

Newsletter



ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION!

In October you get to participate in the club's annual Silent Auction, an amazing evening when one person's discards become another's treasure—all to the benefit of NWHS. It's an evening anticipated by many. It could justly be renamed "Deals, Deals, Deals". If you're not into bargain hunting, you'll want to come just for the people watching.

Collection of Items: For a month or two we've been collecting auction items in Audrey's basement. There have been some fantastically unique and pristine things dropped off.

(Thanks) Audrey offers this opportunity because she knows when you clean your closet/attic/shed/garage, you want to get rid of the stuff right away. The drop-off at Audrey's continues right up to 8pm, the Sunday before the auction. We hope that the majority of items will be dropped off. It allows all the items to be tagged and organized by type, giving us an idea how the tables can be allotted. Even if you have only a few items, by dropping them off early at Audrey's eliminates that frantic hustle at the start of the auction. If it is tricky to get to Audrey's please bring items to the lodge.

What items do we want? No, we can't take anything—but almost! Remember that people have to take home the item. If you have a really large item, take a photo and make a small poster describing it in detail. Please no computer components. As a guideline, consider that the room has been organized into these category areas in the past (not an exclusive list): books (further subdivided), plants, jewelry, things that hang on walls (pictures, frames, mirrors), crafts, "good" dishes, utilitarian dishes, knick-knacks, linens, Halloween, Christmas, gardening tools, gardening pots, baskets, electrical ap-

pliances, home décor, personal care, food, toys, pets, sporting goods.

Filling out the bidding form:

- Item description: At the top, next to "item", describe the item with enough detail to ensure the slip cannot apply to another item. Remember that it will be on the table next to similar items. Instead of just writing "salt & pepper", "salt & pepper: white chicken/red rooster" is much better. For books, the title is handy. If you are tagging several identical things that will be bid on separately, identify them as "A", "B", "C", etc and label them with masking tape.

- Starting bid: Our minimum starting bid is 25¢ i.e. each item must be a steal at that price. The starting bid can definitely higher. If items are small, they can be grouped together (plastic bag, string, masking tape). If you set a high starting bid and nobody selects the item, you have the choice to take the item home or just leave it behind to be donated to charity.

How the evening progresses:

- Bringing in items to the lodge? Go to the table next to the treasurer's table for help in getting them processed and located in the correct area. Then proceed onto the next step.

- Getting a bidder number: Go to the treasurer's table where you will be supplied with a bidder number (written on a post-it for easy reference). You are now equipped to bid. There is no starting time. If an item has a bidding slip, you can bid on it.

- Amount of your bid: You can match the "starting bid" amount if you are the first bidder. To raise a bid, you must increase the current bid by at least 10¢ or a multiple of 10¢. For example if someone has matched the (continued on next page)

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 7:30pm

Speaker: Peter Cech

Topic: Zero Waste Challenge

Mark Your Calendar

NWHS October General Meeting

Members Only

Tuesday, October 9, 7:30pm

Silent Auction, No speaker,

Contest Entries Due

Christmas dinner tickets on sale

The BC Council of Garden Clubs -

Fall Meeting - Saturday, October 13,

doors open at 8:30am; adjournment

2:00pm. Our Lady of Sorrows

555 Slocan St., Vancouver

See article page 3

NWHS Tour of Riverview Gardens

October 14 - 1pm See article page 3

Sign-up at the head table tonight!

"The Glory of Autumn Colours"

Time: The month of October

Location: The New Westminster

Public Library, Reference Department

(Second Floor). Art Exhibition by the

NWHS Sketch Group aka Garden Gals

November Meeting includes NWHS

AGM

Tuesday, November 13, 7:30pm

Speaker: Mike Weinmaster on "Green Over Grey"

2013 Executive Elections, Container & Garden Design entries judged

Christmas tickets on sale.

TREASURER'S REPORT - August

Total Revenues: \$272.72

Total Expenses: \$596.22

See bulletin board for full report.

THINK GREEN!! BRING YOUR

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

New Westminster Horticultural Society August 2012

(Continued from page 1)

starting bid of 25¢, your bid can be, at a minimum, 35¢--or 55¢ or \$2.05 if you like. Be generous, it is to the benefit of NWHs.

