

Newsletter



'Tis the Evening to Share Good Cheer!!

Seasonal Greetings everyone! Welcome to our year-end festivities. Tonight we share good food and good times with our good friends in NWHS. A few thank-yous: to the Executive who have worked many months on putting together the evening; to Austin Gourmet Caterers for our feast; to New West Parks Greenhouse for growing the best poinsettias; to Micheline & Jocelyn for fine-tuning our decorations; to Bill Conolly for being our jovial bartender; and to the numerous elves who created our draw prizes.

Our Christmas Draw Charity:

As voted at our November meeting, Aunt Leah's Place will be the our 2014 charity to receive half of the proceeds of our Christmas draw. Aunt Leah's Place is a registered charity that, for more than 25 years, has been helping kids in foster care and teen moms achieve a better future by providing guidance, supported housing, job training and coaching in essential skills. When many teens in foster care "age out" of government care at 19, they find themselves completely alone. Aunt Leah's Place tries to fill that gap and provide the loving support young people in care so desperately need and deserve. Aunt Leah's is New Westminster based.

CONTESTS:

This year we reverted back to permitting each member to submit 3 entries into each category (up from the 2 permitted last year) as the purpose of the contests is to share and we thought, "Why restrict sharing!" Accompanying this change was the stipulation that a member could only win 2 placings in each category. For the photo contest, we created a separate macro category i.e. no macro pictures are allowed in any of the three traditional categories. Of course this resulted in some subjective decision making on the part of our judge as he had the power to pull a picture from or to the macro category. We accept the judge's decision as final.

The winners of the container contest were determined by popular vote at the November meeting. It is great to see some new faces receiving envelopes tonight.

Congratulations. Each envelope contains some cash: 1st place, \$15; 2nd, \$10 and 3rd, \$5. Please leave your photos on the wall. They will be returned to you in the new year. Thanks for entering and sharing your observations.

The Winner's are....

Photo Contest:

Colour in the Garden (Chartreuse)

1. Gillian Escalante
2. Linda Turnbull
3. Brenda Fairfax

Garden Visitor

1. Brenda Fairfax
2. Paul Larose
3. Linda Turnbull

NWHS Garden View:

1. Diane Escalante
2. Linda Turnbull
3. Brenda Fairfax

Macro Image:

1. Gillian Escalante
2. Gillian Escalante
3. Trudy Findlay

Container Contest:

1. Linda Turnbull
2. Diane Escalante
3. Audrey Barnes

The 2015 Colour in the Garden will be Burgundy. This can range anywhere from Dark Red to Almost Black. Trying different lighting conditions will produce really different photos of the same plant.

Tonight's Meeting

NWHS Christmas Celebration:
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 6pm - 9pm
Buffet dinner 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Mark Your Calendar

NWHS First Regular Meeting of 2015:

Tuesday, February 10, 7:30pm
Memberships due & payable (\$15)

New West Arts Council Treasure

Room: Dec 2 to 20, closed Mondays, 1-5pm, Centennial Lodge in Queens Park. Features one-of-a-kind treasures. Book an evening of shopping with friends, 604-525-3244

Festival of Lights - VanDusen

Botanical Garden Dec. 10 to Jan. 4
Wed to Sat, For hours and other info
www.vandusengarden.org

Festival of Lights Photography:

Dec 11, 3-8pm. \$76/\$62 for VanDusen members. 604-718-5898
or www.vandusengarden.org
Develop your nighttime photography skills at the VanDusen Festival of Lights. Class consists of indoor presentation and time in the garden to shoot photos.

The Barnes' Lights:

117 Seventh Avenue. Many apologies that they are not yet installed for your viewing pleasure. The "Glorious Sight" will be coming as soon as possible—probably in about a week, weather permitting. 4-8am; 4-11pm.

Vagabond Theatre presents

"Christmas Belles" Dec. 4 to 20, Wed to Sat, 8:00pm; Sunday Matinees, 2:00pm Tickets \$15, Seniors/Students, \$13 - Reservations: 604-521-0412

TREASURER'S REPORT - November

Total Revenues: \$ 1,003.00
Total Expenses: \$ 1,150.80

New Westminster Horticultural Society December 2014

OUR PHOTO CONTEST JUDGE:

Kevin Hudkins, once again, judged the contest entries. If you are interested in seeing some of his work, check out www.flickr.com/photos/prestidigitize. Thank you, Kevin, for judging and for your thoughtful comments. Thank you, too, for the inspiring presentation at our June meeting.

