

Newsletter



OCTOBER = SILENT AUCTION:

Our October meeting is like no other. The room will be so packed with deals that there is minimal seating. It's a great incentive to do a bit of fall clean-out while at the same time a chance to acquire some super items.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Lorna:

Have you been thinking about doing something in the club so that you can get to know other members better? Well we have a few opportunities for you this fall.

- In my emailer I mentioned that we need help for our Annual October Silent Auction. See more info about that elsewhere in the Newsletter, the sign-up sheet is at the Fireplace/Bring-to-Share Check-in table.
- In 2020, there will be a couple of Member-at-Large positions open on the club's Executive. One a 1 year term and the other a 2 year term. Elections are in November. Members-at-large assume a duty which we usually determine at the start of each year. One job that will be open: taking on organizing speakers. We do have a database to draw from as well as suggestions from our membership. The Executive meets one additional meeting a month, on a Tuesday, at each other's homes. We have a good time and discuss things important for ongoing and successful operation of NWHS. If a position on the Executive appeals to you please talk to Lorna or one of the other Executive. We do have a nominating person and they may approach you.
- Finally, in November we have our Annual Christmas Crafting sessions where we make wreaths, table centers, and other Christmassy prizes for our Christmas Party Draw. This is a three-week social. Past participants say they have had a very enjoyable and fun time doing this. More information on this will be available in November.

Volunteer to help in some way with your club this Fall. You won't regret it.



JEAN LIST

Oct 13, 1934 – Sept 4, 2019
NWHS is often called a social club whose members share an interest in gardening. Jean List was 100% into the "social" part. "Gregarious" is almost too mild of a term to describe her. She thrived on interacting with people—lucky us. In return, we all thrived because of her. She would remember if you had a certain interest. Seemingly out of the blue you would get an email or call "Did you hear about...?" Her enthusiasm was fantastic. Always full speed ahead. Always on the front line to volunteer. A quick mind. Great sense of humor. She lived life to the fullest. We shall miss her. Details of a Celebration of Life for Jean are not known. The membership will be alerted via email.

CROW WALK & TALK:

Mark Sat, Oct 12, 6:30-8:00pm on your calendar. If you are fascinated by crows, don't miss out on this great opportunity. Buy your tickets now (only 50 available) to join SFU Adjunct Professor and crow expert, Dr. Rob Butler, on a "walk & talk" about the local crow population. It will be a first-hand experience with the 12,000 crows at their Burnaby roost, their dusk-to-dawn home during the fall and winter. Go to www.eventbrite.ca/e/come-and-meet-up-to-12000-crows-tickets-7004 or call 604-521-8401 to purchase your ticket(s): \$10 adults/\$5 kids. The group will meet in the Willingdon McDonald's parking lot. There is limited parking in the area. Skytrain is a great option as there is a station a few blocks away.



Tonight's Meeting

Tues, Sept 10, 7:30
Speaker: Amanda Jarrett on "Garden Mistakes and Misconceptions"
Fall Bring-to-Share

Mark Your Calendar

Plant a Row, Grow a Row Produce Drop Off:

Every Sun morning
8:30-9:15am
St Thomas More Collegiate entrance
7450 12th Ave, Burnaby
Got a super crop this year? Share some of your luck. Drop off your excess produce so it can be enjoyed by those less fortunate in our community.

CanWest Hort Show:

Wed, Sept 25, 10-5; Thurs, Sept 26, 10-4
Abbotsford Tradex
www.canwesthortexpo.com

Glenbrooke Ravine Invasive Species Removal:

Sat, Sept 28, 10am-1pm
This will be the final 2019 work-bee for removing the blackberries and other invasives in the ravine. Hike up the path to the work area. Wear protective clothing as those plants are evil. Hard but rewarding work.

