

Newsletter



UNIQUE TO THE OCTOBER MEETING:

- Members and registered guests only. No new memberships sold at the meeting.
- No name tags or attendance sheet.
- No free table.
- No At-Meeting Sale.
- No draw.
- No library. Books can be returned at the podium.
- Seed exchange donations at podium.
- Refreshments will be in the kitchen.

SILENT AUCTION:

Next month we get to bid on a huge assortment of items at our annual silent auction. The night itself goes quickly but a lot of hours are involved in preparation. It all starts with members inspecting their cupboards, closets, sheds, attics for "unwants" ...and donating them to the club to auction off. Then comes the work of organizing it all, writing up the slips, transporting the items and setting up the tables.

Who can attend the auction? Although the auction is primarily for club members, last year we invited members to bring a guest to the auction. We are extending this practice for this year as well. No more than 25 guests in total will be allowed (space is limited). To bring a guest, you must inform Ellen Berg prior to Sun, Oct 8, 5pm. You must supply Ellen with the name and phone number of the guest and, on Auction Night, you and your guest must arrive together and get your bidding numbers together.

What can you donate? Almost anything, except...computer components, clothing (unless very unique or suitable for a Hallowe'en costume), books that are in rough shape, items strongly scented or that shed glitter.

How about big items? It is best to leave large or heavy items at home. Instead of lugging them to the lodge, take pictures of items and make up mini-posters with a descriptions and where they are located. Remember space is limited and people have to be able to transport home what they win.

Pre-processing of items: We strongly recommend that you drop off your donations at Audrey's for pre-processing. This permits the bidding slips for these items to be created well in advance.

Also, sorting the items by category allows the organizers to estimate the size of the different areas needed at the lodge. If you are dropping off items, please leave them at the kitchen door (where it is sheltered) and please include your name in case we need help identifying something. Of course, if Audrey is home, donations can be taken directly to the basement door. Do not put items under the wood deck—rain comes right through! If you are donating Christmas craft items as well, they can be mixed in with your auction items. The deadline for drop off is Sun, Oct 8, 5pm.

Bringing items directly to the Lodge: Bring your items to the receiving table, right next to the treasurer's table. Members will assist you in writing out the slips and putting items in the appropriate spots. Arrive early if you can. It may be a busy spot.

The Bidding Slip: Each item must have its own slip. When you are filling out a slip, make sure you include details that make it obvious that the slip is unique to the item. There may be other similar donations and we don't want slips to be ambiguous. If you have several identical items with separate slips, using masking tape, designate them "A", "B", "C", etc. Identify books, CDs, DVDs by writing the title on the slip. The starting bid should be a "real deal". There is to be no starting bid lower than 30¢. If that seems high for your item, group it with another item.

How auction night works: When you arrive, you will be assigned a "bidder number" to be used whenever you bid on an item. It goes on the left side of the slip, with your bid amount on the right side. To start, your bid can equal the "starting bid" or be higher. Any increased bid must end in "0" i.e. you can raise it by 10¢, 20¢, \$1.00, etc. If any bid ends in 5¢, it will be rounded up by auction personnel. You can place a bid as soon as the item is on the table. It is handy to list the items that interest you. It will be announced when there is 5 minutes left for bidding. At auction end, everyone exits the bidding area except a highlighting crew which will highlight the winning bid and the bid amount for each item. When instructed, you can re-enter the auction area and collect the items you won (double check you actually did win them—and that you have the correct

Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, Sept 12, 7:30pm
Speaker: Dianne Gaines on "Spring Flowering Bulbs: New Introductions. Layering."

Mark Your Calendar

Plant a Row, Grow a Row Produce Drop Off: Every Sun until Oct 2, 8:30-9:15am, St. Thomas More Collegiate front entrance, 7450 12th St, Burnaby. Thank you.

Tree Protection & Regulation Bylaw Open House:

Thurs, Sept 14, 6:00-8:30pm
Century House, 620 Eighth St, NW
www.newwestcity.ca to register

NWHS Oct Regular Meeting:

Tues, Oct 10, 7:30
Silent Auction (no speaker)
Photo/Container Contest entries due.
Florissa order deadline.

Christmas Party ticket sales start.
Nominations for Christmas Draw Charity.

BC Council of Garden Clubs' Fall Meeting - Sat, Oct 14, 9am-4pm

Firefighters' Conference Centre
6515 Bonsor Ave (Metrotown)
Pre-registration required (see article)

slips). Get your bids totalled by a tallier and proceed to cash. Cash or cheque payable to NWHS are acceptable. If you plan to pay for both Christmas tickets and auction winnings by cheque, please bring two cheques to the meeting.

What about items that nobody bid on? You can purchase those items at the starting bid price but your bidder number must be put on the slip.

Why we want the bidding slips at auction end? At the cashier, you will be asked to forfeit your bidding slips. Every year, there are always items left behind that have no slip. Someone paid for them but unless we can match the item to a slip, we have no way to identify the owner. Also, if an item is left behind with your number matching the winning bid, Audrey will contact you.

TREASURER'S REPORT - August 2016

Total Revenue: \$282.45
Total Expenses: \$1903.79
(includes \$627.18 - club canopies + \$1000 for Christmas dinner down payment)
See bulletin board for detailed report.

