

Newsletter



www.newwesthortsociety.org

August 2018

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER:



PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Lorna

How many of you grow your own fall & winter crops? From someone who never seems to get around to doing it, kudos to you if you do. Recently I have seen newspaper articles and received email subscribed gardening newsletters (such as GardenWorks) on planting fall crops. It doesn't seem that daunting. Choose vegetable cultivars that are well suited to starting now and to fall and winter harvest. These are usually the faster maturing cultivars. Check out the West Coast Seeds vegetable planting chart for detailed information. If starting seeds now, choose lettuce varieties that are described as tolerant to high temperatures. Remember to keep the young seedlings well watered and provide a bit of temporary shade if the sun is hot. As to location, choose an area that gets as much sun as possible, is not prone to early frost, is well drained and is easily accessible. Have fun and enjoy the fruits (veggies) of your labour.

NEXT MONTH'S PRESENTATION:

Known as West Coast Gardens' plant expert extraordinaire, Randal Atkinson is a go-to person on all plant matters, whether it be designing, selecting, growing or caring. Come and learn from his expertise as he shows us how to combine plants such as ornamental grasses, heathers, pansies and heuchera with twigs, berries and light to make exciting winter containers.



FALL BRING TO SHARE:

Next month you are invited to bring something to share with other members. This is not a judged event like the July show. It is a "I think this is interesting, do you want to see it?" kind of event. To keep the event semi-organized, tables are set out with signs. Look at the following groupings and decide what you would like to bring in. When you arrive, check in at the central table for a slip on which you put your name and a description of your exhibit. Most of the space on the slip is for FEEDBACK. When you look at something, please write in a response. Share your opinions, your expertise. Everyone who brings in an exhibit, gets his/her name in the draw bag for one of the three participation prizes of \$5.

Garden glory: Beautiful or unusual plants, blooms or foliage from your garden

Photos: Garden related

Great tips: Can even be from a book

Garden design: Got a question or have plans to show?

Plant identification: Should I toss it or keep it? Bring in the plant, or a leaf, or even a photo

Insects: What is this? What did this?

Please keep specimens enclosed

Weeds & diseases: Please keep infected materials enclosed in plastic

Other: Anything that doesn't fit into the above categories.

Garden Gals: a special exhibit of some of their creations.



Tonight's Meeting

Tuesday, Aug 14, 7:30pm
Speaker: Deborah Jones on
"Rain Gardens"

Mark Your Calendar

Plant a Row, Grow a Row Produce Drop Off:

Every Sun, 8:30-9:15am
St Thomas More Collegiate front entrance
7450 12th Ave, Burnaby

New Westminster Farmer's Market:

Every Thurs, 3-7pm,
Tipperary Park (next to City Hall)
www.newwestfarmers.ca

Vancouver International Bird Festival

Aug 19-26; all sorts of bird activities
(see article)
www.vanbirdfest.com

Vancouver Dahlia Society Show

Sat, Sept 1, 1-5pm
Sun, Sept 2, noon - 3:30
Floral Hall, VanDusen Botanical Garden
www.vancouverdahliasociety.org

NWHS Regular September Meeting:

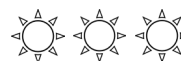
Tues, Sept 11, 7:30pm
Fall Bring-to-Share (see article)
Speaker: Randal Atkinson on "Fall & Winter Planters".

NWHS Regular October Meeting

Tues, Oct 9, 7:30pm
Annual Silent Auction (see article)
Photo & container contest entries due

NWHS Regular November Meeting:

Tues, Nov 13, 7:30
Speaker: Ian Connor on "Everything you wanted to know about Bamboo"



LAWN WATERING RESTRICTIONS:

We are still at Stage 1 in watering restrictions.

Lawn sprinkling only from 4am to 9am
Even addresses: Mon, Wed, Sat
Odd addresses: Tues, Thurs, Sun

TREASURER'S REPORT - July 2018

Total revenue: \$159.25
Total expenses: \$401.52
See the bulletin board for details.

New Westminster Horticultural Society

August 2018

GARDEN TOUR & PICNIC:

We vow to never trust The Weather Network again! 23°C!! Hah! It was HOT but luckily the quality and variation of the gardens distracted us from that annoying factor. It was a super day for socializing.

It was a full afternoon. Organizing the tour is always a challenge: response for open gates always starts out frustratingly slow but then accelerates. This year, once the route emerged, we got a great response. So great, that a few gardens have been held over for future tours. We had more gardens than normal this year with short driving distances between them. The heard word: the times required for driving were a good approximation but the time wasted finding parking near some gardens was frustrating. With the hoard that we get for the tour, this will probably always be the situation. Our rationale for the timing: as people don't want to waste time waiting for a garden to open as would be the case if we increased the driving/parking time, it is better to have people sacrifice a bit of their garden viewing time because of parking.