Florissa Fundraising Deadline:

Tues, Oct 1, midnight
www.florissafundraising.com/new-westminster-horticultural-society/
(see article)

NWHS Oct Regular Meeting:

Tues, Oct 8, 7:30
Silent Auction (no speaker)
Photo/Container Contest entries due
Christmas Party ticket sales begin
Nominations for our Christmas Charity

Crow Walk & Talk:

Sat, Oct 12, 6:30-8:00
(see article)

UBC Applefest:

Sat, Oct 19; Sun, Oct 20, 11am-4pm
www.botanicalgarden.ubc.ca

BC Council of Garden Clubs

Fall Meeting:
Sat, Oct 26, 9am-4pm
Bonsor Banquet Hall
Pre-registration required
(see article)

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SILENT AUCTION:

The time has come to take advantage of our Silent Auction. It is the perfect incentive to clean out those cupboards, sheds, attics, basements—any spot where you have stashed that “I’ll just keep this until later because I might need it” items that haven’t moved since you put them there. Clean them up and donate them to the NWHS Silent Auction. We are not looking for big ticket items but we won’t turn them down. You have the option of designating the starting bid for your item and the option of taking it home again if there is no bidder. Auction leftovers are donated to charities.

The other side of the auction is “getting stuff”. It is truly a night of “one man’s discards becoming another man’s treasures”. Talk about Christmas shopping on a budget! Make sure you do a scan of the tables after people have collected their bid upon items and the tables are less crowded. No doubt you will spy some more “must haves”.

Attendance at the meeting:

Normally, drop-ins are welcome to club meetings. Not so for auction night. The auction is primarily members offering deals to other members... but in recent years, we have invited sponsored guests. “Sponsored guest” means someone a member personally invites to join in the fun. If you have a friend who would like to come, follow these steps:

- Tell Ellen, our treasurer, at tonight’s meeting or give her call (604-525-7827) prior to auction night
- Arrive at the Oct meeting at the same time as your guest
- You and your guest must get your bidder numbers at the same time.
- Guests must be pre-registered. No drop-ins. No new memberships will be sold at the meeting.

Unique to Auction Night:

- No name tag or attendance sheet in foyer. Instead pick up your bidder number there.
- No free table
- No At-Meeting sale table
- No draw
- No library. Books can be returned to the podium.
- No fireplace table
- Seed exchange donations can be made at podium
- Refreshments will be served in the kitchen
- Suggestion box will be in the kitchen

What can you donate?

There are only a few restrictions: no computer components, no clothing (unless very unique or suitable for Hallowe’en), no books that are in rough shape, no items that are strongly scented or shed glitter. We expect all donations to be in good condition. These have been organizational areas:

- Jewelry
- Books
- Office/stationery
- Plants (although these are better suited for our monthly at-meeting sales)
- Home improvement
- Furniture (small pieces)
- Auto
- Pets
- Food
- Knick-knacks
- Frames, mirrors, wall décor
- Vases
- Crafts/ hobbies
- Candles, candle holders
- Christmas
- Halloween
- Toys: kids & adult
- Sporting goods
- Garden tools|Supplies
- Garden pots | Baskets
- Linens
- Bags/luggage
- Fine dishes
- Casual dishes
- Kitchen utility | Storage
- Off-site items too big to be physically on site (posters)
- Items that defy classification

Off-site Items:

Remember that people have to be able to transport home the items they purchase at the auction. With this in mind, it is best to leave huge, awkward or heavy items at home. Instead make an 8x10 poster. Take a picture of the item, describe it (dimensions, special details) and say where it is located...and add your contact info. Upon auction end, the winner will take the poster home and contact you regarding pick-up.

Pre-processing at Audrey’s:

This is done for the sake of efficiency: if you do things at a leisurely pace early, it eliminates a last minute rush. If we can get the bidding slips done for the bulk of the items—and get the items sorted by display area—and set up the room early, it just makes the whole event much more enjoyable. With this in mind, we strongly recommend you drop off your donations at Audrey’s. Especially if you have lots of stuff. Suggestions for starting bids are welcome. Audrey lives at 117 Seventh Ave.

