

Newsletter



www.newwesthortsociety.org

April 2017

LET'S SELL!

NWHS Boulevard Plant Sale
Sat, May 13, 10am-3pm
720 Fifth St, New West

The Boulevard Plant Sale is not only our major fund-raiser of the year, it is a lot of fun! If you haven't ever joined the team of volunteers, this is a great time to start.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THE SALE:

Besides our traditional small posters (for your friends' fridges) and the larger posters (for public boards), we are on Facebook. Just search for "New Westminster Horticultural Society" and the page should come up. "Like" the event, make comments, and "share" it with your FB friends. Let's get the word out.

PREPARING YOUR PLANTS:

Perennials love to be divided: In fact, if you don't divide them, they will go into decline. Luckily for our sale, spring is the best time to divide them. More specifically, the best time is before the plants have put effort into producing top growth. Dividing them when dormant, will promote root growth. If possible, get those divisions potted up 2-3 weeks before the sale. A perfect Easter Weekend project!

Growing from seed: Thank you!

Especially if you are growing veges. It is a little late to start some seeds, but you could sow quick growing things like peas & sweet peas. Try to get the seedlings hardened-off before Sale Day. If they're not hardened-off, make sure the sale people know and, please, don't drop them off Friday evening.

Need Pots? Need tags? Extra pots are available in Audrey Barnes' handy carport (117 Seventh Ave) and at Jean Johnson's (541 Amess St). Please do not drop pots off at these two locations after the sale. Thanks. Both Audrey & Jean will also have a stash of blank labels for your plant tags. Phoning first (see Contacts listing) is recommended.

LABELS:

All plants must be tagged before arrival at the sale location. Write as much as you know and can fit on the tag. Basics include: name (+ botanical name if you know it) light exposure (sun, pt sun, pt shade, shade), height and width (or spread), special features such as flower

colour or why you like the plant. If you are uncertain as to the identity of your plant, take a picture and call or email it to Audrey. There's a good chance, she will know it. If we cannot identify the plant, please do not bring it to the boulevard sale—save it for our in-house sale a few days later.

PRICING:

If you are familiar with our pricing system, write the price for each plant on the back of the top of the label. Unsure? Leave the pricing for the crew on sale day. Prices should be in no smaller increments than 25 cents.

PLANT DELIVERY:

Preferably we would like the plants delivered between 8-9:30am on Saturday to the sale site, 720 Fifth St. The earlier the better. The first few hours are extremely busy—plants must be priced and logically (and aesthetically) organized. That all takes time. *Please do not deliver plants during the sale hours.* If Saturday morning does not work for you, you can drop them off Friday evening, 5-7pm. Please take them to the back of the driveway. Again, no un-hardened off seedlings delivered on Friday night. Thanks.

WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW IN ADVANCE OF THE SALE:

Tonight there will be numerous sheets circulated and at the fireplace table. **Plant donations:** If you know what plants you are donating, that's great. It gives us a heads-up to search for the photo of those plants. If you don't know tonight, contact Audrey to update the list. This list also helps the set-up crew anticipate the table lay-out.

Sale Day Volunteering: There is a variety of tasks that change throughout the day. The various shifts are short, so commitment isn't onerous! *We would like your commitment in advance of sale day.* Please sign-up early to reduce the stress for the organizers regarding the number of people. Showing up at the last minute can be confusing. Tonight, the sheet is at the fireplace table. Contact Janet Butts asap.

Holding plants for the in-house sale. Any plants not sold on Sale Day, will be kept over to sell at our Tues sale. Someone needs to transport and babysit them. Would that be you?

Tonight's Meeting

Tues, Apr 11, 7:30pm
Speaker: Egan Davis on "New Gardening Ideas Out of Europe"
Spring Bring to Share
Deadline to keep your membership continuous. Only \$15

Mark Your Calendar

Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival
Events happening until Apr 23.
Put on by the Vancouver Parks & Rec, this involves a huge number of events held at various locations throughout the city. A celebration of spring!
Info: www.vcbf.ca

NWHS Annual Boulevard Plant Sale
Sat, May 13, 10am-3pm
720 Fifth St, New West

Edible Oasis Mother's Day Plant Sale & Garden Tour
Sat & Sun, May 13-14, 9am-3pm
400 block Garret St, Sapperton (near Royal Columbian)
Info: michael@edibleoasis.ca

NWHS Regular May Meeting
Tues, May 16, 7:30pm

Speaker: To be announced
NWHS Annual Garden Tour & Pot Luck Picnic

Sat, July 15th, Can we visit your garden? Tour in afternoon and picnic early evening.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Mar 2017

Total Revenue: \$1197.00
Total Expenses: \$849.54
See bulletin board for report.

FLORISSA:

Thank you everyone who ordered plants through the spring program. We added \$271.15 to our coffers. Now, don't follow Audrey's example—get those purchases planted. Not sure just how? Visit their website, www.florissa.com for all sorts of handy info.

MAY MEETING DATE:

Because of the date clash with provincial elections, the May meeting will be held on **May 16** (the 3rd Tues of the month), same hour & place. This change is only for this meeting. In June, we revert back to the 2nd Tues.

