

# Newsletter



[www.newwesthortsociety.org](http://www.newwesthortsociety.org)

February 2020

## WELCOME BACK !

### **PRESIDENT'S CORNER: by Lorna**

Welcome back to another year of Gardening and NWHS Membership. It's good to see you. Remember to renew your membership. You have until the April meeting to renew and retain "continuous" membership. You don't want a year's gap!

Along with a year of great gardening experiences ahead of us, we have a year of fund-raising activities that enable those experiences to happen.

- As you know we have discontinued our October Silent Auction, one of our fundraisers. It ran for many years in various formats. Last year, it brought in about 10% of what was fund-raised or 5% of our total revenue. We now have the challenge of how to make up that shortfall and are asking all membership to pitch in with ideas. We don't want to raise our fees.
- How about donating to our In-House Plant Sale held at each of our meetings? Plants, seedlings, tools, books or anything garden related is welcome. Please remember that if you bring something for the sale, check before you leave at meeting's end to see if it sold or not. Please take home any un-sold items. Our Fundraising Committee that runs the sale is not able to do so.
- Next: Don't forget to buy at the In-House Plant Sale. Check the sale table both before the meeting and during refreshments as new stock may arrive just before the meeting starts. Chances are you will find something that suits your fancy. Everything is a "super deal".
- Our Annual Spring Plant Sale is May 2nd this year. Check in your garden (if you didn't already do it last fall) to see what plants need dividing and donate them to the Annual Sale. If your timing of potting doesn't work with the May 2nd date, it is sure to be perfect for the monthly In-House Sale. Even if you have only one or two, every donated plant helps. How about starting some seedlings for the sale? If you don't know how, there is help available from other members. Volunteer to help at the sale. Finally, buy from our Annual Spring Plant Sale. You can always find room for another plant!
- At the meeting buy tickets for the monthly draw. There are always at least ten great prizes to be won. We have the draw because it is "fun", but it does make some money too.
- Do you have a suggestion for another Garden Related Fund-raiser? Are you willing to take it on or be part of it? If so, then consider joining the Fund-raising Committee. New members are always welcome—share your ideas and join this keen group and meet new people.
- Increase our membership! Bring a friend to a meeting, tell them what makes NWHS a great club—chances are they will decide to join.

### **PUTTING THE "FUN" INTO "FUND-RAISING":**

Have you ever noticed how doing a job by yourself just lugs along? The more people, the merrier = synergy and enthusiasm. Similarly, being stuck with the same job for a long time becomes a drag until someone else steps up and says "Can I help?" In no time, new friendships develop and the "job" becomes a shared interest. Sometimes new ideas are exchanged. This is exactly the situation with the Fund-raising Committee. Many hands make light work. More heads, more ideas. Recently, a few of the original stalwart committee members have stepped back and so we invite you to try it out. At the meetings, the committee's main responsibility is the In-House Plant Sale. Its members are also very involved in putting on the Annual Spring Plant Sale under the guidance of Sharon Seki. Committee meetings happen when they are needed. Does getting more involved in NWHS, but at a non-demanding scale, sound like something you would like to try? Chat with Terri Clark-Kveton or with the members handling the In-House Plant Sale.

## Tonight's Meeting

Tues, Feb 11, 2020

Speaker: Amanda Jarrett on "Pruning"  
Membership renewals: only \$15  
2020 NWHS budget vote

## Mark Your Calendar

### **Northwest Flower and Garden Festival**

Wed Feb 26 to Sun, Mar 1  
Washington State Convention Centre,  
Seattle, [www.gardenshow.com](http://www.gardenshow.com)  
Buy early-bird tickets on-line.  
Bert Garbuio (daytime phone 604-299-6876) is organizing a bus trip for Wed, Feb 26. Super deal! \$120 includes transit to and from the show, gratuities, admission and a buffet dinner on the way home. Bus leaves from St. Helens Church, 3860 Triumph St, Burnaby at 8am sharp.

