

# Newsletter



## PLANT SALE TIME IS UPON US!

For the past few years NWHS has had a small(er) "Boulevard Plant Sale" in place of the traditionally massive endeavour of previous years. It's a lot easier, of course, but still needs many hands on deck, both long before and on sale day. Sale date is May 7th (the day before Mother's Day), location: 720 Fifth St, New West. Hours of sale: 10am-3pm—unless we repeat the sell-out of last year.

Planning has started in earnest. As with the BIG Plant Sale, the Boulevard sale is our main fund-raiser of the year. As Julia pointed out in her recent email newsletter: We, the club members, are the active participants, and the beneficiaries of the effort. We reap what we sell - let's do it!

### Plant-up Now:

With this amazing weather, it's easy to get out in the garden. While cleaning-up, plant-up as well. Plant divisions should be potted up at least 3 weeks before the sale to get roots established and top-growth presentable. If you haven't started seeds, now is a good time. Don't delay. Hopefully the weather will enable them to be hardened off outdoors before sale day. Incidentally, tomatoes are the most popular items on the tables, so more is better.

### Labels:

We have blank tags available (get some tonight at the in-house sale table). Please write as much information as you know and can fit on the tag. Sun exposure, size (height & spread), flower/fruit/foilage colour. Audrey has a catalogue of information for plants sold at the big sale. If you contact her, she can email you the info (including botanical name) of your plants. This is really easy for her to do—she might even be able to ID your plant, upon a bit of discussion. *All plants must be tagged prior to arrival at the sale.*

### Planter Workshop:

This is something new we are trying this year. It will happen at 1pm, April 16. Since sale day is the day before Mother's Day, it was thought that having some table-top sized planters

available for purchase as gifts might be worthwhile. If you are interested in helping make these up (and learning a new skill in the process), let Janet Butts know. The number of attendees must be known in advance to ensure enough material is bought.

### Plant Delivery:

Your potted and labelled plants must be delivered to the sale site (720 Fifth St, NW) between 8 and 9:30am on Sale Day (Sat, May 7th) to enable pricing and sorting. Alternatively, if you can't deliver Saturday morning, plants can be dropped off Friday evening between 5pm and 7pm—these plants must be taken to the back of the driveway!

### Sale Day Opportunities:

Sign-up tonight to reserve your place to join the Sale Day Fun. We will be selling NWHS as well as selling plants. The sign-up sheet will either be circulating the room or at the in-house plant sale table tonight. Shifts are 2 hours long. Sign-up to help with morning set-up, selling or afternoon take-down—or to stay all day. Janet Butts and Annemarie Mobach are sale-day overseers. They will gladly answer any questions. Alternatively, ask any of the fund-raising committee or executive members.

### 37 AND COUNTING!

What were you doing in 1979? Were you even born? That was the year that **ELSIE ANSDELL** joined NWHS and became a stalwart participant and supporter of the club. For many years she was on the club executive. She lived many events that are "urban legends of NWHS history". She experienced first-hand the club's participation in the huge PNE horticultural displays. She was on the bus trip to the Rose Parade. For many years, she ruled supreme on the now discontinued season-long parlour show. It is gratifying to have a member who values the club so much. She beats the executive in arriving at our meetings. Elsie, thank you for being you. We hope that you will occupy your seat, front row & center, for many years to come.

## Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 7:30pm  
Speaker: Mike Campbell of Edible Oasis on "Natural Garden Spaces"  
Plants will be for sale.  
Deadline to keep your membership continuous.

## Mark Your Calendar

**Egan Davis on "Gardening Without Water"** - Wed, Apr 13, 7pm,  
New West Public Library, Main Branch  
Egan is a horticulturist at UBC Botanical Garden. He was a highlight at the recent PAR GAR Gardener's Party.

**VanDusen Botanical Garden Annual Plant Sale** - Sun, Apr 24, 10am-4pm  
5251 Oak St, Vancouver  
Garden Admission is free for this day.

**Fearing's Farm Rhododendrons Open Garden & Sale**  
Sun, Apr 24, 10am-4pm  
5376 Ross Rd, Abbotsford  
1500 rhodos in a woodland setting

**Burnaby Rhododendron & Garden Society Plant Sale, Silent Auction**  
Sun, May 1, 10am-3pm  
Shadbolt Centre, Deer Lake Park, Burnaby  
Info: [www.braggs.ca](http://www.braggs.ca)

**NWHS Annual Boulevard Plant Sale**  
Sat, May 7, 10am-3pm  
720 Fifth St, New West  
A highlight of your growing season!

**NWHS Regular May Meeting**  
Tues, May 10, 7:30pm  
Speaker: Kathy Friesen of Bloomsbury Designer Gardens on "Patio and Balcony Design"

**NWHS Annual Garden Tour & Picnic**  
Sat, July 23rd, Afternoon & Early Evening.

### TREASURER'S REPORT - Mar 2016

Total Revenue: \$587.55  
Total Expenses: \$380.34  
See bulletin board for Ellen's detailed report.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society April 2016

## **GARDENERS = KILLERS?**

Well, if it a weed or some pesky ants—YES!

