

Newsletter



www.newwesthortsociety.org

October 2019

AUCTION ACTION:

With this being potentially the final NWHS Silent Auction, some members have gone full-out tossing items towards the auction tables. Thank you. We have a fantastic selection. The following pointers will guide you in getting the items you covet and ease your way out the door with your treasures.

- **Bidder number:** Get yours in the foyer.
- **Place a bid:** If an item has a bidding slip, you can put down a bid. Your bidder number goes on the left side of the slip; your bid on the same line, on the right side. Your bid can equal the starting bid or increase the previous high bid by a multiple of 10¢.
- **Make sure you are writing on the right slip:** Double check that the slip you are bidding on matches the item you want. If uncertain, speak with Audrey.
- **Keep a list of your coveted items:** When you are checking out the room, keep a list of the items that interest you so you can monitor their bidding action. This list is invaluable later when you are collecting your treasures.
- **5 minute warning:** You will be alerted when there is 5 minutes before the auction ends.
- **Bidding over:** At the end of bidding, you must exit the auction area while a crew highlights all the winners and their winning bids.
- **Gathering your items:** When instructed, gather all your won items and their slips. Double check you have the correct slip for each item and that you are the winner.
- **Boxes and bags:** There will be boxes under the tables available for you to use. Also a limited number of bags at the podium if you have only a few items.
- **Look for un-bid-upon items:** Often, once the bid-upon items are removed from the tables, other items that were not bid upon become evident. You can add these to your stash by paying the starting bid amount. Make sure you put your bidder number on the left

side of the slip.

- **Get your bids tallied:** Once you have everything gathered together, get a tallier (identifiable by the clipboards they are carrying) to total your winning bids.
- **Go to the cashier:** All tallied? Great! Proceed to the cashier with your money or cheque payable to NWHS.
- **Gloat:** Drool over all the great items you got for a super deal and feel confident that you have contributed to the coffers of NWHS.

GOOD LUCK! HAVE FUN!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Lorna:

Do you always believe what the News and Weather forecasters say? Recently, I was in the Maritimes arriving 5 days after Hurricane Dorian went thru. I saw some trees down or evidence of where large limbs had broken off or trees completely uprooted and many piles of branches on the sides of the road. It was not nearly as bad in most areas that I visited as the News reports made it out to be. Sure, there was the construction crane that came down in Halifax that they were still making sure everything was safe before starting the removal. The news repeatedly showed the same trees that were downed. Some situations reminded me of our September speaker's examples of developers' bad tree planting. I think the number of trees downed was no worse than the Lower Mainland's summer windstorm of 2015. Sadly, Cavendish Campsite in PEI National Park is reported to have lost 80% of their trees. Its devastation is comparable to the 2006 damage to Stanley Park. The biggest effect of Dorian in the Maritimes was the power outages, lasting from a few hours to a week in more remote areas. The cleanup in the towns & cities was quickly done by the citizens & military. The overall quick recovery is a testament to the rugged stalwart nature of the Maritime people. The positive side of the downed trees is that there will not be a shortage of firewood this year.

Tonight's Meeting

Tues, Oct 8, 7:30
Silent Auction
Contest entries due
Christmas Party Tickets on sale
Nominations for Christmas charity

Mark Your Calendar

UBC Applefest:

Sat, Oct 19; Sun, Oct 20, 11am-4pm
UBC Botanical Garden
6804 SW Marine Drive, Vancouver
www.botanicalgarden.ubc.ca

Glenbrooke Ravine

Invasive Species Removal:

Sat, Oct 26, 10am-1pm
The hard work of removing the unwanted is over. Join the crew for the final work bee of 2019 when the native plants are planted.
kyleroutledge@gmail.com

BC Council of Garden Clubs

Fall Meeting:

Sat, Oct 26, 9am-4pm
Bonsor Banquet Hall
2nd floor, Bonsor Recreation Complex
6550 Bonsor Ave, Burnaby
Registration for this event via NWHS is past. If you still want to attend, go thru www.gardenclubs.com
Remember to bring your own mug, soup bowl, plate, cutlery & napkin