Because her mobility is a bit challenged this year, there is a slight change in the drop-off procedure. When you arrive at the kitchen door, knock **loudly** (use acorn to the left). If Audrey is home, she will open the basement door for you to carry your donations directly inside. If nobody is home, please leave your offerings at the sheltered kitchen door. Add your name in case we need help identifying an item. Never leave items at the basement door or under the deck as they may get ruined with inclement weather. The deadline for drop-off is Sun, Oct 6th, 5pm.

The bidding slip:

If you want to make up your own slips, get some blanks tonight (head table/fireplace table) or from Audrey after tonight. Once the slips are made out, you can drop your items off at Audrey’s for them to be sorted by area or bring them directly to the Lodge on auction night. Here are a few guidelines in making on the slips:

- Each item must have its own slip.
- In the “item” space at the top, make sure you include enough details that it will be obvious that the slip is unique to the item. It will be on a table next to similar items. Include identifying hints such as colour, size or brand name. We don’t want any ambiguous slips that get mixed up.
- If you have several identical items with separate slips, use masking tape to designate them “A”, “B”, “C”, etc.
- Identify books, CDs & DVD’s by writing the title on the slip.
- The starting bid (put directly under “Amount Bid” on the slip) should be a “real deal”.
- There is to be no starting bid smaller than 30¢. If that seems high for your item, group it with another item to increase the value.

Bringing Items directly to the Lodge:

Bring your items to the receiving table, right next to the treasurer’s table. Arrive early if you can. It may be a busy spot. If bidding slips need to be made out, members will assist you. There will also be people who can offer help in placing your item(s) with others of the same theme(s).

How auction night works:

- When you arrive, you will be assigned a “bidder number” in the foyer. It is 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.

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- If nobody has yet bid on the item, your bid can be equal to the “starting bid” or higher.
- Any increased bid amount must end in “0” i.e. you can raise it by 10c, 20c, \$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 keep a list the items that interest you for future reference.
- It will be announced when there is 5 minutes left for bidding.
- At auction end, everyone exits the bidding area except a high-lighting crew which will high-light the winning bidder number and winning bid for each item. When instructed, you can re-enter the auction area and collect the items you won. Double-check that you actually did win each item and that you have the correct slips. Look under the tables for useful boxes.
- 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?
Once people have removed their won items, other treasures are often revealed. You can purchase those items at the starting bid price. *You must put your bidder number on the slip.*

Why we want the bidding slips at auction end:

At the cashier, you will be asked to forfeit your bidding slips. This is for your own good. Every year, there are items left behind that have no slip. If an item left behind has no slip, we know someone paid for it. But if we cannot find the matching slip for the item, we have no clue to identify the owner. Audrey contacts all owners of left behind items. Maybe not immediately as sleuthing takes time, but she will do it.

Thank you:

The auction is a big fundraiser for NWHS. We appreciate all who donate and help with the many tasks. Most of all, we appreciate the members who bid generously. It is a fun night.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Aug 2019

Total revenue: \$216.50
Total expenses: \$2315.93
See the bulletin board for details.
Expenses include the down payment for the Christmas Feast.

AUCTION MANPOWER NEEDED:

As with any big club undertaking, your help is needed before, during and after the event. Please talk with Audrey if you can help in any of the following ways. Thanks.

- **Donate items:** Don't want it? Donate it to the auction. Dropping off at Audrey's is best. If that doesn't work, bring it the Lodge early on Auction night.
- **Pre-processing items at Audrey's:** This involves creating bidding slips and sorting items as to themes. A two hour shift is ideal. Day-time best.
- **Transporting items on Auction Day:** For security reasons (and the uncertainty of the weather!) covered vehicles are needed. In the morning, we lug the stuff to Audrey's lane and load the vehicles. The goods are held in the vehicles all morning and then delivered to the Lodge at noon. Everyone helps unload.
- **Setting up the tables:** Set-up starts at noon. At that point, some people are re-arranging the tables while others are unloading the vehicles. Arrival at 1pm coincides nicely with low panic and clearer task instruction.
- **Helping process last minute donations:** Some people with only a few items (some with more!) will bring them directly to the Lodge at the meeting start. Help is needed filling out bidding slips and putting items in the right spots in the room.
- **High-lighting winning bids:** At auction end, a crew is needed to highlight the winner's number and winning bid for each item.
- **Tallying bids:** If you are good at math, this is the job for you. Once a member has collected all his/her won items, their bids must be totaled before going to cash.
- **Tear down and transfer back to Audrey's:** All un-bid-upon items are collected up, boxed and transported back to Audrey's. Tear down people and transport vehicles are needed.
- **Help Audrey sort the left-overs:** At tear down, all bidding slips are kept with the “left behind” items. Within the week following the auction, the boxes are checked for bidder numbers. The “owners” will be notified. “Non-bid upon” items are sorted and delivered to various charities.

