

Newsletter



WELCOME BACK!!!

2012 NWHS CHRISTMAS DONATION



New Westminster Victims Assistance Association

Hi Ellen and Julia,
 Thank you both, along with all the members of the New Westminster Horticultural Society, for your generous donation to the New Westminster Victim Assistance Association. We do rely on community support to ensure that staff, along with our large group of trained victim services volunteers, are able to continue to provide support to victims of crime and trauma in New Westminster, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 Hopefully your members will enjoy seeing the photo. We have posted it on the New Westminster Police Website, Victim Services Facebook page. This site allows people an opportunity to comment.
 It was a pleasure meeting both of you this morning. Again, we are most grateful that you chose our Society.
 Best Regards, Cheryl Meyers, Manager

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Membership renewals are due at the February meeting. The annual fee is \$15.00. The treasurer will be accepting payment before the meeting and during the refreshment break. Please pay the exact amount by cash or cheque.
 Again the club is offering an incentive for members to renew their membership in February and March. You will have two chances to receive

a free membership if you renew in February and one chance for a free membership if you renew in March.

Contacts

Julia Goulden - President
 604-526-1140 or
 julia@newwesthortsociety.org
Ellen Berg - Treasurer - 604-525-7827
 or ellen@newwesthortsociety.org
Karen Low - Seed Exchange
 seeds@newwesthortsociety.org

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 7:30pm
Speaker: Bert Garbuio on "Figs and Grapes", There will be fig and grape plants for sale.

Approval of the 2013 Club Budget:
 A motion to approve the 2013 Executive Committee Draft Budget with any amendments will be presented to the membership.

Mark Your Calendar

The BC Council of Garden Clubs

2013 Annual General Meeting:

Saturday, March 23; 9am-3pm.
 Morning Speaker: Gary Lewis from Phoenix Perennials on "Hot New Plants". Second Speaker TBA.
 Admission of \$20 for NWHS members includes a hot lunch.

Thimble Farm Helleborganza

February 16 to 24. You are invited to attend a hellebore festival at 175 Arbutus Road, Salt Spring Island. For more information:
 email address: thimfarm@telus.net,
 Webpage: www.thimblefarms.com

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:

The Executive Committee is seeking club members who are willing to sit on an ad hoc fundraising committee to explore possible ideas for raising funds for the operation of the NWHS. A sign-up sheet will be sent around at the February meeting. The mandate of this committee will be to generate possible ideas by which the club can generate sufficient funds for the month to month running of the club.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Jan.

Total Revenues: \$547.62
 Total Expenses: \$230.59
 See the bulletin board for the full report.

New Westminster Horticultural Society February 2013

YOUR 2013 NWHS EXECUTIVE:

President: Julia Goulden
Vice-President: Lorna Cloutier
Treasurer: Ellen Berg
Secretary: Mary Barnard
Show Chair: Lea McDonald
Members-at-Large: Deirdre Antonelli,
Trudy Findlay, Marjorie Knutson,
Monica Mowat, Meighan Scott.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SHOW

CHAIR: Welcome to 2013 and to this year's version of our club contests. Hopefully publishing the rules early will entice to you to get out and photographically record how your (and other) gardens grow. Please note that the number of entries for each member for each photo category has been reduced to 2 from 3. This was done to eliminate a possible sweep by any member in any category.

If you participated in last year's contests, your submitted photos are available at the table in front of the fireplace.

This year there will be no June Show. As voted by the membership in 2012, the annual show will be held during the July general meeting. Record entries are expected—don't let us down.

Hanging Baskets:

Have you ever wanted to know the secrets behind how the City of New Westminster makes their famous hanging baskets? Did you know that Claude LeDoux (and his sidekick Joan Miller) offer classes in how to make a smaller version for your home? The classes are fun and informative and you will take home a beautiful basket and tips on how to keep it lush and gorgeous well into the fall. If you would like to know more, call the Arena at 604-777-5111 and get dates, times and places for the classes.

Pruning Course:

Saturday, March 2; 10am-1pm. At the UBC Botanical Garden Reception Centre. \$45 (\$35 if you are a garden member). A blend of classroom and field discussion with hands on learning. Register through www.ubcbgpruning2013.eventbrite.com. Class limit is 35. Bring your own secateurs.