Century House Craft Sale & Tea

Sat, Nov 2, 10am-2pm
Century House
620 Eighth St, NW

NWHS AGM & Regular Nov Meeting:

Tues, Nov 12, 7:30pm
AGM: Elections for 2020 Executive
Christmas charity vote
Container Contest vote
Christmas party tickets on sale
Speaker: Kathryn Friesen on "How Do I Leave My Garden?/Finding Your Quiet Centre in a New Space"

NWHS Christmas Crafting:

Mon, Nov 18 to Sun, Dec 8
9:00am-9:30pm by appointment
117 Seventh Ave, basement
(Extensive details next month)

NWHS Christmas Party

Tues, Dec 10, 6-9pm
Centennial Lodge
Ticket must be pre-purchased
Members \$20, guest \$25
(see article)

New Westminster Horticultural Society October 2019

NEXT MONTH'S PRESENTATION:

In Nov, Kathryn Friesen of Bloomsbury Designer Gardens Ltd tackles the situation that most of us will face in our lifetimes: When it becomes time to downsize and leave your home and garden, how do you evaluate your new space so that you retain that special connection with the outside? She will talk about important considerations to look for in the new space and how you can make the transition from "land gardening" to "sky gardening". Her company specializes in small space gardens—in transforming patios, balconies, courtyards or rooftops into garden rooms. She is based in New Westminster and can be contacted through her website: <https://bloomsburygarden.com>

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

This precedes our regular Nov general meeting. We anticipate it will be quick as the only item on the agenda is the selection of the 2020 NWHS Executive Committee.

Our Executive Committee: This group of 10 members are the ultimate overseers of all NWHS activities. There are other committees (eg fundraising, refreshments) who have areas of responsibility and individuals (eg Audrey) who take on certain tasks but these are ultimately under the guidance of the executive. The executive has the final say in all club activities.

The Executive positions and their terms:

- President: 2 years
- Vice President: 2 years
- Treasurer: 2 years
- Secretary: 2 years
- 6 Members-at-Large: 2 years

To ensure continuity on the executive, each year half of the positions come up for election. Because of internal movement within the executive, we have a unique situation for a term that expires in 2020. Next month, we will be electing persons to fill these positions:

- President: 2 years
- Treasurer: 2 year
- Members at Large: 1 for 1 year + 3 for 2 years.

Nominations:

At the moment, we are delighted that we have a full slate of nominees. However, nominations are still open until the voting at the Nov AGM. If you are interested in any position or would like to nominate a fellow member, please talk with Audrey. An actual election would be exciting.

NWHS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS:

As many of you know we culminate the calendar year by having a PARTY. Instead of a regular general meeting in Dec, we enjoy an evening of friendship with our fellow club members. Location is the same (Centennial Lodge) but the evening starts off a bit earlier. The doors open at 6pm. At 6:30 the catered buffet opens. We chow-down until 7:30 and the rest of the evening is taken up with our most amazing Christmas draw interspersed with photo & container contest awards, the trivial trivia quiz and socializing. It is a fun evening. We party until about 9pm. Dress is "nice casual" and up. Please hold off on the fragrance.

The feast menu:

Our mouth-watering meal is created by Austin Caterers.

Lavishly described by them:

- Slow roasted sliced free-range turkey with cranberry-apple compote & giblet gravy
- Prawn & chicken creole jambalaya with Chorizo sausage
- Ricotta lasagne vegetarian
- Butter whipped potatoes
- Gourmet cranberry apple stuffing
- Winter root veggies
- Vegetable crudité basket with dipping sauces (fresh carrot sticks, celery sticks, broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini, cucumber, cherry tomatoes & other seasonally available items. Served with creamy vegetable dip)
- Antipasto platter, an assortment of international pickles (stuffed olives, sun-dried tomatoes, marinated artichokes, onions, spicy green beans, gherkins, pickled asparagus, roasted red peppers, pickled pearl onions & baby dills)
- Cranberry sauce
- Empress salad (baby spring greens, fresh seasonal berries, diced cucumber, cherry tomatoes & pine nuts with a honey raspberry vinaigrette).
- Spinach & candied pecan salad (baby spinach with candied pecans, goats cheese, cherry tomatoes & red grapes served with a citrus dressing)
- Fresh bread rolls & whipped butter
- An assortment of Christmas desserts & pastries, mince tarts and shortbreads (one plate per table)
- Gourmet fruit display (watermelon, golden pineapple, kiwi, honeydew, oranges, cantaloupe, apples, strawberries & other seasonally available fruits).

