

# Newsletter



## EVERY VOTE COUNTS:

If you put on any American news broadcast within the last month, you will have heard this refrain over and over again. Although, our votes tonight might not have such global implications, they are nevertheless important. We will be picking who will guide our club through the next couple of years, which group will benefit from our Christmas Draw and who created the most outstanding container of 2018.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The only business on the agenda is the election of the NWHS 2019 Executive Committee:

At the time of printing, these are the nominees for the positions open:

- Vice-President: Diane Perry
- Secretary: Heather Corbett
- 3 Members-at-Large: Trudy Findlay, Lea McDonald, Terry Koziel

All position terms are 2 years. Nominations are welcome from the floor tonight.

Ballots will be distributed if needed for a vote.

The newly elected executive members will be joining the following, all who have one year left on their terms:

- President: Lorna Cloutier
- Treasurer: Ellen Berg
- Members-at-Large: Anna Camporese, Terri Clark-Kveton & Monica Mowat.

**WE APPLAUD THE EXECUTIVE FOR THEIR HARD WORK! THANK YOU!**

### FLORISSA:

Thank you to everyone who purchased bulbs through the Florissa program. We added \$245.50 to the club's coffers. The number of members who participated was down compared to past programs. Tell us why you didn't order. Nothing you wanted was offered? You forgot to order? You missed the seductive hard copy eye candy? You don't need bulbs? We are interested to know.

### TREASURER'S REPORT - Oct 2018

Total Revenue: \$2685.80  
(Ticket Sales, Silent Auction, Florissa)  
Total Expenses: \$ 1605.00  
See bulletin board for details.

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Lorna:

This has been a lovely fall so far, giving lots of opportunity to do garden clean-up. The task of raking leaves has us evaluating our gardens to see what might need dividing or moving—should it be done now or spring? It is recommended to divide spring-blooming perennials in fall and late summer and fall bloomers in the spring. Perennials such as iris, astilbe and peonies are best divided in early fall. Ornamental grasses, coneflowers, rudbeckia, sedum and asters do better if divided in early spring. It is probably too late now to divide as it is suggested that fall dividing be done so new plants are in the ground at least six weeks before frost. Thinking of our Spring Plant Sale, if you are putting plants in pots for the sale, keep them somewhere that is frost free (but still gets watered). There is a great article on our NWHS website on Dividing Perennials under "Gardening Articles". <http://www.newwesthortsociety.org/gardening-articles.html#sthash.N2t1KndY.dpbs> Also check out the Monthly To Do List under "Garden Resources". <http://www.newwesthortsociety.org/monthly-to-do-list.html>

### CONTAINER CONTEST VOTE:

As a ploy to get club members to share their experiments in creating containers, we hold a contest. Tonight each of us votes for his or her favourite of the 2018 submissions.

Here's some criteria to guide your decision:

- How well do the plants go together (form, scale, colours)?
- Are the plants appropriate for the container?
- Is the combination unique?
- Did the container satisfy its location and other challenges?

Use your pink ballot to vote. Put only one number (that of your favourite) on the ballot and put your ballot in the bucket at the fireplace table. Voting ends at the end of refreshments.

There are monetary prizes (\$15 for first, \$10 for second, \$5 for third). Winners will be announced at the Christmas party along with those of the Photo Contest.

## Tonight's Meeting

Tues, Nov 13, 7:30pm

Speaker: Ian Connor on "Everything You Wanted to Know about Bamboo"  
AGM: Executive vote  
Container Contest vote  
Christmas Charity vote  
Christmas tickets on Sale

## Mark Your Calendar

### People Gotta Move:

#### Crossing of Rails, River & Roads

Ongoing until Nov 16, 10-5 daily, until 8 on Thursday

The New Westminster Museum

Anvil Centre, 777 Columbia

View New Westminster done in LEGO.

### NWHS Christmas Crafting

Nov 19 to Dec 9, 9am - 9pm

Basement of 117 Seventh Ave

(see article)

### Northwest Flower & Garden Festival (aka NWF&G Show)

Nov 26, Cyber Monday

If they follow their recent tradition of, offering an additional \$5 off the early bird price for admission tickets on Cyber Monday, this is the day to get that deal. This brings the reg one day price of \$24US down to \$14US. The show runs from Feb 20-24 in 2019.