End of Auction:

- So you have time to double check your bid status on that most coveted item, there will be a 5 minute warning to the end of the auction.

- When the call "Auction is Over" is heard, all bidders must exit the auction areas and a swarm of people with highlighters will highlight the final bidder's number and winning amount for each item. If there has been no bids placed on an item, the starting bid is highlighted.

- When signaled, all winning bidders collect their items and the items' slips. Make sure you pick up the correct slip!

- Once you have collected your winnings, go to a tallier who will add up your total—only then do you proceed to the cashier.

- Proceed to cash. Pay by cash or cheque. The cashiers will also be collecting the bidding slips for all of your items. Special note: If you plan on purchasing your Christmas tickets and auction items both by cheque, you will need two blank cheques.

- Usually, after all the won items are removed from the tables, items not noticed before (thus not bid-upon) are revealed. Certainly, you can purchase these items at the starting bid price. Please put your bidder number on the slip and proceed as above.

After the auction:

- Items left behind are double checked for bidding numbers. If they do not have a slip, the slips collected by the cashier are searched to identify the owner. These members are then contracted.

- Items not bid on are diverted to different charities. Fiction books go to the Royal Columbian Auxiliary, non-fiction books go to the New Westminster Public Library.

Want to help with the auction?

- Drop off goods at Audrey's kitchen door (sheltered!) prior to 8pm Sun,

Oct 7th. Please attach your name in case we have a question—and also we know whose generosity we are appreciating!

- Donate goods at Centennial Lodge.

- Help process the auction items at Audrey's. This will probably start Wed, Sept 26th. (talk with Audrey)

- Help with the transfer of the goods to Centennial Lodge. Vehicles will be loaded the morning of the auction and driven to lodge around noon. (talk with Audrey)

- Help set-up the auction tables. We have the room at noon. Work will involve rearranging the tables, unloading the vehicles, sorting the boxes and arranging the tables. (talk with Audrey)

- Be generous with your bids.

- Help with the highlighting (talk with Julia or Audrey)

- Help with tallying (talk with Julia or Audrey)

- Help transfer the left-over items back to Audrey's carport (talk with Audrey)

UNIQUE TO THE OCTOBER MEETING:

- Members only. No new

- memberships sold at the meeting.

- No name tags or attendance sheet

- No free table

- No raffle

- Newsletter will be at treasurer's table

- No library. Books can be returned at the podium

- Refreshments will be set-up in the kitchen. Please be careful not to spill crumbs or liquid on the auction items.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

This takes place on Nov 13 as part of our general meeting. Time-wise it is a very small portion of the evening—but a very important portion. The 2013 NWHs Executive Committee will be elected and a few motions voted upon. One motion is regarding the increase in our annual membership dues. The others are slight changes to our constitution. All three motions are being recommended unanimously by the current Executive Committee.

Executive Elections: The term for all positions, except President and Vice-President, is one year. President and vice-president have two year terms.

If you want to get involved in the running of the club, it time to step forward to be on executive. The fact that every member of the current executive is willing to return indicates what a rewarding experience it is. Even though they are keen, come forward if interested in any position. Speak with any executive member.

The positions open are:

Treasurer

Secretary

Show Chair

5 Members-at-Large

At the moment, one member-at-large position is vacant. There are no specific duties assigned to members-at-large but they are expected to fill in where necessary. It is a great starting position to getting involved on the executive.

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.

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.

New Westminster Horticultural Society August 2012

CHRISTMAS APPROACHING:

Within NWHS, that means preparation has started for our annual Christmas party on December 11th. Instead of a regular meeting in December, we will be having an evening of good fun and good will. Because our dinner is catered, tickets must be purchased to attend the party. The evening will include the dinner, contest award presentations, Christmas trivia quiz and our fantastic draw.

