

# Newsletter



## TO GET THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE:

*"Hallo, Eeyore," said Christopher Robin, as he opened the door and came out. "How are you?" "It's snowing still," said Eeyore gloomily. "So it is," said Christopher Robin. "And freezing," said Eeyore. "Is it?" said Christopher Robin. "Yes," said Eeyore. "However," he said, brightening up a little, "we haven't had an earthquake lately."*

### APRIL BRING TO SHARE

Maybe we should add another category to the suggestions of exhibits: The Shock & Awe of Snow. We are sure you took some photos—why not get a couple printed and share the snow's glory (er...glory)?

Let's back up here. If you are new to the club, you may be unfamiliar with the NWHS Bring to Share events. At our April and September meetings, members are invited to bring in gardening related (or something you just really think is neat) items to show and share with fellow NWHS members. This is not a competition—there is no judging involved. The action happens at the fireplace end of the room. Tables are set out with signs suggesting general organization of the exhibits. As you arrive with something to share, check in at the central table to get a slip for each of your exhibit(s). As you do this, you will also be entered in the draw for one of three \$5 participation draws. Each exhibit slip has space for others to write down comments. This is the other half of the sharing—please give feedback to those who brought in things for you to view. Thanks

**Suggestions of Exhibits:** These are the table signs. Do any bring to mind something you have experienced?—bring it in! You can bring in any number of exhibits.

- **Garden Glory:** Beautiful or unusual plants, blooms or foliage from your garden
- **Photos:** Garden related, including the Snow's Shock & Awe
- **Great Tips:** Can be from a book or magazine—or even a book or magazine that you recommend
- **Garden Design:** Info or questions—or even plans of your future intentions

- **Plant Identification:** Bring in the plant, or a leaf, or a photo
- **Insects:** Please keep specimens contained
- **Weeds & Disease:** Please keep infected materials enclosed in plastic
- **Other:** Anything that doesn't fit in the other categories

### NEW WEST PARKS HANGING BASKETS:

There is nothing better to get you out of the 'not snow again' blues than the anticipation of creating a beautiful hanging basket. ...and the New West Parks baskets are premium. People who have already taken the course will be contacted individually.

#### The class schedule for new creators:

- Wed, Apr 26, noon-2pm
- Sat, May 6, 2-4pm
- Thur, May 11, 6:30-8:30pm
- Sat, May 20, 9-11am

**Cost:** 14" basket (19 plants), \$66; 18" basket (23 plants), \$76. Besides the super healthy plants, the cost includes the basket with chain hangers, wick, watering pan, custom blended soil mix, slow release fertilizer and how to care instructions—and, of course, 2 hours of hands-on basket making guidance by Claude LeDoux.

**How to register:** Pre-registration is required. Contact the Queen's Park Arena, 604-777-5111, Mon-Fri 9am-4pm. Register in person or by phone. Payment by Debit, Visa or MasterCard.

### Environmental Conscientiousness:

As gardeners, taking care of the environment should be second nature. Please recycle tonight. Also, we urge you to bring your own mug for refreshments. *An incentive:* bring your own mug and buy a draw ticket—you will get a free ticket

## Tonight's Meeting

Tues, Mar 14, 2017; 7:30pm  
Speaker: Wilhelm Bischof on "Orchids". He will have plants for sale.  
Membership Renewals: only \$15  
Deadline for Florissa orders.

## Mark Your Calendar

### NWHS Regular Meeting

Tues, Apr 11, 7:30pm  
Speaker: Egan Davis on "New Gardening Ideas Out Of Europe"  
Spring Bring to Share

### BC Council of Garden Clubs Spring Meeting & AGM

Sat, Mar 25, 8:30am-4pm  
Firefighters' Banquet & Conference Centre  
6515 Bonsar St, Burnaby  
Registration is required for this event

### Vancouver Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale

Sat, Mar 25, 9-5; Sun, Mar 26, 10-4  
VanDusen Gardens Floral Hall  
Admission adults \$7, seniors \$6  
\$1 off coupon available at [www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca](http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca)

### Alpine Garden Club of BC Spring Show & Sale

Sat, Apr 1, noon-4pm  
VanDusen Floral Hall, 37th & Oak  
[www.agc-bc.ca](http://www.agc-bc.ca)

### Vancouver Dahlia Society Annual Tube Sale

Sat, Apr 8, 10am-4pm  
VanDusen Floral Hall, 27th & Oak  
[www.vancouverdahliasociety.com](http://www.vancouverdahliasociety.com)

### Fraser Valley Dahlia Society Tuber Sale

Sat, Apr 15, 9am-4pm  
George Preston Recreation Centre  
20699 – 42Ave, Langley

### NWHS Annual Boulevard Plant Sale

Sat, May 13  
Plan your participation now.

### NWHS Regular May Meeting

Tues, May 16 (the 3rd Tues. One week later due to provincial election)

### TREASURER'S REPORT - Feb 2017

Total Revenue: \$1568.54  
Total Expenses: \$784.08  
(includes \$400 donation to BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Trust Fund) See bulletin board for full report.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society March 2017

## **PLANT SALE NOT FAR OFF**

by Janet Butts

The Fund Raising Committee is busy ramping up for the Boulevard Plant Sale--Saturday, May 13. You'll be hearing that date over and over, so even if you forget to put it on your calendar, it will be inextricably lodged in your brain! Like an "earworm".