Our garden hosts: Shona, Celia & Keith, Manny, Terry & Sherri, Lori, Terri, Andrea and Janet & Judy are a mixture of members and non-members. They deserve a huge thank you. It was a delight to visit each of your gardens. Such a variety. You made our day. We trust you all have been sitting back and enjoying your gardens post-tour.

The picnic was a swarm. Thank you, Audrey & your crew, for the super job organizing it. It was gratifying that a huge number of members attended. Also, we invited past non-member garden tour hosts to partake. To our delight, several took up the offer. Loads of delicious food! We have a new Garden Stumps champ: Karen Hasselfelt, a new NWHS member, scored 16/20. Congratulations, Karen.



Karen Hasselfelt with Garden Stumps Trophy

JULY SHOW A WINNER!

Last month's showbench was a wondrous sight. One can only imagine—what it would have been like if we didn't have rain that day. We thought participation was good last year but, this year, it was even better. In 2017, we had 21 entrants with 91 entries. This year 24 people entered 103 exhibits. Well done! All who entered and viewed the exhibits had a good time.

MEMBERS' CHOICE AWARDS:

As selected by the ballot vote, the following were picked as the favorite in each of the broad categories:

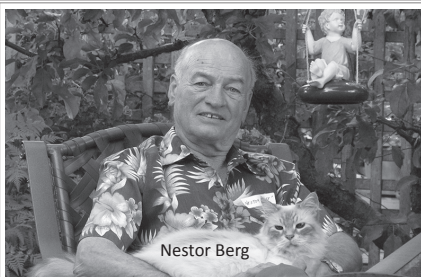
Flowers: A tie! Dan Tessaro with his perfect cactus and Rhonda Malyuk with her oriental themed planted scene.

Vegetables, Fruits & Herbs: Tammy Chambers with her magnificent turnips.

Floral Art: Audrey Barnes with her "Study in Purple...and White" creation.

Competition	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Alliums	Audrey Barnes	Audrey Barnes	
Clematis	Audrey Barnes	Brenda Fairfax	
Daisy-like Flowers	Brenda Fairfax	Dana Nowak	Audrey Barnes
Daylily	Julia Goulden	Brenda Fairfax	Marya McLellan
Dianthus	Audrey Barnes		
Fuschia	Audrey Barnes	Debra Sayles	Audrey Barnes
Hosta	Audrey Barnes	Audrey Barnes	
Lily	Brenda Fairfax		
Phlox	Heather Corbett	Marielle Gauvin	
Roses, spray	Marya McLellan	Marian Cook	Marya McLellan
Roses, single stem	Julia Goulden	Marian Cook	
Spathes	Audrey Barnes	Audrey Barnes	
Flowering shrub	Debra Sayles	Marian Cook	Julia Goulden
Potted Plant, single	Dan Tessaro	Shelagh Penty	Melinda Aikin
Potted Plant, multi	Dan Tessaro	Dana Nowak	
Other annual	Wendy Benton		
Other Flower	Dan Tessaro	Marya McLellan	Wendy Benton
Dish Garden	Rhonda Malyuk	Mary Tuura	
Pod Vegetables	Edie Ennis	Audrey Barnes	Marya McLellan
Onion	Tammy Chambers		
Garlic	Julia Goulden	Tammy Chambers	Tammy Chambers
Root Vegetables	Tammy Chambers	Tammy Chambers	
Leaf Vegetables	Tammy Chambers	Tammy Chambers	Julia Goulden
Egyptian Onion	Audrey Barnes		
Herbs	Tammy Chambers	Tammy Chambers	Terri Clark-Kveton
Tomatoes	Julia Goulden	? oops	? oops
Blueberries	Silina Nakatsu	Marya McLellan	Heather Corbett
Raspberries	Marya McLellan	Brenda Fairfax	
Other berries	Silina Nakatsu	Audrey Barnes	Silina Nakatsu
Tree Fruits	Dana Nowak	Debra Sayles	Dan Tessaro
Other veg, fruit	Dana Nowak	Terri Clark-Kveton	
Seasonal Wreath	Audrey Barnes		
Purple and White	Audrey Barnes	Terri Clark-Kveton	Bernita Duke
Royal Wedding	Audrey Barnes		
Mini, unusual cont.	Rhonda Malyuk	Audrey Barnes	Debra Sayles
Life's a Beach	Audrey Barnes		

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NESTOR BERG:

Mar 23, 1941 - July 22, 2018
Nes, the husband of our treasurer Ellen Berg, passed away far too young. If you have been a NWHS member for any length of time, you probably met him. Just like Ellen, he was very involved in the club, volunteering to help again and again. You would hear: "Who is that guy? I haven't seen him at meetings." That was because he wasn't a member! He just liked helping. But he did more than help. A man of many talents. If he took on a task, it was his nature to think "How can this be done better, easier?" He loved a challenge. It was unbelievable how many plants he could fit into his "customized" trailer for delivery to our big sales. His pre-silent auction packing expertise is legendary. He would jump into tasks with eager glee. Always there to help. A super, nice guy. We miss him. Ellen, we feel for you.