Try these homemade recipes for getting rid of the unwanted.

### **Weed Killer:**

**Caution:** never use this near any plant material you want to keep. This kills everything. Best used on a dry day so it is not washed into the soil. Excellent for use on hard surfaces such as walkways, pathways and driveways—get rid of those pesky weeds between the cracks.

**Recipe:** In a 1 litre spray bottle, add 1/3 cup household salt and a dash of liquid dish soap and then fill the bottle to the 1 litre line with white vinegar. Shake well. It is best to spray when the plant has leaves as the leaves absorb the weed killer and takes it right down to the tiniest roots. If you have already removed the leaves, spray a good quantity on top of the root.

### **Ant Killer:**

**Recipe:** 1 cup icing sugar, 1 cup Borax, mix well. This can be sprinkled on any hard surface or around plants. To keep the mix from being washed away in our damp climate, use an old deli container to make an ant trap. Poke holes in the container half way down. Place the mixture inside and use the top to contain. Place under plant leaves and out of sight. The icing sugar attracts the adult ants who carry the borax on their bodies back to the nest to kill future generations.

### **Slug & Root Weevil Deterrent:**

Use coffee grounds around the base of plants. Not good for lime-loving plants.

## **PICNIC:**

**Date:** Saturday, July 23rd. A week later than in the past few years. Audrey complained that she needed a bit of a time between the July meeting (i.e. the Club Show) and the picnic so she can get the place weeded. Alright, we have the picnic site (Audrey's)—what we need are gardens for the tour. Please consider opening your gates to your fellow club members. Being on tour is the best incentive possible for getting that garden project finished. Audrey is the person to talk with.

## **FLORISSA:**

Thank you to all members who purchased bulbs, tubers and plants through the spring Florissa campaign. With your help, we added \$191.04 to the club coffers. Get them planted now!

## **PHOTO CONTEST:**

Now that things are bursting forth in our gardens it is a great time to grab the camera and capture some images. Why not use your camera to periodically record what's happening in your garden. You will later be able to look and see what combinations are working well—or what changes might be in the making. Inadvertently you will probably have photos ideal for entering the club's photo contest. For our photo contest, "garden" refers to a place cultivated by humans. A wilderness is not considered a garden.

**Colour in the Garden:** For 2016, the colour is orange. This can be anywhere from pale peach to dark rust. The photo can be taken in any garden.

**Visitors in the Garden:** Your photo can be of a living visitor to your garden (eg. a person, animal, fish or bug) or a representation of a living thing (eg. a statue or whimsy). The photo must be taken in your own garden.

### **Partial or Overall View of a NWHS**

**Member's Garden:** The photo can be of any club member's garden. This is where having a photo journal of your garden can come in handy. Lots of shots to choose from.

**Macro Image:** This refers an extreme close-up—the exact definition is in the Contests Handout. Macro images cannot be entered in any other category even if it is a photo of a visitor or of the colour orange.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society Boulevard Plant Sale

Saturday  
May 7, 2016  
10am to 3pm  
Boulevard in front of  
720 Fifth Street  
New Westminster

Cash only

## **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

**Audrey Barnes - Contests, July Show**

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or

audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

**Lea McDonald - Contests, July Show**

604-942-9416

**Janet Butts—Fundraising, Plant Sale**

604-435-3008 or

Janet@newwesthortsociety.org

**Annemarie Mobach—Fundraising,**

**Plant Sale**

604-524-5780 or

Annemarie@newwesthortsociety.org

**Joan Stevenson-Wish List:**

604-522-8249 or

joan@newwesthortsociety.org

**Richard Harrison-Seed Exchange**

604-544-2468 or

richard@newwesthortsociety.org

**Merril Hall-Sketch Club**

604-526-4324 or

merril@newwesthortsociety.org

## **SEED EXCHANGE:**

Richard has done a great job packaging your donated seeds. Check out the assortment on the Free Table in the foyer. The exchange only works well if seeds are donated. Please go through your stash and see if you have purchased seed (a max of a few years old) that you no longer want. Come summer & fall, let some of your garden favorites produce seeds and collect them to share. If you have seeds to donate, please leave them with Audrey at the fireplace table. Thank you.

## **FLORAL ART SHOW IN JULY:**

At the July meeting, we hold our In-Club Show. Unlike our Bring-to-Share events, the entries are judged. Because of this, there a schedule which lists the categories for entries. The show is divided into three overall sections: Vegetables, Fruits & Herbs; Flowers; Floral Art. There is only minimal tweaking of the Vegetable & Flowers sections but Floral Art is completely revamped every year. Floral Art is the creating of decorative arrangement/displays from flowers, foliage and other materials. Audrey would be delighted if any members could offer themes for the Floral Art categories. We need 5 or 6 themes. Please talk with her.