### **BC Council of Garden Clubs: Vision to Action**

Sat, Mar 1, 10:30-4:30

Details: [www.bcgardenclubs.com](http://www.bcgardenclubs.com)

### **NWHS March General Meeting**

Tues, Mar 10, 7:30pm

Speaker: Anastasiia Dushyna on "Growing and Harvesting Medicinal Herbs"

Registration for BC Council Meeting

### **Plant a Row, Grow a Row Spring Gardeners' Party**

Thurs, Mar 12, 6:00 sharp  
(details next month)

### **LEPS Movie Presentation:**

#### **Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf**

Sat, Mar 14, 10am-noon

Free but pre-registration required.  
(see article)

### **New West Recycling Depot Final Day**

Sun, Mar 29 (so sad)

### **BC Council of Garden Clubs: Spring Meeting & AGM**

Sat, Apr 24, 8:30-4pm

Theme: Growing a Legacy.

Pre-registration with NWHS member discount at March club meeting

### **NWHS Spring Plant Sale:**

Sat, May 2 (See Article)

# New Westminster Horticultural Society February 2020

## YOUR 2020 NWHS EXECUTIVE:

At our November AGM, the membership cheered as the executive was voted by acclamation. The group that will be steering the club through the next year are:

**President:** Lorna Cloutier

**Vice-President:** Diane Perry

**Treasurer:** Terry Koziel

**Secretary:** ???

## Members at Large:

Marilyn Aldworth

Terri Clark-Kveton

Trudy Findlay

Lea McDonald

Ingrid Milne

Monica Mowat

## WANNA BE SECRETARY?

To our disappointment, Heather Corbett found unavoidable demands on her time forced her to submit her resignation as our club secretary. We thank Heather for being secretary for the past year and hope that her schedule permits her to still enjoy regular club activities. So...this leaves an *unexpected opportunity for a keen club member!* The secretary records the minutes for all general and executive meetings—as well as partaking in executive discussions and decisions. A great chance to become involved! The position is open for the remainder of 2020. 2021 sees the beginning of its new two-year term. Please talk with Lorna if you are interested. Our constitution stipulates that an election is not required to fill a position midterm. It can be filled by appointment.

## FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES:

Last fall NWHS decided to take the BC Council of Garden Clubs up on their offer of an introduction to traditional floral design class. Enough people signed up for it to be viable. Although, originally, the idea was for only members to receive instruction, the offer to participate was extended to non-members. Details have been finalized. The 6 wk course will be on Sat 10am-noon on Mar 14, 21, 28 and Apr 4, 11, 18. The cost is \$116.50 which includes \$30 for materials to get you started. The price is the same for NWHS members and non-members. There is still room for a few more participants. If you have not yet signed up, you can do so by contacting Cindy Tataryn, ctataryn@telus.net, 604-585-6786. If you have already signed up, you should have received a recent email from Cindy.



## NWBee:

Soon the air will be buzzing with bees, those power-house pollinators of our gardens. The New Westminster Beekeepers will be starting their beekeeping season soon. Besides maintaining their own honey bee hives in Queens Park, the group has the mandate to teach the enhancement of bee pollination and the ins-and-outs of beekeeping. For most Saturdays (10am-1pm), starting Feb 22 until season end in Sept, they conduct “how to beekeep” sessions at their hives. The schedule may be adjusted due to inclement weather. Email them at NWBee@shaw.ca or talk with Diane Perry at 604-341-1239 for more info and to get on their email alert list. There is no charge if you just want to check it out for 1 or 2 sessions. Any more than that, you will be expected to purchase a \$40 Associate Membership which entitles you to attend all the sessions for the year. If you are really keen, think about taking out a Full Membership in the group for \$200. With this, you take over guardianship of a hive, get a portion of the hive products (including honey) and can attend all learning opportunities. Both fees are annual.