Kevin's General Comments:

I seem to say this every year but it remains true: it was an enjoyable experience looking through the entries. There are some notably strong images. I noticed many photographers paying attention to several composition aspects with very positive results:

- Subject placement and the rule of thirds
- Diagonal and dynamic lines through the frame
- The direction of light to accentuate different aspects of the subjects
- Depth of Field (focal plane) used to emphasize the subject and separate it from the background

The new Macro category had some very fine entries, and it was nice to see more photographers exploring the world of the small... It's worth noting that in macro work it's still very important to watch for distracting elements in the frame; it's sometimes difficult to separate the subject from a busy background but it makes the image so much stronger. As well, the focal plane in a macro shot is usually very shallow so care needs to be taken in having exactly the right part of the image sharp.

I would like to thank the New Westminster Horticultural Society for inviting me to again participate in this year's photo contest. I had a very enjoyable time viewing the entries. Congratulations to the winners, and to everyone for taking an interest in photography and working to improve their skills.

EXPENSES BYLAW MOTION PASSED:

This means that any member, who has outstanding club receipts, should submit them to the treasurer, Ellen Berg, as soon as possible—and by Dec 31st by the absolute latest.

FUND-RAISING COMMITTEE REPORT:

All NWHS members should give special thanks to this group who organize the different fund-raising activities to ensure that the club is on good financial standing. They have done an excellent job-- surpassing budget expectations for 2014! The group, under the co-leadership of Silina Nakatsu and Annemarie Mobach, consisted of Dan Tessaro, Sharon Seki, Lorna Cloutier, Janet Butts and Joan Stevenson. Sharon Seki has opted off the committee for 2015. She'll still be running the at-meeting draw. Terri Clark-Kveton and Micheline Ippersiel have signed on for 2015. If you have some good fund-raising ideas and would like to join the group, please contact Silina. It is not a long-term commitment but staying on the committee for at least one year is recommended.

The standard activities covered by the committee are the at-meeting sales, the boulevard plant sale, at-meeting draw, the Silent Auction and Christmas Party Draw. Additional activities were the Florissa bulb sales, the small compost bucket sales and "What's Cooking at NWHS". Silina's cooking classes were definitely the most creative idea of all. Any new ideas? You don't have to be on the committee to put them forward. Just tell Silina or any executive member. Projects involving sharing would be great, as that is what the club is all about—sharing.

Speaking of sharing, several of the current projects require manpower from many people. Consider volunteering to help at the at-meeting sale. How about becoming the co-chair of the boulevard sale? It is not all work. You get to meet and know other members when you become involved.



YOUR 2015 EXECUTIVE:

President: Julia Goulden

Vice-President: Lorna Cloutier

Treasurer: Ellen Berg

Secretary: Mary Barnard

Show Chair: Lea McDonald

Members-at-Large: Deirdre Antonelli, Terri Clark-Kveton, Trudy Findlay, Monica Mowat

Remember, you don't have to be on executive to be involved in the running of the club. Just approach any executive if you have ideas or want to help.

Vacant Member-At-Large-Position:

A full executive would have 5 members-at-large. If you would like to volunteer to be on the Executive, please talk with Lorna or Julia. This non-portfolio position is a great intro to the running of the club.

Contacts

Julia Goulden-President

604-526-1140 or

julia@newwesthortsociety.org

Lorna Cloutier-Vice-President

604-524-1942 or

Lorna@newwesthortsociety.org

Ellen Berg-Treasurer, 604-525-7827

or ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

Silina Nakatsu - Fund-raising

604-521-7351 or

silina@newwesthortsociety.org

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS:

*We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy New Year.
Good tidings we bring to you and your
kin,*

*Good tidings for Christmas and a
happy New Year.*

*Now bring us a figgy pudding,
Now bring us a figgy pudding,
Now bring us a figgy pudding and a
cup of good cheer.*

*We won't go 'til we've got some,
We won't go 'til we've got some,
We won't go 'til we've got some, so
bring some out here.*

*We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas and a
happy New Year.*