Seedy Saturday: Saturday, February 23, 10am-4pm. VanDusen Floral Hall, Admin Bldg. Presented by the BC Master Gardeners Association, this event is a celebration of heritage varieties and organic gardening. Check out the 30 growers, seed companies and exhibitors and Heritage Seed Swap. Admission by donation.

Growing Organic Food with Carol Pope: Salmon Friendly Gardens Seminar presented by the Langley Environmental Partners Society. Saturday, March 16, 1pm-4:30pm. Langley Civic Facility, 20338 – 65th Avenue, Langley. Carole Pope, who is currently writing a book on growing organic super foods, will be sharing secrets and tips. You will get to taste a nutritious weed salad. Admission is free but registration is required. Be sure to register early as seating is limited. Visit www.sfgs.eventbrite.ca to register. Donations appreciated. For more information on the Langley Environmental Partners Society, visit www.leps.bc.ca.

Plant a Row, Grow a Row Spring Gardener's Party:

Thursday, March 16, starts 6:00pm sharp! St. Thomas More Collegiate School, 12th Avenue, Burnaby. Join the crowd in this annual kick off of the growing season. Claude Ledoux is still finalizing the speaker line-up. Plant a Row, Grow a Row is a program in which excess garden produce from home gardens is collected and distributed to New Westminster Food Bank clientele. Admission is by donation to the Food Bank.

Northwest Flower & Garden Show:

Feb 20-24. Washington State Convention Centre, Seattle. 2013 Theme: Gardens go Hollywood. With 6 acres of spectacular display gardens, over 100 free seminars, and over 300 vendors selling things related to plants, gardens and outdoor living, it is easy to understand why thousands of Canadians head to Seattle for this show. Tickets online at www.gardenshow.com or at the show.

AMARYLLIS, PAPERWHITE AND CHRISTMAS CACTUS: AFTER THE FLOWER CARE

Amaryllis: It is easy to find how to grow these gorgeous flowers—in most cases, it involves just reading the label. But how do you get it to bloom a second year? Not rocket science at all. Just think: what does the plant need. It has to build up its strength and it must be forced to bloom again. After flowering, cut the old flowers from the stem and when the stem starts to sag, cut it off at the top of the bulb. Continue to water and fertilizer as normal for at least 5 to 6 months to allow the leaves to fully develop and grow (i.e. build up the strength of the bulb). When the leaves begin to yellow, usually in early fall, cut the leaves back to 2 inches from the top of the bulb and stop watering. Remove the bulb from the soil, clean it and place it in a cool (40-50°F = 4-10°C) dark place for a minimum of 6 weeks (i.e. setting the bulb up forcing). The ideal spot for this is your refrigerator crisper—but be aware that if your fridge contains apples, the apples will sterilize the bulbs. After 6 weeks, plant the bulbs. Allow 8 weeks for the planted bulb to bloom.

Paperwhite Narcissus: Unlike the amaryllis, paperwhites are exhausted beyond redemption when forced. The way to get new flowers is to buy new bulbs. Paperwhites are not hardy for our zone.

Christmas Cactus: Not as well known as the poinsetta, a Christmas cactus is a great seasonal gift for a gardener. Pruning your Christmas cactus after blooming will encourage the plant to branch out. Remove a few sections of each stem by pinching them off with your fingers or cutting with a sharp knife. These sections can be rooted in moist vermiculite to propagate new plants. Christmas cactus will bloom if given long uninterrupted dark and cool periods. Begin the dark /cool treatments in about mid-October to have plants in full bloom by the holidays.

2013 NWHS Contests: Photo, Container & Garden Design

PHOTO CONTEST

In this contest, unlike the Container and Garden Design Contests all entered photographs MUST be taken by the member entering the contest. No borrowing of photographs taken by someone else! It is the photographs themselves that are being judged.