The sale is our chief fund-raiser so we're keen for it to be really successful—which equates to lots of good plants for lots of customers. We're not aiming to repeat the huge sale of eons ago but to produce a more intimate neighbourhood sale. Of course, persons from outside the neighbourhood are welcome to come to purchase. We plan to have 6-8 tables of healthy plant material--all member-provided, grown from seed (usually vegetables & annuals) or divided from their own garden treasures.

Of course monetary results are directly related to member-input. More input, more results. With just two months before the sale, now is the time to start your veggie and annual seed-sowing. Why not combine your post-snow yard clean-up with your plant sale potting-up? Please tell Janet or Annemarie (see the contact listing) what varieties you are growing so we'll have the information ready for our customers. At the sale we will have resource books (and, of course, internet access) for our volunteers but by having the information in advance simplifies and speeds things up. Tonight and at the April meeting, there will be a clip-board passed around for you to list those plants that you plan to donate.

If you have extra 4", 1 gal or 2 gal nursery pots, let us know. We'll direct people to you. Alternately, bring them to the Plant Sale tables at the April meeting. The sale table is also where you will find the venetian blind tags for creating labels for your plants.

By our April Club Meeting, we'll have material for you to post in public spots, and suggestions of where post. The sale should be highlighted on the club Facebook page by then (yes, we do have a Facebook page!). Hopefully Steve Whysall will add our sale to his column in the Vancouver Sun. We plan a repeat of our success with Sheryl McKay of CBC's North by Northwest. Last year a couple of members let her know about it and she announced it twice during her broadcast. Any other ideas for publicity?

## **ROAMING THE ROOM: THE FOYER**

This article is the first of what we hope to be a series on how to get the most out of your attendance at the monthly meeting. More articles will appear as space permits. We hope this helps new (and old) members to maximize their club benefits. We will work around the meeting hall, starting with the Lodge foyer.

**Bulletin Boards:** Lots of info here. Check it out. Although the executive posts the majority of the material, members are invited to add items of interest. Got an event coming up? Feel free to post it.  
**The Free Table:** This is, not surprisingly, a table where you can pick up free stuff. When Seed Exchange seeds are available for pick-up, you will find them here. Good place to find magazines. Got something just too good to toss? You are welcome to add it on the table. Please package so dirt is not spread about. Remember, if your items have reasonable monetary value, the At-Meeting Sale Table (near the fireplace) would be a better destination. If your donation is still on the table at the meeting end, it is expected that you will take it back home.

**Name tags:** Please wear your name tag. We are a social club and nothing facilitates interaction better than knowing the name of the person you with whom you are talking. If you don't find it in front of your name in the box, it is probably because you took it home with you. If you have done that on purpose, please leave a note saying so. It is frustrating for the person organizing the tags to find empty slots—is it lost? —is a replacement needed? Creating new tags time-intensive and often an unnecessary expense. At meeting end, just drop your tag in the open shoe box provided. Thanks.

**Sign-in sheet:** Right next to the name tags. Members and guests are expected to sign-in. Not only does this give us a list of who attended, it also gives an indication of what topics were of interest to the membership—or, looking at it another way, what topics were not of interest.

**Newsletter & other bulk hand-outs:** Pick up this month's newsletter here. Also available will be things such as past newsletters, contest & show handouts, Florissa flyers and catalogues.

*"Despite the forecast, live like it's Spring."- Lilly Pulitzer*

*"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."  
- Margaret Atwood*

## **SKETCHING GROUP:**

Well, they might not be sketching outdoor, but this enthusiastic group continues to meet and create. "Sketching" is too restrictive of a term. Often watercolors, acrylics and other mediums are involved. Contact Susan Tamkin (see contact list) if you would like to be involved. Any level of expertise is welcome.

**Tea & Topic:** The Sketching Group's monthly creative get-together. Participants rotate in supplying goodies and sketching subject. It happens in the basement of the gallery section of the Lodge, 3rd Wed of each month, 7-9pm. \$2 drop-in fee.

**Seniors Services Society Show:** The group's current public face. 750 Carnarvon St. Until May 14, the group is exhibiting a show called "Red". Every exhibit has something red in it. For their next rotation, the show will be "Down the Garden Path" featuring fruits & vegetables.

**FLORISSA:** Tonight is the deadline for submitting your Florissa order. Audrey, in front of the fireplace, will gladly take your cash or cheque. Sign-up for the e-newsletter on [www.florissa.com](http://www.florissa.com). Audrey just won a huge bag of dahlia (delivered to her door!) on the Bulb of the Month Draw. The answer for the current contest is: *Asclepias tuberosa* aka Butterfly Weed.

## **Contacts**

**Julia Goulden - President**

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**Ellen Berg - Treasurer** 604-525-7827

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**Audrey Barnes - Bring to Share, Florissa**

604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or  
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**Lea McDonald - Bring to Share**

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**Janet Butts - Fundraising, Plant sale**

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**Annemarie Mobach - Fundraising,**

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**Susan Tamkin - Sketch Club**

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