

Newsletter



www.newwesthortsociety.org

April 2019

WE ARE 85 YEARS OLD!

Are you ready to party? We hope so. Many thanks to the Anniversary Party Committee who has pulled together tonight's celebration. The core of this group are Diane Perry, Anna Camporese, Heather Corbett and Sherri Summers with other members pitching in. It was definitely not an over-night job. Well done! Let us eat cake!

A part of our celebrations is the possibility of taking home one of the great door prizes. Good Luck! We approached several community supporters of NWHS and they came through royally. Thank you very much. Listed alphabetically, our prize donators are:

- Amsterdam Nursery
- City of New Westminster
- GardenWorks Mandeville
- Lee Valley Tools
- Lowes
- Minter Country Gardens
- Northwest Landscape and Stone
- Phoenix Perennials
- Select Roses
- West Coast Seeds
- WIGS



THE WAY THINGS WERE IN 1934 WHEN NWHS WAS BORN:

Researching back copies of The British Columbian, an excellent source of local history, opens windows to what it was like to live in New Westminster in 1934.

BC's premier, Thomas Dufferin Pattullo presented a huge deficit budget. There was controversy regarding the proposed high-level bridge over the Fraser. Should tolls be charged? The Royal Columbian Hospital needed more money. The global economy was a real mess. B C, along with the rest of the world was dragging itself out of The Great Depression. Global unrest was lurking: riots in France, Mussolini takes power in Italy and there were demands to re-arm in Germany.

The City of New Westminster and life within it were very different from today. It was a major deep sea port with over 30 ships visiting monthly. Phone numbers (if you had one) were 2, 3 for 4 digits. Whereas white workers at Fraser Mills were paid 35¢ per hour, "Orientals" got 25¢. The average annual income in BC was \$350, drastically down from the pre-Depression \$600. A house could be rented for \$8 per month. Purchasing an older house cost \$550, a newer one \$1500. Macintosh apples were 7 pounds for 25¢, butter 3 pounds for 87¢, fresh rhubarb pies 20¢ each and loin lamb chops 2 pounds for 35¢. New car prices ranged from \$700 to \$1700. St Mary's Hospital got a new "shock-proof" X-ray machine, the most advanced at the time and the only one in BC. Grappling (wrestling) was a popular spectator sport. The society page was thick with news such as "Mrs Braden of Vancouver was the guest of her sister, Mrs Middleton, for a few days last week".

In horticultural news, Bradner was earning a place on the map as a bulb growing centre. Also of note, in a garden on 6th Avenue, the "primrose display elicits the admiration of flower lovers." Some of the primula descended from plants brought here on the first boats reaching New Westminster by the way of Cape Horn. The Burquitlam and Surrey Women's Institutes held flower shows and teas. The South Burnaby Horticultural Society and the Farmer's Institute held a joint meeting. On March 21st there was the first mention of the birth of our club. Then, in the paper, on April 25, the headlines "Horticultural Society Plans Show on May 1". The article detailed the show schedule and revealed plans that the newly formed New Westminster Horticultural Society would hold a parlour show every month.

NWHS has the status of being the oldest general gardening club in BC in continuous existence. "Continuous" is the key word. Other clubs may have been founded before us but they have had years in which they were temporarily disbanded. There are specialty clubs much older than NWHS.

Tonight's Meeting

Tues, April 9, 7:30pm
Our 85th Anniversary Party
Speaker: Oana Capota on "Branching Out - Plants in New Westminster's History"
Membership fees payable.

Mark Your Calendar

Glenbrook Ravine Invasive Species Removal:
Sat, Apr 27, 10am-1pm (see article)

Fearing's Farm Rhododendrons Open Garden: Sun, Apr 28, 10am-4pm
5376 Ross Road, Abbotsford
View this seldom open private woodland garden that is the home of 1500 rhododendrons, 1100 of which are species. Check out the picture gallery on www.fearing.ca. The nursery will be open for sales with many varieties not available at local nurseries.