Party tickets on sale tonight: Because of the catered meal, tickets must be purchased to attend the event. As with many club functions, your attendance is subsidized by NWHS. The price: NWHS members, \$20; guest, \$25. There are only 100 tickets available. See Ellen Berg at the Treasurer's table tonight to purchase yours. To eliminate confusion with the auction, ticket sales end 15 minutes after business ends. Tickets cannot be purchased in conjunction with the payment of your auction items. The monies go into separate accounts. Cash or cheque payable to NWHS acceptable. After tonight, contact Ellen at home (see contacts listing) to purchase tickets. If there are still some available, they will be sold at the Nov meeting. Until Dec 1, you can get a refund if you are forced to change your plans. In the past there has been a ticket waiting list. If, after Dec 1, you discover you cannot use your ticket, please consult with Ellen regarding the waiting list before you privately broker your ticket. It seems only right that NWHS members should have first chance to attend the party.

All seating is reserved: We learned from experience that this eliminates a lot of confusion and disappointment party night. When you purchase your ticket(s), make sure you tell Ellen your seating preferences. Do you want to sit with specific friends? At a specific table location. Some tables seat a maximum of 7, others 8.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING SESSIONS:

For a brief couple of weeks, Audrey's basement seems so spacious. The silent auction stuff is gone. The crafting materials are still boxed. Once they are unpacked, and Crafting Central is set up, the fun begins. We get to play with all the fantastic Christmas stuff and create the prizes for the Christmas Party Draw. The crafting sessions start Nov 18 and end Dec 7. Working with fresh materials is restricted to the daylight hours of the final weekend. The aim is to make 80 draw prizes. The sessions are an excuse to socialize while having creative fun. Lots of around-the-table discussions on many topics. Ideal for those of you (and your friends—non-NWHS members welcome) who love making stuff but don't really have room for your finished projects. Mind you, a huge number of people at the Christmas Party, pick their creation when their number is drawn.

New Westminster Horticultural Society October 2019

The Crafting Calendar:

Come Nov, the sign-up calendar will be available for you to record when you would like to craft. The basement is available from 9am to 9pm, seven days a week for the three weeks. But crafting only occurs when you tell Audrey. Daytime hours are preferred by her as she tends to crash in the evenings. Evenings are available because not everyone can come during the day and we don't want to limit people's chance to participate. Using normal materials, 4-5 crafters can fit around the table. When using fresh materials, the number is reduced to 2-3. So, in Nov, write on the calendar (full name & contact info) when you would like to attend. People usually do a 2-3 hour shift. Remember Audrey needs to go grocery shopping and eat. Once your name is on the calendar, Audrey will confirm your attendance during the evening prior. Your name on the calendar is not engraved in stone. You can change your mind. Give Audrey a heads up as soon as you know of any change in your plans. It is really a lot of fun, even if you consider yourself "craft-challenged". A good excuse to socialize. NO fragrance please!

Materials:

Yep, we have a lot-- but never say "no" to donations—unless they are fragrant (an absolute NO) or shed glitter. Our contract with the Lodge stipulates "No Glitter". It is hell to clean off the floors. Some people call it "Devil's Dandruff". Donations of Christmassy "stuff" can be left at Audrey's sheltered kitchen door (go up the concrete steps). Please include your name so we can thank you (at least mentally). Thanks, much appreciated.

PRUNINGS WANTED:

Are you planning on doing fall pruning of your deciduous trees and shrubs? Well, don't lug them to the recycling centre or snip them into small pieces for your green bin. Audrey can use them for her annual light display. Ideally, she wants well-branched, strong limbs with no more than a 2" diameter at the base. Length: probably at least 3', longer is great. Contact her (see contacts listing) when you prune. She collects them on her front lawn. Thx.