Dinner Ticket Purchase: By changing caterers and scaling back the feast a bit, we have been able to reduce prices. The subsidized (by the club) ticket price is \$20 for members and \$25 for a member's first guest. Only 120 tickets will be available—the room can't hold any more! They will be on sale at the October meeting and through Ellen Berg after the meeting. Next month, because of the uniqueness of the Silent Auction, the tickets will be sold before the meeting and for the first 10 minutes of the auction only. Correct change or a cheque payable to NWHS please. If you plan to pay for your Christmas tickets and your Silent Auction items both by cheque, you will need to bring two cheques to the meeting.

Table Reservations: We have learned from past experience: all seating must be reserved for the Christmas Party! You probably have a group of friends you would like to sit with. Make your table reservations when you purchase your tickets.

Christmas Crafts: For three weeks prior to the Christmas party, we create the prizes for our Christmas draw. The prizes are generally Christmas themed. Mark your calendars: crafting will be Nov 19th to Dec 9th, 9am to 9pm (on demand) in Audrey's basement. Lots of fun! Audrey will have her crafting sign-up calendar available at the November meeting. You can help now by dropping off any Christmasy materials that you no longer want. Just leave them (with your name) at Audrey's sheltered kitchen door. We cannot use things that are fragrant or shed glitter.

RIVERVIEW ARBORETUM TOUR

Our visit to the arboretum on the grounds of the Riverview Hospital has been confirmed for 1pm on October 14th. With the hospital officially closed this year, the future of the grounds and arboretum is uncertain. The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society (www.rhcs.org) has been promoting awareness of the arboretum for the past 20 years. They will be guiding our tour. It is possible that our's may be the last tour of the grounds. The Riverview Lands are the site of the first botanical garden in Western Canada and contain a huge selection of mature trees from around the world. They are magnificent. Unique to this arboretum is the luxurious spacing of the trees—each has grown to its own potential without being crowded by its neighbours. SIGN-UP TONIGHT FOR OUR OCTOBER 14TH TOUR.

If that date doesn't work for you, consider heading out there this weekend (Saturday, September 15th, 11am to 4pm) for Treefest 2012. It is a family day of fun focused on the trees.

Contacts

Julia Goulden - President

604-526-1140 or
julia@newwesthortsociety.org

Ellen Berg - Treasurer, Christmas Tickets

604-525-7827 or
ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

Audrey Barnes - Bring to Share, Contests and Silent Auction

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or
audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

Merril Hall - Sketch Club

604-526-4324 or merrilh@telus.net

Karen Low - Seed Exchange

seeds@newwesthortsociety.org

Lea McDonald - Bring to Share and Contests

604-942-9416

BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS FALL MEETING:

On Saturday, October 13, book the day off from garden clean-up and enjoy the camaraderie of other keen gardeners at the Fall BC Council Meeting. Nora von Gerichten will talk on "Beneficial Bugs and Fungi: Improving Root Health" and Egan Davis on "Why Become a Gardener". Add morning tea and coffee (plus snacks), a hot buffet lunch, numerous vendors to entice every wallet and a draw featuring great prizes—totals one super day. NWHS is again running the draw, thus ensuring our club is first in line for the buffet. NWHS offers a \$5 subsidy for your admission, reducing the price from \$25 to \$20. If you are interested see Ellen Berg, our treasurer tonight. Correct change or a cheque payable to NWHS would be much appreciated. You can register through Ellen until 5pm Friday, September 14th.

PLANT A ROW, GROW A ROW:

With the fantastic weather, you may have an unexpected surplus crop from your vegetable patch. Don't forget Plant a Row, Grow A Row. On behalf of the Food Bank, donations will be collected at St. Thomas More Collegiate on 12th Ave in Burnaby, Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 9:30. The last Sunday for drop off is October 14th—unless it sounds like a lot of produce will be available later or if someone calls regarding a huge amount. The school's phone number is 604-521-1801. They should be able to direct your call.

SEED EXCHANGE:

For once seeds are maturing without being soaked by inclement weather. Excellent. The seed collection box is at the head table awaiting your donations. Karen has created a nifty little form for you to fill out and attach to each envelope. It asks for your name; your phone number and/or email; plant common name; plant botanical name; relevant plant details. Take some forms home to fill out for your next donations. As well as seeds collected by members, seeds purchased relatively recently are welcome contributions. Next month seed donations will be collected at the podium.