[www.gardenshow.com](http://www.gardenshow.com)

### NWHS Christmas Celebrations

Tues, Dec 11, 6-9pm

Centennial Lodge

Tickets must be pre-purchased:

members \$20, guest \$25

(see article)

### VanDusen Garden Festival of Lights

Dec 1-Jan 6 (closed Dec 25), hours

vary. Buy your tickets on-line, save and avoid the line.

[www.vandusenfestivaloflights.ca](http://www.vandusenfestivaloflights.ca)

### CONTACTS:

**Lorna Cloutier:** President

604-524-1942 or

[lorna@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:lorna@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Diane Perry:** Vice-President

[diane@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:diane@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Ellen Berg:** Treasurer, Party Tickets

604-525-7827 or

[ellen@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:ellen@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Audrey Barnes:** Crafts

604-526-8284 (before 8pm) or

[audrey@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:audrey@newwesthortsociety.org)

# New Westminster Horticultural Society

November 2018

## CHRISTMAS DRAW CHARITY SELECTION:

Last month, we asked for nominations for a group to receive half of the proceeds from our Christmas Party Draw. We will vote on the 8 groups nominated. They are described below.

To vote, use the ballot marked "charity". Just write the name of your choice on it and deposit it in the bucket at the head table. Voting ends at the end of the refreshment break.

## Past Recipients of our Christmas Party Donation:

2017: Richard McBride School Garden  
2016: The Lookout Society  
2015: Group of 5 & Friends Benevolent Society  
2014: Aunt Leah's Place  
2013: St Barnabas Community Church Outreach  
2012: New West Victims Assistance Assoc.  
2011: Honour House  
2010: Pacific Assistance Dog Society (PADS)  
2009: New West Family Place  
2008: YMCA Vancouver Rooftop Food Garden  
2007: Purpose Society  
2006: Crossroads Inlet Hospice Society  
2005: New West Salvation Army  
2004: Royal Columbian Hospital Auxiliary  
2003: Union Gospel Mission Drop-In Centre  
2002: Alzheimer's Society of BC  
2001: Monarch House  
2000: Lord Kelvin School Community Garden  
1999: Wildlife Rescue  
1998: Royal City Humane Society  
1997: New West Food Bank  
1996: New West Food Bank

## The 2018 Nominees:

- **BC Association for Individualized Technology and Supports for People with Disabilities (BCITS)**  
Helps individuals with severe physical disabilities to live as independently as possible by helping them manage their needs for assisted ventilation.
- **Century House Senior Peer Counselling:** This is a program in which "life experienced" compassionate persons offer one-to-one support for others going through difficult times. The volunteers go through 50 hours of training so they can effectively help those who need it. This training is completely dependent upon donations.
- **Honour House:** Provides a free-of-charge, temporary home for members of our Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans and Emergency Services Personnel and their families while they receive

medical care and treatment in the Vancouver Area. Situated in New Westminster.

- **Loving Spoonful:** A volunteer-driven, non-partisan society that has provided free meals to people living with HIV/AIDS in the Metro Vancouver area for almost 20 years.
- **Monarch Place Transition House:** A second stage transition house in New Westminster offering temporary safe housing for women and children fleeing domestic violence. They also have two outreach programs.
- **Normanna Care Home:** A 100 bed residential care facility at 4th St & 12th Ave in Burnaby. It is a registered charity which relies on support to help fund enhancement projects to enrich the lives of their residents. Normanna generously donated many plants for our sale this year and at the moment are trying to raise funds to replace courtyard pavers around their garden beds.
- **Sprouting Chefs:** Local not-for-profit that supports school garden programs and cooking classes for children—a "seed-to-table" approach. Also includes after school garden clubs and summer cooking camps.
- **Union Gospel Mission (New Westminster):** Is determined to transform communities by overcoming poverty, homelessness and addiction—one life at a time.

## SILENT AUCTION:

It seems much longer than 5 weeks ago that the room was filled with deals—according to the evening's net, much appreciated deals. We had good items. People bid generously and often rounded up their totals at the cashier. Thank you.

## Where the left-overs went:

- Royal Columbian Thrift Store on Columbia (good stuff)
- Bases Thrift Store on Edmonds (good stuff)
- Value Village (the big stuff that the smaller stores can't handle + not so good stuff)
- Salvation Army (home theater speakers)
- Royal Columbian Auxiliary (books to sell in the hospital)
- Street-side mini-library (2 boxes of books)
- Century House Thrift Sale (gardening stuff + most of the books since the library is under construction)
- A few items to a church bazaar

## Thank you to all who made the evening a success:

- Those who donated items
- The basement crew who tagged the majority of the items
- Those who lugged the stuff to the lodge—and in one case returned to lug a couple more loads
- Those who set up the tables
- Those who bid generously
- Those who used their highlighters with glee
- Those who exhibited their arithmetical wizardry (or skill with a calculator) when tallying
- Those who took the money and retained the slips—and counted the take!
- Those who lugged the left-overs back to Audrey's

WOW! A lot of people were involved! Thank You!