NWHS Spring Plant Sale:
Sat, May 4, 10am-3pm
New Westminster Secondary School roundabout - 8th St at Dublin Street (see article)

Edible Oasis Mother's Day Plant Sale
Sat & Sun, May 11-12, 9am-3pm
415 Garrett St, New Westminster (near Royal Columbian)
Info: www.edibleoasis.ca

NWHS May Meeting
Tues, May 14, 7:30pm
Speaker: Janis Matson on "Small Trees for Urban Gardens"
Deadline for membership renewal

New Westminster Heritage Home Tour
Sun, May 26, 10am-5pm
Tickets \$35
Info: www.newwestheritage.org (see article on volunteering)

TREASURER'S REPORT - Mar 2019
Total Revenue: \$1646.95
Total Expenses: \$789.24

New Westminster Horticultural Society April 2019

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

by Lorna Cloutier

Tonight we celebrate our 85th Anniversary: "Savour the club's past while enjoying the club's future". One thing our club has been recognized for, over the years, is our plant sale. Every year we have changed it a bit to keep up with the times or what the gardening culture currently wants or needs. This year we are changing location. We are moving from a sale on the Boulevard in front of a member's home to under the breezeway at New Westminster Secondary School. Our aim is to keep it smallish and outdoors but at a venue that makes it less labour intensive for our volunteers to set-up. Other criteria: a covered space that has good parking—both met by our new site. Check out the pictorial presentation tonight of how our sale has evolved but at its heart is still basically the same—only the size has changed.

An 85th Anniversary Modern gift is a Diamond which represents unconquerable and enduring, continuing or long lasting. Our club is just that! It is also said that the fire in the Diamond symbolizes the constant flame of love. For the New Westminster Horticultural Society, it is the love of gardening and sharing it with others. Cheers for many more years to come!

HERITAGE HOME TOUR 2019 VOLUNTEERING:

2019 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Home Tour. This year the tour salutes Heritage Women of New Westminster. In addition to open home visits, activities include walking tours in the Queens Park neighbourhood, a Heritage Fair (featuring a Heritage Women's exhibit) in Tipperary Park and guided tours of the "Ballet House". Tour tickets are \$35 or, if you are a NWHPS member, \$25. Tickets and memberships can be purchased on-line at www.newwestheritage.org. BUT... HAVE WE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!!!! You can get a free tour ticket (complete with express pass to avoid lineups) by volunteering to help with an open home or the Heritage Women's exhibit. There are two shifts: Morning (9:45 - 1:30, and Afternoon (1:15 - 5). If you, or any family or friends are interested please contact Sherri Summers, NWHPS Volunteer Coordinator at sherrijsummers@gmail.com or at 778-789-3759.

NWHS LIFE MEMBERS:

After 25 years of continuous paid membership, the status of "Life Member" is attained—which means one's membership fees are waived forever. Listed below are our current life members and when they joined. It is amazing how many of these people were (and some still are) core participants of NWHS. Even though some have trouble to attend the meetings, they all still maintain a keen interest in the club. A lot of history witnessed.

Elsie Ansdell (1979)
Audrey Barnes (1993)
Steve Barnes (1993)
Ellen Berg (1991)
Patti Kemp (1992)
Norma McFadden (1980)
Nina Osanic (1990)
Dorothy Pegler (1993)
Florence Ustare (1988)
Bev Yates (1981)

NEXT MONTH'S PRESENTATION:

The value of trees in the landscape cannot be under-valued but how do you get one that is in scale with your garden space and suitable for your micro climate. Our speaker next month, Janis Matson, will help you with these dilemmas. Janis has her own company Shoreline Landscape Design Ltd. She loves the challenge of making garden spaces look good and feel good—which includes selecting the right tree. She's very well-educated and experienced in both horticulture and teaching.

CONTACTS:

Lorna Cloutier: President
604-524-1942 or
lorna@newwesthortsociety.org

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

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

Terri Clark-Kveton: Plant sale: growing from seed, soil
604-525-1954 or
terri@newwesthortsociety.org
1118 - 8th Avenue

Audrey Barnes: Plant Sale: pots, labels, plant ID, photos, sharpies
604-526-8284 (before 8pm) or
audrey@newwesthortsociety.org
117 - 7th Ave.

Sharon Seki: Overall plant sale lead, sale weekend volunteers, signs
604-525-1611 or
sharon@newwesthortsociety.org

AUDREY MACHIN:

March 13, 1931-March 12, 2019
It is so sad that Audrey is gone. She had been a member of NWHS since 2004. Her participation in club affairs declined in the past few years. Living a fair distance away, in Port Coquitlam, made it tricky for her to attend meetings. But she rarely missed a club social. She loved people and was always a cheerful, chatty soul. Very artistic. Merrill Hall, her daughter, takes after her in many ways. Our condolences to you, Merrill. Your mom was a beautiful **PLANT SALE:**



GLENBROOK RAVINE RESTORATION:

Feel like flexing some muscles for a good cause? We have the project for you! Help remove invasive species in Glenbrook Ravine. This on-going project has four (3 hour) invasive species removal sessions planned for 2019. The first session is confirmed for Sat, Apr 27, 10am-1pm. Other potential dates are May 25, June 29, Sept 28. There are many invasive species in the park but most the plants to be removed will be Himalayan blackberry and English Ivy. On Oct 26, the plan is to plant native species. If you would like more details (such as where to meet) and get on the distribution list for the work parties, email Kyle Routledge at kylerroutledge@gmail.com.

