

# Newsletter



## NEWSFLASH!! SPRING HAS SPRUNG!!

### **'From Our Gardens' Sale Table:**

There's a new feature at our meetings. This month marks the official debut of the "From Our Gardens" Sale Table. "Mutual sharing of things horticultural" is fundamental to the existence of NWHS. There is no better way to support that basic club mission than for all of us to pot-up desirable plants from our gardens and bring them to sell to other members at the meetings. At the same time, you will be helping to eliminate some of the budget deficit that resulted from the demise of our huge annual plant sale. Someone asked: "What about good garden tools?" Gently used garden tools would be a great addition to the sale table.

### **Simple guidelines:**

- Pot-up desirable healthy plants from your garden.
- Label each pot—a simple label will do.
- Bring the plants (or tools) to Centennial Lodge early, before the start of the meeting. Deliver them to the person in charge of the sale table.
- We will price the plants.
- When you shop, be generous. Our prices are the suggested minimum.
- There will be a clip-board for you to list any plants you plan to donate at future meetings. To enhance organization of the sale table, please utilize it.

With the warm weather we have experienced recently, we hope that you have been out in your gardens and have found all sorts of things bursting forth... and that you have taken the opportunity to pot-up some plants for the table. Tonight the "From Our Gardens" table will be just to the right of the head table, near the door heading out to the totem pole.

### **Plant a Row, Grow a Row:**

Boy, what a great kick-off Plant a Row, Grow a Row Gardener's Party last month. Lots of great inspirational presentations. Lots of draw prizes. Lots of NWHS members present. Now the question is, "Are you going to plant that extra row of vegetables this year for donation to the program?" We hope so. We'll be definitely highlighting when the drop off times begin. Anticipating a big tree-fruit crop? The PAR GAR team is not really set up to have a crew of volunteers available on demand to pick the fruit but if you give us a bit of a heads up, maybe we can figure something out.

### **July In-Club Show:**

As publicized earlier, the June Show has been replaced by the July Show. The revised show schedule will be available at both our May and June meetings. Gosh, that will even give you time to plant something in anticipation of showing it!!! We are looking forward to a great turn-out.

## Tonight's Meeting

**Tuesday, April 09, 7:30pm**

Speaker: Conway Lum will speak on "Container Vegetable Gardening".

### **Membership Renewal:**

Membership renewals are due at the March meeting. The annual fee is \$15.00. You can still renew and maintain ongoing membership until the May regular meeting.

## Mark Your Calendar

### **HarkAway Botanicals Visit:**

May 4, 10:00am to 2:00pm

245 Pembina Street, Queensborough, New Westminster

(See article page 2)

### **NWHS Regular Meeting:**

Tuesday, May 14, 7:30pm

Guest Speaker: Rob McGregor, Head of Urban Ecology at Douglas College, speaking on Pest Free, Chemical Free Gardening

### **Potential NWHS Roadside Plant Sale:**

May 26, 2013

Location and time to be determined

(See article page 2)

### **Denman Island 20th Anniversary**

#### **Home and Garden Tour:**

June 15 - 16, 2013

For more information check the website [www.denmanconservancy.org/gardentour/](http://www.denmanconservancy.org/gardentour/)

(See article page 2)

### **Perennial Plant Symposium Seminar:**

Sunday, July 21, 2013

Sheraton Wall Centre Hotel, 1088

Burrard St., Vancouver

Registration Fee is \$89 by June 1 and

\$99 after June 1

Website: [www.perennialplant.org](http://www.perennialplant.org)

## Contacts

**Julia Goulden-President** 604-526-1140

or [julia@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:julia@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Ellen Berg-Treasurer** - 604-525-7827 or

[ellen@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:ellen@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Karen Low - Seed Exchange**

[seeds@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:seeds@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Audrey Barnes - July In-Club Show/**

**HarkAway Visit**

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or

[audrey@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:audrey@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Lea McDonald - July In-Club Show**

604-942-2232

**Marjorie Pauch - From Our Gardens**

[marjorie@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:marjorie@newwesthortsociety.org)

## TREASURER'S REPORT - Mar.

Total Revenues: \$684.00

Total Expenses: \$860.07

See the bulletin board for the report.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society April 2013

## **HarkAway Botanicals Open Garden:**

HarkAway Botanicals is located at 245 Pembina St, Queensborough. Lyle Courtice is the sole proprietor. As we stated last month: Since 2005, HarkAway has evolved into a micro-specialty nursery that caters to the more discerning gardener. The focus is on an eclectic mix of rare and choice plant material from Asia, Europe and North America. Normally, it is not open to the public but we are invited to visit and purchase plants on Saturday, May 4th. Originally we were going to include a map in the newsletter, but it is so easy to locate that a map would be redundant. In Queensborough, turn south onto Pembina off Ewen at the old Spagnols store corner. It is obvious which is the correct house—look for the garden. Lots of available parking. Visit the nursery anytime between 10am and 2pm to purchase plants (CASH ONLY). Be there at 10:30am for a brief talk by Lyle on the positives and negatives of running one's own nursery. All nursery work and operations are done by Lyle himself without any staff—a rather daunting task at times as it encompasses everything from promotion to shipping, production and sales.