## Drop off of 2019 auction items:

Please DO NOT leave any silent auction items at Audrey's until further notice. There is absolutely no room to store them. Christmassy stuff is welcome at her kitchen door. Thank you.

## NEW LOCAL RESOURCE FOR APPLE AND OTHER FRUIT TREES

by Anna Camporese

Eminent pomologist, Richard Hallman is inviting club members to send him their fruit tree questions for his website revision. Richard wrote, "At the moment I am rebuilding my website to provide a wide range of regionally appropriate tree fruit cultural information for gardeners and orchardists in Metro Vancouver, Fraser and Valley and West Coastal areas. If your club members have specific questions or areas of interest I would love to hear from them so I can include it in the new website."

I had hoped to engage Richard as our February speaker. However, after four years (three of which he was Pomologist in Residence at the UBC Botanical Garden) of delivering in excess of 150 workshops and presentations in the Metro Vancouver area, he is taking a break from doing club talks. For most of his career Richard was an advisor to the commercial tree fruit industry in BC. Now, he is focusing on the training and fruit production of espalier and other restricted fruit tree forms in garden soil and containers, on balconies and rooftops.

If you have an apple or other fruit tree question for Richard, you can reach him via his website, [www.richardhallman.ca](http://www.richardhallman.ca), under Contacts. Please note the current site has not yet been revised.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society

November 2018

## **'TIS THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS CRAFTING—ONE OF THE MOST WONDERFUL TIMES OF THE YEAR.**

The purpose of the crafting sessions is to create unique prizes for our Christmas Party Draw....but that is too simple of an answer as to why people attend. The reason is multifaceted.

- To catch up on news. Meetings are OK but you can't really visit.
- To make new friends. Don't yet know other club members? Come to a crafting session.
- For the chance to be really creative and not have to keep what you make.
- To discuss ideas of what the club could do.
- To drool over all the materials.

What's your reason?

### **What do we create?**

As stated earlier, we are making the Christmas draw prizes. Most of the prizes are Christmas themed as most of the materials lean that way and... well...it is the Christmas season. It can't be emphasized enough that the prizes are all one-of-a-kind. Often inspiration comes from the materials on hand but we are not above adapting ideas from magazines, books or the internet. Often a creation is a group effort with lots of "winging it". One person starts a project, others might toss in ideas, advice or assistance. New techniques are shared or devised. With so much material to work with, it is easy not to discover treasures that others have seen.

### **The Materials:**

The basement is packed! A warren of materials to play with. To people who have donated "stuff", thank you. Also, it is amazing what you find cheap at thrift stores. We have:

- Wreath forms: wire, grapevine, Styrofoam
- Baskets & containers
- Oasis & Sahara
- Styrofoam forms in many shapes
- Trays and boards for bases
- Ribbon, ribbon, ribbon: an amazingly fantastic collection
- Candles & candleholders
- A multitude of Christmas decorations & picks
- Glass balls in many sizes & colours
- Beads
- Strings of lights
- Small fake trees
- Fake evergreen branches & garlands
- A huge selection of cones, many types & sizes
- Interesting seeds & seed heads
- Stalks of dried vegetation
- Stalks of imitation vegetation
- Silk flowers & greenery
- Glue guns & sticks
- Florist wire & tape
- Scissors, pliers & wire cutters

Just bring yourself and your creative juices—everything else is supplied. Of course, if you arrive with an idea in mind and the materials to create it, that is fine. Probably the only thing we buy at full retail price is glue sticks.

### **Always Looking for More Materials:**

As materials are used, replenishment is needed. It is always exciting to have something unexpected and different donated. It can set off a whole new idea for a draw prize. If you would like to donate Christmassy materials, please leave them at Audrey's sheltered kitchen door. Past draw prizes (or just parts of them) are welcome. If complete, with some minor tweaking, they could become new prizes...or they may be raided for a delectable component. Whatever... they are welcome. Two caveats re donations: They must not have fragrance (Fragrance lays Audrey low.) and they must not shed glitter. (Our contract with the city does not permit glitter-shedding items at the lodge.)