FLORISSA: To everyone who participated in the fall fundraiser, NWHS thanks you. We added \$363 to the club's coffers. Next step: get those bulbs planted! There should be some gorgeous spring gardens.

OUR CHRISTMAS CHARITY:

We give half (roughly \$400) of the proceeds of our Christmas Party Draw to a charity. Who it will be for 2019 is up to you. Tonight we are asking for nominations (put them in the box in the kitchen when you go in for a snack). In Nov, we vote by ballot. Some guidelines: local, compassionate, horticultural/gardening. These are hints, not defining criteria. Do you know of a likely group? When you submit your nomination, please include the groups name, a brief description and your name. Alternately you can email your nomination to Lorna (see contacts listing) prior to the Nov meeting. It is nice to spread the money around but this doesn't mean groups we have given to previously are not eligible. We collect fresh nominations each year. If you nominated a group last year, to get it on the ballot, you must re-nominate it.

Past Recipients of our Christmas Party Donation:

- 2018: Normanna Care Home
- 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 Auxilliary
- 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

FLOWER ARRANGING COURSE:

November 30 Sign Up Deadline:

Some people call it Floral Art, some call it Flower Arranging. Whatever... it is creating a thing of beauty using plant material and, sometimes, accessories. If you are one of many who try to put together a floral arrangement for your table and it looks just "ho-hum", this course is for you. It will be a chance for you to learn skills so that you can create eye-popping arrangements instead. NWHS is planning to take advantage of the BC Council of Garden Clubs offer of a Level 1 Floral Art Course. It is ideal for beginners who have never done any flower arranging before or for those wanting to brush up on their skills. This introductory course will be comprised of 6 two-hour sessions, starting late March. The sessions will be a combination of demos and hands-on workshops. The emphasis of the Level 1 course is Table Centerpieces. Each session will concentrate on a specific form: vertical, triangle, asymmetrical, crescent, inverted crescent and Hogarth's curve ("S" shaped). We anticipate a dramatic increase exhibit quality at our July show. The cost of putting on the course is split amongst the participants. The more participants, the lower the cost to each. With 10 people, it will be about \$110 per person. Non-NWHS members are welcome to join in, with a slight surcharge (probably \$5). Supplies are extra but a shared bulk purchase at United Floral is possible. At the moment, we have only 4 who have registered. Contact Cindy Taryn, ctaryn@telus.net or 604-585-6786 with questions or to register. The deadline to sign-up is Nov 30, 5pm. After that date, details will be finalized.

GARDEN BROOMS:

Yes, Kwantlen Park School (Surrey) is still selling these great brooms as a Dry Grad Fundraiser. We haven't publicized this recently but with the upcoming gifting season, we thought we should put out the word again. They make a great Christmas gift. If you would like one, give Audrey \$20 to place your order. Our deadline to take orders is Dec 1 (5pm, of course). Unless there is a huge number ordered early, all orders will be held until Dec 1 as getting the brooms is quite labor intensive. Audrey's contact must first get them from their source and then get them to Audrey who will phone you on their arrival. The Dec 1st deadline is to ensure you get your brooms in plenty of gift giving time.



New Westminster Horticultural Society October 2019

PLANT A ROW, GROW A ROW:

With the last day for Sunday produce drop-off past, Andrea Buonassisi, the program's keen communication expert, emailed this thank you to the program's participants: "Hi 'Plant a row' friends: We have had a wonderful donation summer thanks to you! The fresh veggies and fruit have been most welcome and appreciated at Union Gospel Mission in New Westminster. Also, please mark down Thursday, March 12, 6-9 pm, 2020 for our annual 'Plant a row-Grow a row' Spring Gardeners' Party. Join us for an enjoyable gardening evening and bring along your family and friends! Thanks again and happy gardening, Andrea and Claude & the NW 'Plant a row' volunteers". It is a win-win program. NWHS is proud of the members who generously take part.

