffle tickets, we will gladly add your offering to the kitty.

Food Bank Donation: In line with the giving spirit of the season, we suggest that all party attendees bring a non-perishable food offering for the Food Bank. The items will be collected as you enter. The executive will deliver them to the Food Bank.

VanDusen Festival of Lights Tickets for Members

Tickets for this popular Lower Mainland, Christmas event are again being made available to club members at a very special rate—considering regular adult admission is \$11.45:

-Members (Seniors, Adults and Youths)	\$7.00
-Non-members (Seniors, Adults and Youths)	\$7.55
-Children (6–12 yrs)	\$6.25
-Children under 6	free

Tickets must be pre-paid by November 22nd. Members can pay at the November meeting (see Audrey at the fireplace) or give Audrey the money before the 22nd. Tickets will be distributed at the Christmas dinner party or can be picked up at Audrey's after December 8th.

Tickets can be used any day of the festival (December 11, 2009 to January 3, 2010, 4:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Closed Christmas Day).

Desperately Seeking Plant Sale Chairperson

We are desperately seeking a chairperson for the 2010 plant sale. The chairperson will be the over-all coordinator of the sale. This position requires organizing the venue (we already have two potential venues), the set-up prior to the sale, the day of the sale and the final break-down. This is a good job for someone who is organized, has a good sense of humour and is tactful. Audrey Barnes is still willing to organize and supervise the growing, dividing and potting up of plant material.

From the Treasurer: Carla Sharp

As of October 31, 2009, our financial position is as follows:

Chequeing Account	\$
Guaranteed Investment Certificates	\$
Petty Cash	\$ _____
Month End Total	\$ _____

NWHS is still looking for an auditor to review our 2009 books in January 2010. If you know of an accountant who may be willing to volunteer for this, please contact Carla

In Your Vege Patch — *Fertilizers Nourish the Soil*

By Roy Pegler

This is the month to clean up the vege garden before the bad weather starts. It's much easier to cleanup when it is not cold and wet and looks better when finished.

Now, we can think about growing a good garden in the spring and we know that fertilizing the garden is a very important way of doing it. Plants, like other living things, must have nourishment if they are to thrive. Soil contains elements necessary for plant growth, but the supply gradually diminishes as plants use up the available nutrients. Fertilizing your garden replenishes the nutrients.

Reading fertilizer labels: A label usually has three numbers listed.

These numbers tell the amount of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) in that particular package of fertilizer. For example, 5-10-10, contains 5 per cent nitrogen, 10 per cent phosphorus and 10 per cent potassium. The order in which the elements are listed is always the same. Any fertilizer that contains all three primary elements is considered to be a complete fertilizer. Your choice among fertilizers may seem bewildering at first since formulas can vary so widely. Some are labeled vegetable food, or are specially recommended for food crops in general. These can be considered a fairly safe choice. To be thorough and save money in the long run it would be beneficial to have your soil tested.

How much to apply: Fertilizers packaged for home use generally specify the amount to be applied in terms of pounds per square feet of garden area. If, for example, directions specify one pound for each 100 square feet, you know that a one pound package will take care of a 10' by 10' plot, or a 5' by 20' plot. Recommended amounts differ from one formulation to another; therefore, never assume that one recommended amount will hold for all fertilizers. Read the labels then calculate your garden area.

To be continued next month.