### **Fresh Materials:**

Fingers are crossed re the weather. We hope to be working with fresh materials on the final weekend of crafting (Dec 8 & 9). Fresh material crafting will be only in the daylight hours. The bulk of the fresh material will be outside and brought into the basement as needed. Because of the fragrance, Audrey cannot be in attendance. The room is purged of fragrance overnight.

We need donations of fresh materials. Do you have any nicely berried holly? How about evergreen or coniferous prunings? Colourful stemmed shrubs? Please tell Audrey. It will reduce the stress of searching for those elusive branches at recycling. Thanks. Delivery to her yard would be appreciated.

### **Crafting Hours:**

The basement is available for crafting for 3 weeks, 7 days per week from 9am to 9pm. It is not expected that crafting will be going full-bore the whole time. The long hours are to make sure that everyone, including those gainfully employed, can get to play with the materials and enjoy the fun of being creative. It is strongly suggested, if your schedule permits, that you come during daytime hours as Audrey tends to burn out and can be zonked by evening. Sign-up to come when you can. Using regular materials, the basement can accommodate up to 5 around the crafting table. With fresh materials, the capacity is reduced to 3. Talk with your friends (non-members welcome) and sign-up as a group. Most people find 2-3 hours at a time works well. Please tell Audrey when to expect you.

### **How to Sign-Up:**

The easiest way is to reserve a spot on the Crafting Calendar at tonight's meeting (fireplace table). Just put your name (full name please), phone number and the hours you would like to come on the appropriate date. First on the calendar for a specific time gets priority booking. After tonight you can get Audrey at 604-526-8284 or [audrey@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:audrey@newwesthortsociety.org). She will not expect you if you are not on the calendar—in fact she might not even be home if no one is scheduled. There are such activities as shopping for food. Having your name on the calendar is not as if it is etched in stone. If your plans change, tell Audrey ASAP. She will confirm, by phone (or email if you so desire), your attendance the evening prior to your scheduled crafting.

### **Who can come:**

Attendance is not limited to NWHS members. If you have creative friends, bring them along. Know someone who might be interested in becoming a member? The crafting sessions are a great way to find out about the club. Remember: please no personal fragrance as Audrey is very, very sensitive. It is not that she doesn't like it, it is because it makes her ill.

### **The location:**

Crafting occurs in Audrey Barnes' basement. Her address: 117 Seventh Ave, New West. If she gets her act together, her home will be decorated in loads of seasonal lights. Park on 7th Ave, follow the sidewalk around the house (the other side is mud!) and around the wood deck to the basement door. Please do not try to walk across the slippery wood deck.

### **What about other prizes?**

They are very welcome. If you can't make the crafting sessions but still want to contribute, we will gladly accept your creations. We stress that we are looking for one-of-a-kind prizes. In the past members have donated baking, knitting, quilting and Christmas decorations made at home. Please tell Audrey of your plans so she can reserve room on the prize tables for your offering(s). Thanks.

Now....Let's plug in those glue guns!

### **...Oh, one more thing...**

If you would like to help transfer the prizes (covered vehicles with good capacity needed) or set-up the room for the party, please talk with Audrey. Thanks.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society November 2018

Wow! We know we are onto something good when the evening is almost already sold out!

## Getting an elusive ticket:

Assuming there are still tickets left (only 100 available), they are \$20 for members; \$25 for your guest.

Purchase your ticket(s) from Ellen Berg, our treasurer. After tonight, contact Ellen at her home.

- All seating is reserved. When you purchase your ticket(s), tell Ellen your seating preferences.
- We will refund your ticket up to Dec 1.
- After Dec 1, if you find you cannot attend, please tell Ellen. We anticipate a waiting list. We do not want to have any empty seats. Tell her even if it is last minute. She will try to broker your ticket.

