

New Westminster Horticultural Society Newsletter



www.newwesthortsociety.org

November 2012

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

November is the Club's Annual General Meeting. Tonight we have elections and motions to vote on!

Motions:

1. Membership Dues: Starting with 2013, the NWHS annual membership fee be raised from the current \$10.00 to \$15.00

2. Constitution change: Part 9, Art. 41:

Current Wording: The executive shall appoint an auditor on or before Dec 31.

Proposed Wording: The executive shall appoint an auditor in the month of January to review the financial statement of the preceding year.

3. Constitution Change: Part 9, Art.44:

Current Wording: Said reviewed report must be ready for presentation by the treasurer at the February general meeting.

Proposed Wording: Said reviewed report shall be ready for presentation by the treasurer at the March general meeting.

2013 Executive Elections:

President (Julia Goulden) & Vice President (Lorna Cloutier) will be completing their two-year terms in 2013.

The following positions are one year terms. The current members are willing to continue on for another year but we will be calling for nominations from the floor to follow proper protocol. We currently only have 4 Members at Large and our Bylaws say we should have 5 so we do need to fill this position.

Nominations at Printing:

Secretary: Mary Barnard

Treasurer: Ellen Berg

Show Chair: Lea MacDonald

Members at Large: Deirdre Antonelli, Marjorie Knutson, Monica Mowat, Meighan Scott.

We always welcome any member to volunteer to coordinate a project or event which has special meaning to them or one for which they might have a particular skill. Just talk to the president or one of the other executive.

THINK GREEN!! BRING YOUR MUG!!

As an added bonus we offer a free draw ticket when you buy a ticket at regular price!

VOTE ON CONTESTS TONIGHT:

The Container and Garden Design contests offer ways in which club members can share garden design ideas. Through submitting their entries, members are offering suggestions and ideas that you might want to incorporate in your own gardens. With the Container Contest, when you are looking at the entries to vote for your favorite, you will be evaluating how the plants go together (form, scale and colour coordination) as well as the appropriateness of the plants to the container and the uniqueness of the combination. When examining the Garden Design (Gates and Passages) entries, think: how does the passage or gate control the movement within the whole garden; is it done aesthetically?

Voting: For each contest, you vote for the one entry which you think is the best. To eliminate confusion, all the container entries are numbered in pink; all the garden design entries are lettered in lime green. Using your pink ballot, write down the number of your favorite container (i.e. only one number is written on the ballot) and put it in the bucket with the pink lid. Likewise use your lime green ballot for the garden design contest, write down the letter of your favorite and put it in the bucket with the lime green lid. Each of your ballots will have only one number or letter on them (a number on pink; a letter on lime green). Ballots marked differently will be discarded. The number of votes each entry earns will determine First, Second and Third. Winners will be announced at the December party.

Photo Contest: The entries are in the hands of our photo judge, Kevin Hudkins. All entries and the winners will be on display at the December Party.

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, November 13, 7:30pm

Speaker: Mike Weinmaster on "Green Over Grey"

2013 Executive Committee Elections and Garden Design entries judged
Christmas dinner tickets on sale

Mark Your Calendar

NWHS Christmas Dinner and Party

Tuesday December 11

Tickets must be purchased

Doors open at 6:00pm; Buffet dinner at 6:30pm, buffet closes at 7:30pm

Tuesday, February 11, 2013, 7:30pm

Speaker: Bert Garbuio speaking on "Figs and Grapes"

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NEXT MONTH, WE PARTY!

Our Christmas Party is on our regular meeting night, December 11, and our regular meeting place, Centennial Lodge. It is NOT however at our regular time—it starts much earlier, at 6:00. These details are on your ticket. Yes, you must have a ticket to attend as the dinner is catered. There will be no email/phone reminder since not all the membership will have purchased tickets.

Never been before? Expect an evening of fun amongst gardening club friends. For most, dress is nice casual but if you want to go spiffy, please do so. Our feast this year is catered by Sugar Mountain Caterers (732 Twelfth St, New Westminster). Hopefully with the scaling back of the number of dishes, the wait for your table to be called will be lessened. Besides the devouring of delicious food, the evening activities will include awarding the prizes to our contest winners, the traditional trivial Christmas trivia quiz and, of course, our super draw for the prizes made at our crafting sessions.