**What plants are for sale?** One thing about owning your own nursery, you get to pick the plants you find interesting—and you grow them with loving care. Lyle grows choice and unusual perennials and what he calls ephemerals, plants that are there and then disappear. Trilliums are an example. Not all plants you will see at HarkAway will be for sale to us. Being a wholesale production nursery, many plants are in various stages of growth and some will not be ready for sale at this time. Lyle has no need to separate saleable and non-saleable plants or put prices and labels on everything. His clients order from an availability list. Some plants will be on hold for nursery orders. *Please refrain from picking up or moving plants or removing any labels!* This is to prevent any possible handling damage and

potential labeling mix-ups. If you have questions or cannot read a label, please ask Lyle for assistance. Lyle has, for our visit, collected selected plants together into a designated sale area. If there is something additional you wish to ask about, please see Lyle. If you want plants that are not available, please put your requests and name on the wish list. Remember CASH ONLY.

You can find HarkAway Botanicals plants at these garden centers: Art's Nursery Home and Garden, B. Dinter Nurseries, David Hunter (Surrey), Free Spirit Nursery, GardenWorks (Capilano), Petals and Butterflies Farm Nursery, Southlands Nursery, The Natural Gardener and West Van Florist.

Please sign up tonight if you plan to visit HarkAway. Lyle would like to know the expected numbers. Thanks.

## **The Denman Island 20th Home and Garden Tour:**

The Denman Island Home and Garden Tour, June 15-16, was billed as one of Canada's top six horticultural events by the Globe and Mail, which praised the island's 1100 inhabitants for creating a "5-by-10 kilometre swath of horticultural gems".

For the first time this year two options are being offered to make the tour more affordable. There is a group discount of 10% for groups of 10 or more, meaning "buy 9, get one free". You must contact denmanisland.hgt@gmail.com directly to get this offer. There is also an early bird rate of \$15.00 (\$3.00 off the regular price) if the ticket is purchased before May 15 for anyone who books online at [www.denmanconservancy.org/gardentour/](http://www.denmanconservancy.org/gardentour/). We will not be organizing a NWHS outing to the tour.

This year the garden tour includes the much-loved Des Kennedy property, after a 6 year hiatus. The packed line-up of 12 properties includes waterfront and view properties, architect-designed houses, working farms and the former property of Van Dusen master gardener Jo Hepburn.

For more information and to order tickets go to [www.denmanconservancy.org/gardentour/](http://www.denmanconservancy.org/gardentour/) phone 1-250-335-2148/ [denmanisland.hgt@gmail.com](mailto:denmanisland.hgt@gmail.com)

## **The Annual NWHS Garden Tour & Picnic:**

The tentative date is Saturday, July 13, the Saturday following our July meeting. No sites, including the picnic site, have been confirmed yet but in no time, the event will be upon us. Shall we visit your garden this year? As anyone who has been on the before, there is no better incentive to get that landscaping project finished than to put your garden on the tour.

## **NWHS Roadside Plant Sale:**

The Club is planning to hold a small (with the emphasis on small) roadside plant sale on May 26, 2013 at a location to be determined. It is planned that members will drop off their already potted and labeled plants at the location on the morning of the sale. If successful we may plan to have another in the summer or fall.

## **What to do in the Garden in April:**

**Vegetables:** Time to start sowing your vegetables indoors! There is nothing like the taste of a vegetable or herb picked fresh from your own garden. Get those seeds started indoors so you can enjoy fresh vegetables and herbs from your garden this summer and fall. On review of the West Coast Seeds Planting Chart for Coastal BC ([www.westcoastseeds.com](http://www.westcoastseeds.com)) it is time to sow asparagus, cauliflower, celery, eggplant, fennel, leeks, lettuce, peppers and tomatoes indoors for later transplant to your garden.

You can direct sow seeds outside in April for arugula, beets, broad beans, brocolli, cabbage, carrots, endive, raddichio, kale and collards, kohlrabi, onions, scallions, oriental greens, peas, radishes, spinach, swiss chard and turnips.

Consider donating some of your fresh veggies to PAR GAR!

Hoe while it is spring, and enjoy the best anticipations. It is not much matter if things do not turn out well.  
*Charles Dudley Warner*