## OUR SPEAKERS:

**February: Amanda Jarrett:** If you were at our Sept meeting, you know Amanda is a great speaker. Tonight we get the presentation that we had hoped to hear Feb 2019 but was cancelled due to snow. She will be covering the basics of pruning: the logic behind pruning, the timing of pruning and how to prune. Amanda has her own business, Amanda’s Garden Consulting Company. Her clients range from novice gardeners to professional landscapers. Check out her extensive website: [www.TheGardenRoom.com](http://www.TheGardenRoom.com).

**March: Anastasiia Dushyna:** A Botanical Pharmacology Specialist with over 11 years of experience in pharmaceuticals, Anastasiia will be focusing her talk on Growing & Harvesting Medicinal Herbs. She will discuss what plants to choose for your garden and how to harvest them properly and will also cover recipes for different herbal remedies and how to include them in an everyday wellness routine.

## FIVE SEASONS:

### THE GARDENS OF PIET OUDOLF

Sat, Mar 14, 10am-noon

This is a presentation by the Langley Environmental Partners Society and the Grow Healthy Grow Smart program. The movie is “an immersive and meditative documentary that reveals how the revolutionary landscape design can upend our conventional notions of nature, public space, and, ultimately, beauty itself.” [www.fiveseasonsmovie.com](http://www.fiveseasonsmovie.com). The event is free but pre-registration is required. To register go to: [www.eventbrite.ca/e/five-seasons-the-gardens-of-piet-oudolf-tickets](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/five-seasons-the-gardens-of-piet-oudolf-tickets).

## CONTACTS:

**Lorna Cloutier:** President  
604-524-1942 or  
[lorna@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:lorna@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Diane Perry:** Vice-President,  
Refreshments  
[diane@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:diane@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Ellen Berg:** Membership Renewals  
until February 20  
604-525-7827 or  
[ellen@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:ellen@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Terry Koziel:** Treasurer  
778-789-3441 or  
[terry@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:terry@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Lea McDonald:** Bulletin Boards  
604-942-9416

**Trudy Findlay:** Outings, Workshops  
604-522-2665 or  
[trudy@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:trudy@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Terri Clark-Kveton:** Fundraising, Plant Sale  
604-525-1954 or  
[terri@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:terri@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Ingrid Milne:** Speakers  
604-526-6610 or  
[ingrid@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:ingrid@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Marilyn Aldworth:** Library  
604-521-5753 or  
[marilyn@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:marilyn@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Sharon Seki:** Overall Plant Sale Lead  
604-525-1611 or  
[sharon@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:sharon@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Audrey Barnes:** Florissa, Plant Sale  
604-526-8284 (before 8pm) or  
[audrey@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:audrey@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Richard Harrison:** Seed Exchange  
604-544-2468 or  
[richard@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:richard@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Merril Hall:** Sketching Group  
604-790-1321

# New Westminster Horticultural Society February 2020

## NWHS SPRING PLANT SALE

**When:** Sat, May 2, 10am-3pm

**Where:** New Westminster Secondary School breezeway (aka the roundabout) 8th St at Dublin St, New West

Yep! At least for 2020, we have the same great location as last year. Also, again this year, NWSS Athletics will be selling bagged mushroom manure on site. Win-win!

The Annual Spring Plant Sale is the cornerstone of the club's financial health. It is our biggest fundraiser. But it is more than that! In its culmination, it is an event in which, hopefully, all members celebrate friendships and cooperation within the club. A celebration of inclusion!

The spring months are busy plant sale prep months. With the change of each calendar page, the emphasis on tasks to be completed also change. For now, we are concentrating on identifying the plants that each of us wants to contribute and getting those plants in pots. It is handy, for later reference, to make a running inventory of your potted plants.

### Sale Contact People:

All of the following are very experienced with the club sale and welcome your questions.

**Sharon Seki:** Overall plant sale lead  
604-525-1611 or  
sharon@newwesthortsociety.org

**Terri Clark-Kveton:** Seeding demo/  
workshop, soil  
604-525-1954 or  
terri@newwesthortsociety.org  
1118 Eighth Ave, NW

**Audrey Barnes:** Pots, labels, Sharpies  
604-526-8284 (before 8pm) or  
audrey@newwesthortsociety.org  
117 Seventh Ave, NW

### Seed Starting:

Terri Clark-Kveton has offered to give another demo/workshop on seed starting if enough interest is shown. It will probably be near the end of Feb or in early Mar. If interested, add your name to the sign-up sheet at the In-House Sale table tonight or contact her asap. Please add a notation if you have special interests.