LOYD McFADDEN

Oct 24, 1927 - Aug 2, 2018
In the early 1990's Lloyd and his wife, Norma, were extremely involved in the running of NWHS. Both were on executive for many years. Although they stopped coming to the meetings in 2012 due to health reasons, they kept up on club news through the newsletters that Norma, a life-member, received. Lloyd had been an active member for 21 years, Norma over 30 years. Just recently a donation for the club's auction arrived on Audrey's doorstep. Ask anyone who knew Lloyd: What comes to mind? A jolly fellow with a chuckling laugh who had a serious underside. Our condolences go out to Norma.

ENTER THE NWHS CONTESTS:

We have two contests (Container & Photo) that have the purpose of members sharing with other members. Too often, a spectacular gardening experience happens just when nobody is around to share it. A substitute: take a photo and share the photo. Not perfect, but better than not sharing. Mid-summer is a prime time for picture-taking. The deadline for entries for both contests in our October meeting. A 2-sided contest handout, available in the foyer or at the fireplace table, gives all the picky rules including acceptable photo dimensions.

CONTAINER CONTEST: Share your container creating experiences with your fellow members. You can enter 3 containers. For each entry, you must submit a photo (actually, up to 3 photos) of your container looking at its best, a list of the plants you used in your container and your name. In November, posters of all the entries are posted on the wall and you get to vote for the one you like the best. Remember, this is about sharing. If you tried something and it absolutely did not turn out as expected, feel free to share your "I'm not going to do that again" experience.

PHOTO CONTEST:

We hope Daniel's July presentation inspired you to grab your cameras and take photos of garden happenings. We have 4 categories for our contest. In each category you can submit 3 photos. A macro (i.e. close-up) is defined this way: Assume your image is printed 4"x6". If the subject matter in your image is the same size or larger than in real-life, it is a macro. If it is smaller than in real-life, it is not a macro. Macro images can only be entered in the macro category—not in the visitor, colour or view categories.

Visitors in the Garden: Can be something living or a representation of something living. I.e. may include humans, animals, insects, fish or even gnomes and statues. The photograph must be taken in your own garden. "Visitor" does not include unwanted plants which are visiting.

Colour in the Garden: Purple: including images from pale mauve to deep royal purple. Besides "pure purple", hues with tints of red and blue are also included. Best capture of the colour purple in any garden.

Macro Image: Must be a macro photograph. Can be of any subject matter in any garden.

View of NWHS Garden: Can be an over-all or partial view of any NWHS member's garden. Remember that not all the garden hosts on the tour were club members. Photos taken in some gardens (Celia & Keith's aka Wildrice, Manny's, Andrea's and Janet & Judy's) cannot be entered in our contest.



VANCOUVER BIRD FESTIVAL:

Rob Butler, who spoke to us at our Nov 2017 meeting on 'Creating Gardens for Bird Habitat', is the chair of the bird festival. You might remember him stating: "Vancouver is on the doorstep of Canada's premier birding hotspot, the Fraser River Delta that hosts internationally important birds each year. The Vancouver International Bird Festival is our way of celebrating the world of birds".

The following is from the festival site, www.vanbirdfest.com.

"The Vancouver International Bird Festival (VIBF) was created to build on the success of Vancouver Bird Week which has been enjoyed in the city since 2013.

In 2018, VIBF is partnering with the International Ornithological Congress and Artists for Conservation to celebrate the world of birds. The festival is a public celebration. Registration is not required for the festival and many events are either free or require a small charge by our partner organizations. The congress is largely a science conference where delegates need to register.

The objective of the VIBF is to partner with community groups to create a celebration of birds and nature, culminating in a Bird Festival and Expo to engage the public in a love of nature through birds.

The Expo will showcase organizations, speakers, suppliers of optical and other birdwatching equipment and tour companies among others who are engaging the public in the love of nature.

2018 will be our first year and we are happy to welcome the International Ornithological Congress and Artists for Conservation to Vancouver to help us launch this annual event!"

If you are interested in the more scientific Ornithological Congress, its website is www.iocongress2018.com.