First Place: Visitors: Gillian Escalante

THE RULES:

1. Entrant must be paid-up NWHS member as of the October 2013 general meeting.
2. Photographs must be taken by member.
3. Photographs must be taken after October 1, 2012.
4. Photographs must be submitted at the October 2013 general meeting.
5. There is a limit of 2 (two) photographs per category for each member.
6. Photograph dimensions allowed: If in normal format, up to 5" x 7"; if panoramic, either the width or length must be 5" or less (i.e. 5"x 10" is allowed but 6" x 12" is not.)
7. In October, the Show Chairperson will assign you a unique exhibitor number. Put that number, not your name, on the back of each of your photographs. There will be a large envelope designated for each category. Put your photographs into the appropriate envelope.
8. Judging will be done by a qualified judge who is not a NWHS member. The winner in each category will receive a \$15 cash prize; each second place, \$10; and each third place, \$5. Awards will be presented during the club's annual awards ceremony in December. At that time, large posters highlighting the winning entries with the judge's comments will be posted. All other entries will also be on display.

The photo categories are:

1. Visitors in the Garden: Must be of something living or a representation of something living i.e. may include humans, animals, insects or even gnomes and statues... The photograph must be taken in your own garden.
2. Colour in the Garden—Red: Best capture of the colour red in any garden.
3. View of a NWHS Garden: Can be an over-all or partial view of any member's garden.

Judging Criteria:

- Interest or impact of the image for the viewer
- Correct exposure of image (not too dark or too light)
- Focus of main subject is correct
- Composition is appropriate for the subject (Centered subject or distracting objects in the photograph often hurt the composition)
- Photograph is entered in correct category and basic rules are followed.

2013 NWHS Contests: Photo, Container & Garden Design

CONTAINER CONTEST

While this is not a photo contest, your container is judged by how the photograph portrays it. Enter the best photographs possible of your container. If you do not have a good camera, ask a friend who does to take some pictures. For this contest, the member entering the contest does not need to be the photographer.

THE RULES:

1. The contest is open to all paid up NWHS members as of the October 2013 general meeting.
2. Each member can enter up to 2 (two) entries. The entries can be containers, hanging baskets or a coordinated group of containers and baskets. It cannot be part of a raised bed.
3. Each entry must have been created by the member.
4. Up to three photographs of each entry may be submitted. For example, you can include both a summer and winter view. The entry itself may have been created at any time, even prior to October 1, 2012. However, the photographs must have been taken within the October 1, 2012 and October 8, 2013 time-frame.
5. Photograph dimensions allowed: if in normal format, up to 5" x 7"; if panoramic, either width or length must be 5" or less (i.e. 5" x 10" is allowed but 6" x 12" is not)
6. The photographs of the entries accompanied by a list of all the plants used in each entry are submitted at the October 2013 general meeting. Put your name on the plant list. There will be a supply of large envelopes available. Use one for each of your entries. Just put your photographs and list inside. No need to write anything on the envelope.
7. Judging will be done via secret ballot by your fellow NWHS members at the November meeting.
8. The first place winner will receive a \$15 cash prize; second place, \$10; and third place, \$5. Awards will be presented during the club's annual awards ceremonies in December. At that time, large posters highlighting the winning entries will be displayed.

GARDEN DESIGN CONTEST: USING THE THIRD DIMENSION, HEIGHT

This year's design contest is how you incorporate that third dimension in your garden—how you use it as a design element. It can be hard-landscaping such as a trellis or wall—or it can be plant material. Have you created a tall center of interest that you view from afar? Have you enclosed a secluded area? How have you tackled a tricky slope? Take a photograph showing how effectively you have used height, or solved the problem of height, in your garden design.

THE RULES:

1. Entrant must be paid-up NWHS member as of the October 2013 general meeting.
2. Photographs must be of design elements within the member's own garden.
3. Photographs may be taken in any season but must be taken within the October 1, 2012 and October 8, 2013 time-frame.
4. Each member can enter 2 (two) entries. Each entry will be comprised of 1 photograph.
5. Photograph dimensions allowed: if in normal format, up to 5" x 7"; if panoramic, either width or length must be 5" or less (i.e. 5" x 10" is allowed but 6" x 12" is not).
6. In October, the Show Chairperson will assign you an unique exhibitor number. Put that number, not your name, on the back of each of your photographs. There will be a large envelope designated for Garden Design. Put your entries into this envelope.
7. Judging will be done via secret ballot by your fellow NWHS members at the November meeting.
8. The first place winner will receive a \$15 cash prize; second place, \$10; and third place, \$5. Awards will be presented during the club's annual awards ceremonies in December. At that time, large posters highlighting the winning entries will be displayed.