Tickets: We are not surprised that they are selling like hotcakes. Tickets are on sale tonight (member \$20, guest \$25) from Ellen at the treasurer's table. Remember if you are interested in the vegetarian entree, tell Ellen. If (when) we sell out, Ellen will take names for a waiting list. If for some reason your plans for the evening change, you can get a full refund for your ticket until Sunday, November 18. After that, ticket refund depends on whether or not we have someone on the waiting list who would like them. The final day to purchase tickets is Tuesday, December 4, as the caterer will need a head count at that time. If after December 4, you find you cannot come, please inform Ellen—we might still have a buyer for your ticket. After tonight, contact Ellen for all things ticket related.

Table Reservations: All seating is reserved. If you haven't yet informed us who you would like to sit with, see Audrey at the table in front of

the fireplace tonight. When you arrive party night there will be a map showing where you will be seated in the foyer.

Time-Line for the Party:

Nov 19 to Dec 9: Draw prizes created at Crafting Sessions (see article)

Dec 11 Party Day:

12:00 noon: transfer of prizes and room set up (Yes, we need volunteers—see Audrey tonight)

6:00: Party starts: Our deadline to have everything ready

6:30: Buffet starts

7:30: Buffet closes

9:00 (about): It's a wrap!

When you arrive: In the foyer, you will be checked in. It is handy if you remember to bring your ticket. You will be given two drink tickets. These are for wine. The non-alcoholic punch is help yourself. No additional wine tickets are sold during the evening. Pick up a newsletter and quiz. Check the reservation listing and map for where you are sitting.

If you arrive early: If we are not completely set up, browse the room. Check out the fantastic entries in the contests—and the even more fantastic winning entries. Pre-select the prize you will want when your draw number is called. You will probably decide that you will want lots of tickets. Visit the Treasure Room, next door in the Arts Council Gallery. It's a fantastic place to shop for gifts for others—or for yourself.

Our Charity of Choice: Every year we select a different compassionate charity to be the recipient of the profits of our Christmas draw. This year we have selected *The New Westminster Victim Assistance Association* which offers support to persons who have experienced trauma. It's a win-win. You get to take home gorgeous Christmas decorations and the charity gets some much needed money.

Food Bank: In keeping with it being the season of giving, we will be collecting donations for the New Westminster Food Bank. Don't forget to bring your offerings to the party.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS:

(See the October newsletter for detailed article on Christmas crafting.)

The time is almost upon us to heat up those glue guns and get creating the Christmas party draw prizes. Audrey's basement is in the process of being converted to "Elf Central". Sessions will start next Monday, Nov 19, and run until Sunday, Dec 9, with fresh materials being used during the daylight hours of the last three days. The hours available can be anytime between 9am to 9pm—you specify the hours you would like to attend. Audrey will confirm your attendance the evening before you are scheduled. Sign up tonight or phone/email Audrey prior to the day of your choice. Enjoy the freedom of being creative and not having to make room in your home for your creations. However, it is amazing how many people pick their own creation as their prize on the party night. Please no personal fragrance when you come crafting.

Donations of Christmassy stuff: Are you digging out Christmas decorations and finding that you really do not want use that? Are you thinking: why, in the world, am I hanging on to this? Well, your problem is solved. Donate your tired decorations, or those you are just tired of, to the club for use in the crafting. Just drop them off (with your name, of course) to Audrey's back sheltered kitchen door. Not the basement door. The only caveats are that the materials are not fragrant and they do not shed glitter. Thanks.

Fresh Materials: Do you have any fresh greenery or colorful, interesting twigs we can use? Avid collection of these materials will be starting about December 5th. Please inform Audrey if she can collect at your home or, even better, if you can deliver. Thanks.

NO SCENTS PLEASE!!

Club meetings and events are scent free zones. Please refrain from using perfume or strongly scented products when attending club functions. Thank you for thinking of the health and welfare of all our members.

