

Newsletter



We are saddened by the death of **Molly Stone** on February 27th. Within any organization, there are members who have minimal participation in the group. Then there are others who wholeheartedly embrace the group by becoming involved in its running and taking advantage of all it has to offer. Molly was definitely in the latter category. She was an extraordinary NWHS member.

Molly was one of our life members, having joined in 1980. She served as president for two terms, 1983-84 and 1987-88. When the club had the season long (April to September) Parlour Show, she was consistently in the top scorers for her exhibits and won the overall point prize in 1996 and 2004. But these are just numbers. In no way do they truly indicate how

Molly was involved with the club. Whenever there was a club activity, Molly was there to help out. It was difficult to find a picture of her for this newsletter. Going through the club photos, there was Molly in this group, in that group... Finally, a picture of her alone: holding her newly won Garden Stumps trophy in 2008.

Molly was a fantastic gardener. She actually practiced what most of us just think about. Through years of composting, her soil was absolutely beautiful loam. She actually rotated her crops! As you may know, she had a huge family—11 children! There are two theories: Molly gardened to feed the kids or Molly gardened as an escape from the kids. Probably both were true. She was an avid seed collector. Her basement had several grow light stations under which she rotated flats of seedlings. She would then move the seedlings into the appropriate cold or warm greenhouse. For our plant sale, we would expect a few cole seedlings from her. Instead we got flats of different vegetables and flowers. A good proportion of the vegetable varieties available at our sale came from Molly.

Molly was a caring and extremely non-judgemental person. She was very generous. She had such a soft, chuckling laugh. She will forever be missed at our meetings and activities.

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 7:30pm

Speaker: Tom Baumann will speak on "Berries".

Membership Renewal:

Membership renewals are due at the March meeting. The annual fee is \$15.00. You still have a chance to receive a free membership!

Mark Your Calendar

PAR GAR Gardener's Party:

Thursday, March 14, 6pm to 9pm at St Thomas More Collegiate, 7450 12th Avenue, Burnaby (See article page 2)

Growing Organic Food with Carol

Pope: Saturday, March 16, 1pm-4:30pm. Langley Civic Facility, 20338 – 65th Avenue, Langley. (See article page 2)

The BC Council of Garden Clubs

2013 Annual General Meeting:

Saturday, March 23; 9am-3pm. Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 555 Slocan St., Vancouver. Admission of \$20 for NWHS members includes a hot lunch. Deadline to register tonight with money. (See article page 2)

NWHS Regular Meeting:

Tuesday, April 9, 7:30pm
Guest speaker: Conway Lum speaking on Container Vegetable Gardening
April Bring to Share

HarkAway Botanicals Visit:

May 4th, 10am to 2pm,
245 Pembina Street, Queensborough,
New Westminster
(See article page 2)

Contacts

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HarkAway Visit**

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TREASURER'S REPORT - Feb.

Total Revenues: \$1,463.00

Total Expenses: \$170.50

See the bulletin board for the full report.

New Westminster Horticultural Society March 2013

Bring to Share in April:

Twice a year, April and September, the club holds "Bring to Share" as part of the general meeting. How often, have you been gardening and come across a puzzle: "I don't remember planting this plant" or "what the heck is eating at these leaves" but there has been nobody to ask. Or you are wondering "how can I tackle this slope (or dry area under a tree, or...)." Or you are half way through a project—and it is turning out amazing well (or nothing like you imagined...). "Bring to Share" offers a formal setting for you to approach other club members for their feedback and advice. The sharing goes both ways—if you are looking at one of the exhibits and have an opinion or answer, write it down on the slip.

What to Share?

To have things semi-organized, exhibits will be sorted into the following categories:

Garden Glory: beautiful or unusual plants, blooms or foliage from your garden

Photos: Garden related—can even be of your new pup excavating in the garden

Great tips: this can even be a book or magazine you recommend

Garden Design: info or questions

Plant identification: bring in the plant or leaf

Insect: please keep specimens enclosed

Weeds and disease: please keep infected materials enclosed in plastic

Other: anything that doesn't fit into the other categories

How to Participate:

Display tables, with category signs, are set up at the fireplace end of the room with a registration table in the middle.

1. At the registration table, get an exhibit slip for each of your exhibits and register for the draw.
2. Fill out the exhibit slip: Put your name at the top and any details under your name. Put your exhibit on the table under the appropriate category.
3. When looking at the exhibits before the meeting or at tea break, leave feedback by writing it down on the slip. Sharing is mutual. Show that you

appreciate the work the exhibitors have done to bring in their things to share. If you would like to talk with the exhibitor in person but don't know that person, ask the show personnel to help you.

4. Receive a participation prizes: There will be a draw for 3 participation prizes (now \$5 each, due to austerity measures). Each person who brings in exhibits gets one chance at a prize.

BC Council of Garden Clubs 2013 Annual General Meeting:

Saturday, March 23. Doors open 8:30 (visit vendors, have a coffee & muffin, buy a draw ticket); meeting starts 9:30; adjournment approx 3:00. At Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 555 Slocan St., Vancouver. Speakers: Tanis Gieselman of the UBC Biodiversity Museum on "Beyond the Edge—Conservation and 'Seeds' of Solutions" and Gary Lewis of Phoenix Perennials on "Hot New Plants". The \$20 admission for NWHS members includes hot lunch. As our club is running the draw, we are the first club tables to be called to the buffet. Please pay for your ticket tonight.

PAR GAR Gardener's Party:

If you are interested in vegetable gardening, this is a must attend event. You are under no duress to be a donator of produce to the Plant a Row Grow a Row program—but we hope you will. Through the Plant a Row Grow a Row program your excess fruit and vegetables are donated to the New Westminster Food Bank and distributed to needy families, especially those with children.

The evening starts at 6:00 sharp! There will be coffee, tea and treats and giveaways and door prizes. This year's line-up of speakers includes Conway Lum on growing honeyberries, Pasquale Porico on mason bees, Sharon Hanna on kale and Mike Lascelle on unexpectedly edible flowers and leaves. June Hewkow from Lee Valley Tools will bring us up to date on the latest tools and gadgets. Brian Minter will have inspiring words for us, and Claude LeDoux will host the event.

When & Where? Thursday, March 14, 6pm to 9pm at St Thomas More Collegiate, 7450 12th Ave in Burnaby

(just off Kingsway near the Burnaby/New Westminster border). Admission is free but a donation of non-perishable food for the Food Bank would be appreciated. What a great deal!!

HarkAway Botanicals Visit:

For years, Lyle Courtice dreamt about running his own nursery. In 1995 he opened HarkAway Botanicals; in 2005, he move it to Queensborough. Since then it has evolved into a micro-specialty wholesale nursery that caters to the more discerning gardener. His focus is on an eclectic mix of rare and choice plant material from Asia, Europe and North America.

On May 4th, 10am to 2pm, we are invited to an Open Garden at HarkAway. Lyle will tell us what it is like to be the sole proprietor of a wholesale nursery. It is definitely not all "playing with the plants". 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 besides the actual growing of the plants. Yes, plants will be for sale—a rare treat since this is a wholesale nursery. Don't expect Home Depot prices—these are not Home Depot plants.

Please sign up tonight or at the April meeting. More details and map available next month.

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.