CONTEST ENTRIES DUE IN OCTOBER:

We hope that you have been photographically recording your horticultural experiences. Now is the time to select your best images to share with fellow NWHS members via entering in the club's Container and Photo Contests. Haven't taken any photos?---well, get to it! You still have a month until entries are due. Entries should be submitted at the Oct meeting (at the podium) but if you can't be at the meeting, talk with Audrey about getting yours in. Please refer to the detailed Contest Handout for the fine print. If you can't find a hard copy or you just want a clarification, ask Audrey.

Basic Rules:

- You must be a NWHS member to participate
- Photos must have been taken since Oct 1, 2018
- You are allowed up to 3 entries in each photo contest category and for the container contest
- Maximum photo size is 5"x7" but 4"x6" is desirable due to wall space needed 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 at the Oct meeting.
- 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:

For each of your (up to 3) entries, you must submit a photo (you can submit up to 3) of your personally designed & grown container and a list of the plants used. Put your name on the plant list. It is recommended, but optional, to include a title or to specify the growing conditions or special challenges for your container.

Photo Contest Categories:

- **Colour:** Bluish-Green, ranging from pale bluish glauca to intense turquoise/teal. Image must be of plant material. Can be from any garden.
- **Garden Visitors:** Must be from your own garden.
- **View or Partial View of NWHS Member's Garden**
- **Macro Image:** Can be of any subject, in any garden

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INTERESTED IN FLOWER ARRANGING?

We think that with the great participation in the Floral Art at our July Show, this might appeal to you. We are taking the BC Council of Garden Clubs up on their offer to give flower arranging classes. These classes are suitable for beginners or those wanting a refresher. They are for people interested in flower arranging as a hobby, not for professional purposes. Currently they offer: Level 1: Traditional Designs and; Level 2: Introduction to Contemporary Design. Additional levels are in the making. As logic would suggest, Level 1 is a pre-requisite for Level 2. We plan to hold the Level 1 course in the spring of 2020. It will be six 2-hour sessions. It is anticipated they will be on Saturdays at Century House. The cost to participate is dependent on how many people sign-up. With 10 people, it will be about \$110 per person. The course will be open to non-NWHS members at a slight surcharge (maybe \$5). Supplies are extra but a shared bulk purchase at United Floral is possible. Sounds enticing, doesn't it?

- Questions: Contact Sherri Summers, sherrisummers@gmail.com or 778-789-3759
- To Register: Contact Cindy Tatrryn, ctatrryn@telus.net or 604-585-6786

Dates and costs to be finalized after when the number interested is known. The deadline to registration is November 30, 5pm.

FLORISSA:

The fall 2019 fundraiser is underway and you can participate in the club fundraiser/garden beautifier by checking out the fantastic selection at www.florissafundraising.com/new-westminster-horticultural-society. There are some definite must-haves! Nice to see a new selection. Place your order electronically. Take advantage of the free shipping through NWHS. All orders will be shipped to Audrey's shortly after the October 1 (midnight) deadline. She will call you when they arrive. If you have friends who take advantage of this free shipping, please make them aware of this procedure.