## The mouth-watering feast: (by Austin Caterers)

### Starters:

- Vegetable Crudités
- Antipasto Platter
- Empress Salad
- Spinach & Candied Pecan Salad
- Fresh Bread Rolls & Whipped Butter

### Entrees:

- Free Range Turkey with Giblet Gravy & Cranberry Compote
- Ukrainian Cabbage Rolls in a Sweet Tomato Sauce

### Sides:

- Penne with Sweet Heirloom Tomato Peperonata Sauce with Fresh Basil & Feta Cheese
- Butter Whipped Potatoes
- Gourmet Cranberry Apple Stuffing
- Winter Root Veggies

### Dessert:

- Assortment of Desserts & Fruit

## How the day & evening unfolds:

- 9am-11:30am: Draw prizes are loaded into vehicles at Audrey's.
- Noon: Prizes are delivered to lodge and room set-up commences.
- 5pm: Hopefully set-up will be complete.
- 6pm: Party starts. You will be given two beverage tickets at the door when you check-in. These are to be presented to the bartender for wine. Find your table. Your wine glass is at your table setting. Our liquor license stipulates no other alcoholic beverages are allowed. Help yourself to the non-alcoholic punch (glasses near punch bowls). Browse the room. Check out the photo contest entries. Be wowed by the contest winners. Pre-select your draw prize(s). Buy draw tickets. Mingle with friends.
- 6:30pm: Buffet starts
- 7:30pm: Buffet closes.

- Last call for purchase of draw tickets. Door prize draw
- The draw interspersed with the photo/container contest awards and the trivia quiz
- 9pm: Party wraps up with "We wish you a Merry Christmas"
- Tear down.

## Help Needed:

As with any club event, the evening's success is dependent upon members pitching in and helping. Things don't just happen by magic. Can you...

- Help transfer the prizes? Covered vehicles of large capacity are needed. The prizes are picked up in the morning and then held in the vehicle until noon when they are unloaded at the lodge.
- Help make the room festive from noon (or 1pm) to 5pm?
- Help with an organized tear-down after the event?
- If your answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, please see Audrey. There is a space on the craft calendar for your name and phone number and how you would like to help. Thanks.

## FOOD BANK DONATIONS:

On our party night, we will be collecting donations for the Food Bank. The bins will be in the foyer. Please bring a non-perishable item. Share your good fortune of having plenty to eat. Thank you.

## CLUB INVOLVEMENT:

Periodically, NWHS puts on a big event in which a huge number of members are involved: the Spring Plant Sale, the Tour & Picnic, the Silent Auction, the Christmas Party. These are highlights on our calendar. What about the smaller month to month activities? There are a lot of personnel, besides the Executive, that make the club what it is. Think of what happens at the meetings:

- The lugging in of equipment
  - The fine-tuning of room set-up
  - The bulletin board
  - The name tags
  - The newsletter
  - The library
  - The draw
  - The refreshments
  - The at-meeting sale table
  - The Bring-to-Shares
  - The competitions
  - The seed exchange
- ...the list goes on.

All of these require member-power to put on—and guess what, when there are enough members involved to make things run smoothly, it is really gratifying fun. Why? Because you are interacting with other members. It is nice to be appreciated. It is what it is to really belong to NWHS.

There are two club groups you might want to consider joining:

**The Refreshment Committee:** This group organizes the refreshments we all enjoy at each meeting. Diane Perry, our Vice-President, is overall in charge. She writes: "Another year will soon be upon us and the tea committee will be looking for some new members to help us out. Helping doesn't mean you will be in charge of the whole thing. We rotate the schedule so each person only needs to commit every other month. Duties include helping to get the tea and coffee started, set the table for treat arrivals, helping to serve the tea at break time and then tidying up afterwards. All supplies and delivery of the equipment are taken care of." Please talk to Diane P at the meeting if you would like to help out or have any questions.

**The Fund-Raising Committee:** This committee oversees the raising of the funds that keep the club financially stable. Although not directly involved in some of the fund-raising such as Florissa, its members are there as back-up if needed. At our meetings, it mans the sale table. The work level for the team members increases in the spring with our Spring Plant Sale. Why not join this group? ...and enlarge your footprint in club happenings. Interested, contact Janet Butts, committee co-chair at 604-435-3008; janet@newwesthortsociety.org.



NWHS member Larry Tamkin unexpectedly passed away this year. He had an alter-ego, Santa Claus at the Royal City Centre mall. In memory of his 45 years of being "the most important person of the season", an annual toy drive in his name has been established. Toys collected during the drive will be given to appreciative kids through the New Westminster Fire Fighters Charitable Society.

The kick-off is on Nov 24 at 11:45am. The location is Santa's enclosure at Royal City Centre. Toys should be dropped off by Dec 15. Please drop off your toys during the time scheduled for Santa photo shoots. Cash donations, made out to New Westminster Firefighters Charitable Society in Santa Larry's name, are welcome.

**HO, HO, HO! - Santa Larry**