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SILENT AUCTION:

Our regular meeting in October doesn't have a speaker. Instead it has DEALS! If you have never experienced our Silent Auction, brace yourself. Some members consider October their favorite meeting of the year. It is a major fund-raiser for NWHS. For the most part, it is like a giant garage sale—but an organized one. As we get a lot of small items, things are organized as to themes on the tables. Linens here, utilitarian dishes there, gardening stuff on that big table, toys over in the corner... As everything has its own slip with a "super deal" starting bid, it takes a lot of organizing and we try to the majority of it before auction day. This takes place in Audrey's basement.

Where do we get the items? For the most part, from members. You clean out your cupboards, closets, sheds, attics and set aside good quality (but no longer wanted by you) items for the auction. Leftovers from a family estate? We'll take them. Some members donate just a few items but others donate a lot. If you are in the second group, it is highly recommended that you drop off your donations at Audrey's for pre-processing. She and her crew will make up all the necessary slips and organized the items into groups so as to facilitate easy table set-up. The rumor is that some members have been spending the recent hot days reorganizing their basements and discovering all sorts of items they had forgotten about. Excellent, lots to donate.

What can you donate? Almost anything. It is probably easier to say what we cannot take: computer components, clothes (unless very unique or suitable for Hallowe'en), books that are in rough shape, things that have scent or that shed glitter. For large items, it is suggested that you leave the item at home. Instead, take a photo and make a small poster.

Delivery of items to Audrey's for pre-processing: Luckily, Audrey has been spending a bit of time excavating space in her basement and can now accept silent auction donations. Her address: 117 Seventh Ave. If she is not home, leave your donations (with your name and phone number—in case we have to ID something) at her sheltered kitchen door. If she is home and you talk with her, your items can go directly into the basement. Do not leave items outside the basement door where they could be damaged by rain. (Rain? What's that?)

New for 2018, Advance notice of auc-

tion of items: Because of the past nature of our auction (lots of small items), members do not expect something relatively expensive to be available and are not mentally prepared to place larger bids. We hope that giving a one-month notice that such items (which would retail over \$200 when new) will eliminate the problem. If you plan to donate one, make a letter-size poster (picture optional) of its details (model number, etc) that will give a heads-up and enhance bidding. State your starting bid. Adding your name and contact info in case people have questions. At the Sept meeting there will be a designated spot in or near the In-Club Sale Table for these pre-auction posters. If you know by Sept 1 that you plan to donate such an item, tell Audrey. It will be added to a listing in the Sept newsletter.



CONTACTS:

Lorna Cloutier: President

604-524-1942 or
lorna@newwesthortsociety.org

Diane Perry: Vice-President,
speakers, refreshments
diane@newwesthortsociety.org

Ellen Berg: Treasurer
604-525-7827 or
ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

Anna Camporese: Speakers
anna@newwesthortsociety.org

Lea McDonald: Contests
604-942-9416

Trudy Findlay: Outings & Workshops
604-522-2665 or
trudy@newwesthortsociety.org

Terry Koziel: Website liaison
778-789-3441 or
terry@newwesthortsociety.org

Audrey Barnes: Contests;
Silent Auction
604-526-8284 (before 8pm) or
audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

Janet Butts: Fundraising

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

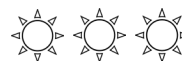
Merril Hall: Sketch Club
604-790-1321 or

merril@newwesthortsociety.org

SEED EXCHANGE:

It is the time for many plants to mature to the seed producing state. Is one of your favorites doing so? If so, keep an eye on it and when those seeds mature, collect and save them for our seed exchange. Here are a few guidelines:

- Wait for the seeds to mature on the plant. Un-ripe seeds will not germinate so collecting early will be a waste of time and a cause of future frustration.
- Collect seeds from the best flower or vegetable. You want seed with good genetics.
- Harvest your seeds when it is dry. Mid-day or early afternoon on a sunny day is ideal.
- Use paper bags or envelopes which allow moisture to escape. Do not use plastic as it will promote mold. Write plant and collecting details on the bag/envelope while it is empty: plant name (botanical/common), colour, height, spread, sun/shade?, date collected, your name.
- Use a bag/envelope big enough to hold complete seed heads and to allow seed to dry completely inside it. It can be shaken periodically to release the seeds.
- Do not worry about getting every seed the plant produces.
- Make sure that you tape all small holes in the corners of your bag/envelope to prevent escapees.
- Donate your collected seed to our club seed exchange (usually at the fireplace table).
- In spring, check the seed exchange box to see what you can grow.



If you saw a heat wave, would you wave back? -- Steven Wright

Sometimes I wonder what I'm a-gonna do 'Cause there ain't no cure for the summertime blues -- Eddie Cochran

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken. -- James Dent