Orders must be placed electronically. If you do not have access to a computer or dislike ordering on line, Audrey will submit your order for you. Make a list of what you want, total it, add 12%. Give the list and money to Audrey and she'll do the rest. NWHS thanks you for participating. There is no 2019 Christmas Florissa Program.

BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS FALL MEETING:

Sat, Oct 26, 9am-4pm.

New location: Bonsor Banquet Hall, 2nd floor of the Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Ave. Burnaby. This is very close to the old meeting place. Lots of parking.

As always with the Council meetings, the day is packed. In the morning, Nicholas Wong, of the BC Invasive Species Council, will give a brief update on every gardener's potential enemy, the Japanese Beetle. Also, in the AM, every attendee gets to participate in 2 of 4 one-hour workshops. They sound useful: "Using online sources to your club's advantage", "Club revitalization", "The nuts & bolts of club organization", and "Growing in the city: How urban agriculture can transform the way we see our neighbourhoods". In the afternoon, the keynote speaker Dr Richard Hebda will present "Climate Change: Impacts and Actions Gardener's Can Take". Of course, there will be the draw (yes, NWHS will be running it) and numerous vendors. Lunch and refreshments are provided but all attendees are asked to "lug a mug and pack a sack" i.e. bring your own mug, cutlery, plate, soup bowl & napkin. Think green. Go eco!

Following on the success of the floral art show at the spring meeting, there will be another show. Its theme is "Dreaming of England". Follow the link on the council website for the show schedule: www.bcgardenclubs.com/events/2019-annual-general-meeting. Show entry deadline is Sat, Oct 19. There is no entry fee.

Once again NWHS will be subsidizing our member's attendance to the meeting. The deadline to take advantage of this super deal is 5pm, Sept 15. The subsidy is \$10. This means instead of costing you \$40 to attend, you pay only \$30. You pay Ellen, our treasurer (cash or cheque payable to NWHS). After Sept 15, the subsidy offer expires. You can still attend but you must register on your own via the council's website. After Sept 27, the cost to attend jumps from \$40 to \$45.

LAWN WATERING RESTRICTIONS:

Allowable lawn sprinklering times:

Even addresses: 4am-9am Wed, Sat

Odd addresses: 4am-9am Thurs, Sun

Watering trees, shrubs & flowers with a sprinkler is okay any day, from 4am to 9am

Lawn sprinklering restrictions are in force until October 15.

CHRISTMAS PARTY PREP STARTING:

As you may know, instead of a regular meeting on Dec 10th, NWHS will be holding its annual festive celebrations. The evening will be following format similar to past years: catered feast, contest awards, trivia quiz, fantastic draw. Because of the feast, tickets must be purchased to attend.

Party tickets sale starts next month:

Ticket sales start at the Oct meeting at the treasurer's table. A super deal: \$20 for NWHS members, \$25 for a guest. As all seating is reserved, when you purchase your ticket(s), make sure you tell Ellen any seating preferences. In Oct, if you plan to pay for both your party tickets and your auction items by cheque, please bring two cheques to facilitate keeping the monies separate. After tonight's meeting, tickets can be purchased through Ellen at her home. Please see the contact sheet.

Christmas Charity Nominations:

We give half of the proceeds of our Christmas Draw to a charity—preferably one that is local and compassionate. "Worthy group" can be substituted for "charity". At our Nov meeting, we vote on who the lucky group will be. At the Oct meeting, there will be a bucket in the kitchen waiting for your nominations. The winning group will receive approx. \$400.

Christmas Crafting Sessions:

For 3 weeks (Nov 18-Dec 7) prior to the Christmas Party we will be creating our party draw prizes. The times available are 9am to 9pm with the preference being daytime hours. The sign-up sheet will be available at the Nov meeting. Very social. Lots of fun. Location: Audrey's handy basement. Although we have loads of materials (that's an understatement!), we welcome donation of anything Christmasy. You probably know the routine about leaving items at Audrey's kitchen door. Thx.

CONTACTS:

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

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

Ellen Berg: Treasurer, BC Council Tickets,
Auction guest registration
604-525-7827 or
ellen@newwesthortsociety.org

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