New Westminster Horticultural Society April 2017

CLUB MEMBERSHIP IN DECLINE?

Recently, this news has emerged. Why is this happening? Is NWHS not fulfilling your expectations? What would you like to see? Why did you join the club in the beginning? Are we letting you down? All good questions. We would love to know your responses. If you do not feel comfortable speaking with any executive, then at least talk with Audrey at the fireplace table. She promises to pass on your opinions. She is a great believer that involvement is key to really enjoying a club.

Bring a friend to a meeting: We urge you all to bring a friend to a meeting. The drop-in fee is only \$2. Enjoy the speaker, take a chance at the draw, indulge in the refreshments! If your guest likes the experience, the \$2 can be put forward to membership (\$15) at the current or next meeting. Once a member, she/he gets to take advantage of our great library - amongst other great benefits.

SPEAKERS YOU WANT TO HEAR: *by Anna Camporese*

The highlight of the club meeting is the speaker. An interesting topic presented by a good speaker who is not only knowledgeable, but presents the information in an engaging manner and speaks audibly and clearly, is what we strive for. Sometimes the topic is interesting, but the speaker falls short of our expectations. In an effort to improve the quality of the speaker portion of the meetings the Speaker Committee, AKA Diane Perry and Anna Camporese, is asking for your help.

They want your input on what garden topics you want to hear about. From there they can search out speakers. Conversely maybe you've heard a speaker at a garden event that you'd like to have at the club. During the tea break tell Diane and Anna what topics you'd like to hear about and which ones you don't. They'll be at the fireplace table. If you'd prefer to get in touch by email, they are listed under Contacts in the newsletter.

WANT A WAGON?

Have we got a deal for you! It has been decided to auction off one of the club wagons that we purchased for plant transport when we had the big sale. We purchased them from Lee Valley. During the May and June meetings, we will be accepting bids. Starting bid \$40. At the moment, we are unsure if we will have the actual wagon on display or just a picture. Transport is an issue... but it is always good to see what you're getting.

LEE VALLEY CATALOGUES:

It has come to our attention that many members do not know that you can receive periodic small catalogues from Lee Valley through the mail. Just tell them you want them: phone the Coquitlam Store at 604-515-8896 or visit www.leevalley.com. The huge catalogues are "pick-up at the store" only. While on the website, why not sign-up for their excellent newsletter.

ROAMING THE ROOM: TREASURER'S & DRAW TABLES

This is a continuation of our explanatory (what happens where) tour of our meeting room.

Treasurer's Table: You all must know where this is—immediately to your right as you enter the main room. If this is news to you, it is time for you to visit the table and pay your club membership or guest dues! This is where most things concerning money happens. Periodically, when things are really busy, there will be a spin-off of some of the activity to the fireplace table. Our treasurer, Ellen Berg, hangs out here. Often she is flanked by Mary Barnard, our club secretary. Besides taking money, Ellen maintains the each member's contact information. If you change your phone number, address or email, please tell her so that the club roster can be updated. There was a time in the past when our roster was distributed to all members. That changed with the advent of privacy concerns. It is now only the executive and a very few others who have access to the roster. If you want to contact another member, talk with an executive member (or Audrey). The member will be contacted and asked if it is OK for their info to be given to you. You will then be contacted back with the info (assuming they say "yes").

Draw Table: Who doesn't like to win something? Doing so, adds a perk to our meetings. Carla & Sharon are usually the persons manning the table. This is an example of how non-executive can be involved. Most of the prizes are purchased but donations of "nice" items are gladly accepted. If you do donate, don't expect it to be the draw that evening—unless it is live material. Generally, they pre-select each month's offerings. Your donation will probably be held for a latter raffle. *If you bring your own mug to the meeting, you get one free draw ticket upon the purchase of a ticket.* Prizes are awarded on first drawn, first selected basis i.e. if your ticket is drawn first, you get to select your prize first. Good luck. Draw proceeds go into general club revenues.

CONTESTS:

The detailed contest handout is available in the foyer, at the fireplace table and on our website. All members are invited to submit up to 3 entries in the container contest and in each category of the photo contest. It is all about sharing through photographic imaging. Have fun!

CONTAINER CONTEST: Share how you successfully combined plants in a container...or how the combination was unsuccessful!

PHOTO CONTEST: Entries must have been taken by the member. "Garden" is a place cultivated by humans.

Visitors in the Garden: Can be something living or a representation of something living in your own garden.

Colour in the Garden: White, including very pale colours and silver, as well as pristine white. Can be taken in any garden.

View of NWHS Garden: Over-all or partial view of any NWHS garden.

Macro Image: Must be a macro photograph—any subject, in any garden

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 - Bring to Share, Plant pots, blank tags

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or

audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

Lea McDonald - Bring to Share

604-942-9416

Janet Butts - Fundraising, Sale

Volunteers - 604-435-3008 or

Janet@newwesthortsociety.org

Annemarie Mobach - Fundraising

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

604-790-1321 or

merril@newwesthortsociety.org

Jean Johnson - Plant pots, blank tags

604-525-4085 or

jean@newwesthortsociety.org

Anna Camporese - Speakers

anna@newwesthortsociety.org

Diane Perry - Speakers

diane@newwesthortsociety.org