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SILENT AUCTION:

Yes, it was definitely a successful Silent Auction. Members had a great time—plus the club made lots of money. Some fantastic upscale items were donated, many members were generous in their bidding and, unexpectedly, members used the auction as a venue to give cash donations to the club. Yes, it does look like the auction may morph into the fund raising event the club really needs. With the end of the era of the NWHS Super Sales, we are looking for alternate sources of funds. Next year we hope to continue to offer more upscale items but still maintain the fun atmosphere of “getting a deal”. We also plan to refine the tallying & cash procedure to make the evening even more enjoyable.

Where did the no-bid items end up:

Most were divided between two thrift stores: the Canadian Mental Health’s “Treasure Chest” on 6th St, New West and the MCC Thrift Store on King George Blvd, Surrey. Non-fiction books went to the New West Public Library; fiction books to the Royal Columbian Hospital Auxiliary. A few items were held retained as craft supplies.

People have been talking about donating for next year. Audrey has agreed to collect items in her basement once again. She asks that you hold off delivering them (to the sheltered kitchen door) until at least next January—until then, there is absolutely no room because of the crafting.

RIVERVIEW ARBORETUM TOUR

Submitted by Merril Hall

I have just come back from the Riverview Arboretum tour and despite the dreadful weather which could have put us all off I feel very glad that I went. There was actually a good turn out, we had a group of about 35 of which perhaps 16 were from NWHS. Several of us have been on similar tours of the Arboretum grounds before and even through the downpours of rain I think we were all WOWED by the size of the trees and peacefulness you feel when walking around them. I feel moved enough to ask NWHS’s support by letter writing to save this wonderful gem, The Riverview Arboretum and Heritage Buildings. Originally there were 1,000 acres set aside, now 244 remain. The future is at present unprotected which seems a shame for a most interesting and beautiful sight.

Call for Help:

The future of Riverview’s Arboretum and Heritage Buildings are under review. Riverview’s HCP - *Draft Heritage Conservation Plan* has been posted online at: www.riverviewvalues.info. Anyone can provide comment on this draft online by following the links provided or email your thoughts to: riverview.gov.bc.ca.

Information on the history of the Riverview site can be found on the Riverview Horticultural Centre Society website at www.rhcs.org.

BEAUTY DOESN’T END WITH FLOWERS:

One of the great things about collecting seeds and such for the Christmas crafts is that you really look at gardens and plants. Lots of neat things appear while the flowers fade. On the tables in front of the fireplace is a collection of some items collected. Can you identify which plant each comes from? The answers are on the underside of each card.

TREASURER’S REPORT - Sept.

Total Revenues: \$2525.10

(Includes the Silent Auction and Christmas Tickets)

Total Expenses: \$1521.19

(Includes a \$1000.00 donation to the BC Council of Garden Clubs)

See bulletin board for full report.

DONATIONS - FOOD BANK!!

Don’t forget to bring your non-perishable food donations to the Christmas party. There will be a bin at the front!

Contacts

Lorna Cloutier - Vice President

604 525-5928 or

lorna@newwesthortsociety.org

Ellen Berg - Treasurer, Christmas

Tickets - 604-525-7827 or

ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

Audrey Barnes - Crafts

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or

audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

Hymn of Hate—To My Garden Hose (author unknown)

I wished I loved you, Garden Hose!
You are an asset, I suppose:
My garden would most surely fail
Were water carried, pail by pail.
But Oh! How you make me curse,
Fret and fume—and write this verse!

Each time you cross a garden bed
A favourite blossom you behead.
Pulling you round from place to place
There’s not a thing you don’t embrace:

Bump of brick and spike of log,
Leg of bench and bowl of dog.
And if no obstacles exist
You knot yourself with kink and twist,
I give a flick to set you free—
And hook up on the nearest tree!

Across my garden path at night
You trip me up with great delight
And every single chance you get
You do your best to make me wet.

With jet and dribble, leak and squirt,
You soak my shoes and spray my skirt.
Your sprinkler sticks—I set it free--
At once you shoot all over me!

Oh Garden Serpent, I believe
The ancient enmity of Eve
Exists between us of yore:
We’ll live in hate for evermore.

Oh how I bless the rainy day
When I can coil you right away.