DENMAN ISLAND HOME & GARDEN TOUR

June 15-16

This tour happens only every second year. Denman Island is a unique and beautiful place. This year both Des & Sandy Kennedy and Rick & Ann (ex NWHS member) Paisley's homes & gardens are featured. If you plan to go, it is best to stay overnight on Vancouver Island relatively close to the Denman ferry. Check the website for ticket info.
www.denman-conservancy.org/home-and-garden-tour

New Westminster Horticultural Society April 2019



Same great plant sale...
...but at a...
...NEW LOCATION!

**NEW WESTMINSTER
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY**

**SPRING
PLANT SALE**

Saturday, May 4, 2019
10am—3pm
New Westminster Senior
Secondary School roundabout
(8th St. at Dublin St, NW)

www.newwesthortsociety.org Cash Only

PLANT SALE:

We're down to the crunch! Less than 1 month to go! As potting tapers, our focus switches to pricing, publicity and the sale itself.

Phone numbers and email addresses for Sharon, Terri and Audrey is listed under "Contacts" elsewhere in the newsletter

Potting: If you haven't raided your garden for extra and/or unwanted plants, do it as soon as possible so they become established in their pots. The current rain is great—you don't have to be a slave to watering. They shouldn't dry out. We want those roots to be happy.

Pots: The stock-pile is in Audrey's carport and the stash of certain sizes, especially 1 gal, has been depleted. Please drop off any extras you have. Please no drop off after the sale date. Contact Audrey if you are looking for pots.

Growing from Seed? Terri CK is the go-to person for potting-on soil.

Labels: Please refer to the March newsletter about what is expected on your plant labels. If you need blanks, contact Audrey. If you anticipate needing a large number, tell her as soon as possible so she can make sure you get them. If you need to borrow a Sharpie, Audrey is the person. If you need some plant identification or label advice, guess who to talk with? Audrey

What are you donating? We would like to know in advance what you have potted. We have found in the past that a picture can ensure a sell-out. Once you have a list, email it to Audrey so she can get a photo sign made up. But don't wait until the last minute. If you can send her a photo, all the better. If you are growing veggies, please tell her. It makes it so much easier to be warned in advance of what to expect.

Pricing: Now is a good time to evaluate the worth of your plants. Everything must be priced prior to arrival at the sale site. Check the 2019 pricing guideline on page 4. We don't want you to undervalue your plants but, alternately, we want to sell everything. If you still have trouble deciding, contact Sharon Seki about a week before the sale. She will zip over and give advice. Please don't wait until last minute.

Publicity: It's time to ramp-up getting the word out. Grab a bunch of the small sale notices to give to your friends. The letter size posters are available tonight. They are intended for bulletin boards. Post it as soon as possible. Take one if you know of a good place—please tell us its intended destination so we do not make specific effort to go there only to find a poster. There will be a clipboard tonight for this. For our lawn signs, we have been searching out high foot traffic locations such as near elementary schools or parks. Most signs have been assigned but if we have overlooked you tell us tonight. Your lawn sign should go up about 1 week before the sale—aim for Fri, Apr 26. Many thanks.

Plant Delivery: We would like all plants delivered to the school roundabout Fri May 3, between 5 & 7:30pm. Please ensure they are well potted, labelled, priced and watered. Watering on site may be tricky. If you have plants for the sale but will be out of town on sale weekend, Audrey is willing to babysit them until sale time. There is some space in her greenhouse.

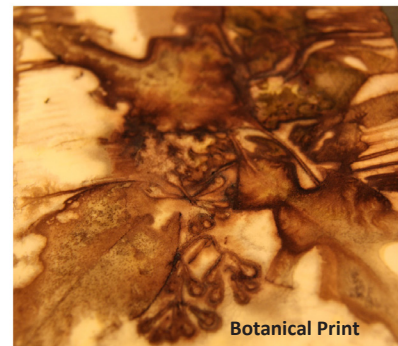
Sale weekend volunteers: There are still a few openings. Very strange: most of the people who volunteer are the same year after year. Why? Because they know how much fun it is and don't want to miss the thrill of interacting with the public, sharing the love of plants, making new friends and socializing with NWSHS friends they have already made. Also, there are all sorts of jobs for strong bodies who don't necessarily need to know plant details. If you are a new member, why not give it a try? You'll be pleased that you did. It's not a huge time commitment and you will feel you really belong to NWSHS. Check with Sharon tonight—or contact her when you know your schedule better.