New Westminster Horticultural Society September 2017

AUCTION MANPOWER NEEDED:

Obviously a lot of work is involved in putting on the auction. If you would like to help with any of the following tasks, please talk with Audrey. Thanks.

- Pre-processing items at Audrey's (probably 2 hour shift)
- Transporting items on auction day (covered vehicle needed)
- Setting up the tables
- Helping members make out slips
- Act as scrutineers at tables
- Highlighting winning bids
- Tallying bids
- Tear down & transfer back to Audrey's

CHRISTMAS PARTY COUNT-DOWN:

We are just finishing summer (we think), but it is never too early to prepare for good times.

Donation of Christmas crafting items:

If you have anything Christmassy that seems tired, or that you are just tired of, donate them to be used in our Christmas crafting sessions. We are not insulted when "past won" prizes are donated back. Leave any items at the back kitchen door at 117 Seventh Ave (Audrey's home). Please leave your name with the items. Thank you.

Christmas Party tickets: Our party is on Dec 12th, our regular meeting evening. Because it starts with a catered buffet meal, tickets must be purchased to attend. They will be on sale at the treasurer's table at the Oct and Nov meetings—and with Ellen Berg between the meetings. \$20 for NWHS members; \$25 for a guest. In Oct, if you plan to pay for your tickets and for auction winnings by cheque, please bring two cheques to facilitate keeping the monies separate. More party details next month.

Christmas Charity Nominations:

We give half of the proceeds of our Christmas Draw to charity—preferably one local and compassionate. Every year we vote on who the lucky group will be. Think now of who you would like to receive the money (approx. \$400). At the Oct meeting, there will be a bucket in the kitchen for the nominations. In Nov, we will vote.

Christmas Crafting: At our crafting sessions we create the prizes for our Christmas Party Draw. Most have a seasonal theme. The crafting sessions run for 3 weeks, Nov 20 to Dec 10. Crafting occurs when people sign-up to be in attendance—any time between 9am and 9pm each day. Fresh materials are used during the daylight hours of the final weekend. Crafting is done in Audrey's basement. Lots of fun. Very social. The sign-up calendar will be available at the Nov meeting.

IT'S TIME TO GET THOSE CONTEST ENTRIES ORGANIZED...

...or, if you are like many of us, get out into the garden and take some photos to submit at the Oct meeting. Although the Oct meeting is the submission date, if you find that you cannot be attendance that night, talk with Audrey about alternate arrangements. At the Oct meeting, submit your entries at the podium.

Basic rules (please refer to the Contest Handout, available on our website, for further details)

- Photos must have been taken since Oct 1, 2016.
- You are allowed up to 3 entries in each photo category and for the container contest.
- Maximum photo size is 5"x7" but 4"x6" is desired due to wall space for the posters. Use the size that suits your composition the best. Rules for panoramas are slightly different.
- For the photo contest, do not write your name on your photos. You will get an exhibitor number in Oct.
- There are monetary prizes for the winners in each contest: First, \$15; Second, \$10; Third, \$5. One person can win no more than 2 prizes in any contest.

Container Contest:

You can enter up to 3 containers. Each entry must include your name, a list of the plants used and up to 3 photos of your container. It is optional for you to include details of its growing conditions or design considerations. Since the purpose of the contest is to share ideas with other members, please include such details.

Photo Contest Categories:

- **Colour in the Garden:** White: including very pale colours and silver, as well as pristine white. Can be any garden.
- **Visitors in the Garden:** Must be your own garden. A living visitor (or representation of such) in your garden—animals, birds, fish, people, etc.
- **View or partial view** of a NWHS member's garden.
- **Macro image:** Can be any subject in any garden. An image is considered a macro if, when printed 4"x6", the image is larger than in real life. Only macro images can be entered in the macro category. Macros are NOT allowed in the colour, visitor or view categories.

FLORISSA:

The Fall and Christmas flyers are here. Gorgeous! Our Oct meeting is the deadline to partake in this NWHS fundraiser. Taxes are included in the prices. Please see Audrey (fireplace table) to place your order. Cash or cheque payable to NWHS accepted.

IRENE KNORR:

We're sad to announce that Rene passed away on Aug 31 at 96 years old. For more than a decade she was a constant at our meetings. Although she may not have been one of the mover and shakers of NWHS, her pleasant personality made a huge contribution to the club. She was Colleen Graham's sister and Lori Graham's aunt. A genuinely nice person.

BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS FALL MEETING:

You'll want to make sure you don't miss this meeting. Linda Gilkeson is an absolutely fantastic speaker. Her specialties: gardening with climate change, pest management and organic gardening. The second speaker, Deborah Jones, will be speaking on Rain Gardens, landscaping that filters and absorbs stormwater run-off. NWHS subsidizes the attendance of members by \$5: you will pay only \$30. To get this deal, you must sign-up and pay by Tues, Sept 26, 5pm. Register through our treasurer, Ellen Berg. The full-day event includes morning coffee & muffins, a delicious buffet lunch and an afternoon cookie break. Expect a variety of vendors to browse. A very enjoyable, informative day with gardening freinds.

Contacts

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Ellen Berg - Treasurer, BC Council

Registration, Auction guests
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Audrey Barnes - Silent Auction, Contests, Florissa

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Lea McDonald - Contests

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