PHOTO & CONTAINER CONTESTS:

It is going to be interesting to see what experiences and observations you caught on your cameras. You've done the hard part—taking your photos and evaluating which are best. The actual entering of the contests is simple. All entries should be submitted at the podium tonight. If you encounter any problems, Audrey is the person to talk with. The detailed rules are at the podium.

Photo Contest: At the podium select an exhibitor's number. This goes on the back of each of your entries instead of your name. There is an envelope for each of the 4 categories. Just put your pictures into the appropriate envelopes. You are allowed 3 entries for each category.

Container Contest: There is a stash of blank envelopes at the podium. Please use one for each of your entries. You can submit 3 entries. For each entry, please submit your photo(s) (up to 3 permitted), your container's plant list and your name. Please do not write on or seal the envelopes.

2020 COLOUR IN THE GARDEN:

Next year's colour for the photo contest is probably one of the most common but most overlook in gardens: **Brown**. This will get you looking at your gardens in a new way. Images must be of vegetative material.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Sept 2019

Total revenue: \$434.50
Total expenses: \$874.26
See the bulletin board for details.

NWHS SHARING by Linda Turnbull

I think NWHS and sharing are synonymous. If you are new to NWHS, welcome!

I have been a member since 2003. I have also been a member of several other garden clubs, but, I think NWHS is the best. Why?? Because this is a 'social' club with a broad range of interests in gardening. NWHS members are welcoming and non judgemental. All abilities are welcome, from the 'arm chair' gardener to the 'obsessed'. The flexibilities of the members in accepting different approaches are outstanding. What really makes NWHS the best is how involved the members are in the club. Participation is key to its success and to the enjoyment derived from being a member. The amount of time you have to be involved is very wide ranging. You, the member, get to decide how much and when without feeling obliged. If you are a novice at something, there is always a member with experience to help. New ideas and experiences are always welcomed.

Some of the ways to participate and get involved.

- Be on the executive
- Take the lead on an event
- Volunteer for a shift on the tea committee
- Bring something for the monthly tea
- Annual plant sale (wide range of activities from delivering plants to selling plants)
- Start seeds for the plant sale or donate plants for the plant sale
- Work a shift at the annual plant sale
- Work a shift at our monthly in-club plant and garden table
- Volunteer to set up or take down tables, chairs or tents at various club events.
- Join one of the club workshops and meet people in a small group setting
- Join the 'Sketching Club/Garden Gals' for garden painting (men are welcome too)
- Participate in the Container contest and share your ideas for containers
- Participate in the Photo contest and share your garden photographic images
- Participate in Bring to Share events
- Participate in the Show bench and share your garden glories
- Participate in the Silent Auction (various tasks available)
- Christmas crafting for the Christmas draw in a small group setting

- Volunteer to be a speaker at one of our meetings or suggest one
- Suggest an outing or workshop
- Participating in NWHS & city community improvement projects
- Volunteering to be a Host garden for the annual garden tour
- Free table in the Foyer (donate or take free)
- Seed Exchange (donate seed or take free)
- Participate in 'other' fundraisers eg: Florissa

I have probably left out something you can do to be involved but I think this is a fairly comprehensive list. Pick one or come up with a new one, NWHS is open and to be enjoyed. Just talk to someone on the executive or use the suggestion box. The 'give and take' in NWHS is extraordinary. You will find by participating you get much more than you give. Many lasting friendships have also resulted in being an involved member.

Sharing your time and/or abilities is what makes NWHS so pleasant and successful.



CONTACTS:

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

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

Ellen Berg: Treasurer, Christmas Dinner
Tickets
604-525-7827 or
ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

Audrey Barnes: Christmas Crafts,
Garden Brooms, Contests,
Executive Nominations
117 Seventh Ave
604-526-8284 (before 8pm) or
audrey@newwesthortsociety.org

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

Janet Butts: At-meeting Sale Table
604-435-3008 or
janet@newwesthortsociety.org

Richard Harrison: Seed Exchange
604-544-2468 or
richard@newwesthortsociety.org

Merril Hall: Sketch Club
604-790-1321 or
merril@newwesthortsociety.org

Sharon Seki: Spring Plant Sale Lead
604-525-1611 or
sharon@newwesthortsociety.org