Boxes: Of course, we need cardboard flats/boxes. It is best to drop them off at the sale on Sat.

**Thanks for participating in our sale!
Exciting times coming on May 4.**

NWSS ATHLETICS MANURE SALE:

This popular fund-raiser for the high school athletics is a bit later this year. Why? So it can coincide with our plant sale. For details of the mushroom manure sale and to download the order form, go to www.nwss.ca. The info says the sale is May 2-4 but that is when they plan to start deliveries. They hope most of the people, who want to order for delivery, have done it much in advance of that date. Just fill out the form and mail it and your payment to NWSS Manure Sale, 835 8th St, New Westminster, V3M 3S9. Alternately, you can drop into the school office between 9am and 4pm weekdays. There is a minimum of 2 bags for freedelivery. The students will have manure kiosk at our sale on May 4 as well but quantities will be limited. Fine if you want just a bag or two. If you want more, they will gladly take your order on our sale date. Each bag is \$5 and will cover an area 3ft x 3ft to a 2in depth.



Botanical Print

BOTANICAL PRINT WORKSHOP:

Reserve a couple hours on June 1st to learn how to create something beautiful. Under the guidance of club member Terry Rammell, you will print leaves and flowers from your garden onto cotton rag paper. The method is simple. You will become addicted. Talk with Terry tonight about what is involved...or check next month's newsletter for more details. 2 sessions are possible. There will be a maximum of 10 participants per session. The morning session (10am-noon) has priority. It will be filled first. If numbers warrant, an afternoon session (2-4pm) will also be held. The location is Audrey's carport. There will be a yet-to-be-determined minimal cost to participate—just enough to cover supplies. We do not run club workshops at a profit. Register, with payment of fee, in May via Audrey.

2019 SPRING PLANT SALE PRICING GUIDELINES

We aim to price our plants at 1/2 to 2/3 of regular retail price of an equivalent healthy plant. The prices listed are for an average filled pot.

* If your pot is less full or smaller plants drop by \$1-\$2 on the price below.

* If fuller or larger plant than average add \$1-\$2 to the price.

* If you have a named variety or a rarer plant then add \$2-\$3 to the price.

If you are stuck or have something large or unusual then call the Pricing Team. Contact is **Sharon at 604-525-1611**.

If want to donate and physically cannot dig up yourself - contact Sharon..

	1 gal pot or 6" pot	4" pot	2" pot	Flat 4-6 small plants
Perennials				
Ground covers including spreading sedums, ajuga, and Hen & Chicks (Sempervivum)	\$4.00	\$2.00		
Hosta, Hellebores	\$5.00	\$3.00		
Sedums (tall variety - e.g.- Autumn Joy)	\$5.00	\$2.00		
Solomon's Seal	Price at \$2 for first 2 stems and then add \$0.50 for each additional stem no matter size of pot.			
Perennials such Daylily, Iris, Anemones, Pulmonaria, Columbine, Bears Breeches	\$3.00	\$2.00		
Perennials such as Hardy Geraniums, Crocosmia, Common Grasses	\$2.50	\$2.00		
Shrubs, roses	Contact Sharon to assist with pricing.			
Annuals		\$2.00	\$1.00	\$2.00
Edibles				
Raspberries	\$4.00	\$2.50		
Rhubarb	\$4.00	\$2.50		
Strawberries	\$3.00	\$2.00		
Tomatoes - 4-6" tall		\$2.00		
Tomatoes - 2-3" tall		\$1.50	\$1.00	
Tomatoes Special - (Heirloom & Tumbler)		\$2.50	\$2.00	
Veggies other than tomatoes		\$2.00	\$1.00	\$2.00
Herbs		\$3.00	\$2.00	

For those growing tomatoes / other veggies could you please provide us a list of tomatoes / veggies by name / type / determinate / indeterminate / & other interesting characteristics i.e, colour, size. or type of fruit, heirloom or not. **Send to: audrey@newwesthortsociety.org** We wish to compile a list for sale day to help our customers who are specifically looking for tomatoes/veggies.