In the past few years, several members started sale plants from seed. With home-grown edibles increasing in popularity every year, we hope that you will do it again. Those plants fly off the sale table! Check the West Coast Seed Catalogue re the timing. Remember, the plants should be a robust size by

May 2. Terri is a very experienced seed starter and can offer some guidance. If you need soil for your seedlings, Terri has a supply of starting mix and potting-on soil. Do not use soil from your garden for potting seedlings into larger pots as it will not provide proper drainage and may contain pathogens. Terri's stash of soil is intended for potting-on into pots up to 4".

### Plant pots and tags:

With its relatively central location, Audrey's carport (on the lane behind 117 Seventh Ave) will be the depot for pots. Our supply (esp 1 gal), at the moment, is drastically low. Please drop off any unwanted pots at any time. Don't bother washing them. If you need pots, please connect with Audrey so you don't mistakenly take some of her personal stash. Terri also has some pots.

Audrey also has the supply of blank plant tags. However, they will be secure inside her house. Contact her if you need some. Ask nicely and she might even lend you one of her fine-tip Sharpies! For our tags, we like all the plant info on one side so as to reserve the back-side for pricing. Details on writing tags will be in the March newsletter. We use cut up vinyl Venetian blinds for our tags—a commodity that is becoming rare. If you come across any, please drop them off in her carport. It is best if you do not dismantle or wash the blinds. Audrey will take care of that.

### Publicity:

At the moment, we are low-key in this department. Available, due to demand (a nice situation!), we have our small posters available. Large posters will be coming. Please keep your eye out for suitable public locations. Thanks.

Alright! Let's pot!

### VEGETABLE GARDENING BLOGS:

These two blogs are the cream when it comes to vegetable growing info. Both have great directories to past listings.

**West Coast Seeds:** Their printed catalogue is many vegetable gardener's go-to reference. Even more info on-line. [www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/garden-wisdom](http://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/garden-wisdom) Scroll down to sign-up

**Linda Gilkeson:** Linda is a renowned organic gardening expert from Salt Spring Island. You can spend hours scrolling through her website. Great Insect section.

[http://www.lindagilkeson.ca/gardening\\_tips.html](http://www.lindagilkeson.ca/gardening_tips.html) Sign-up link is near the top of the page.

### SEEDY SATURDAYS:

Attending a Seedy Saturday is a great way to jump into the gardening season. Take a break from depressing Feb/Mar weather and head out to immerse yourself in the gardening community. Listed below are 3 local events. All are similar but all are different too. Expect vendors of the unusual. Admission is by donation.

#### Seedy Saturday at VanDusen:

Sat, Feb 29, 10am-4pm  
VanDusen Floral Hall  
[www.mgabc.org/node/2573](http://www.mgabc.org/node/2573)

#### Ladner Seedy Saturday:

Sat, Mar 7, 10am-4pm  
All Saints Anglican Church Hall  
4755 Arthur Drive, Ladner  
[www.ladnercommunitygarden.blogspot.com](http://www.ladnercommunitygarden.blogspot.com)

#### Langley Seedy Saturday:

Sat, Mar 7, 10am-4pm  
Derek Doubleday Arboretum  
21559 Fraser Hwy, Langley City  
[www.leps.bc.ca/agriculture/seedy-saturday](http://www.leps.bc.ca/agriculture/seedy-saturday)

### FLORISSA:

Yes, we are participating in their spring 2020 program. Our webpage should be activated soon. Try <https://florissafundraising.com/new-westminster-horticultural-society/> If you get a notation that the program is "now completed", the spring webpage is not yet viable—that notation refers to our participation in the fall 2019 program. Try again in a few days, clicking to "refresh" the page. Florissa is a club fundraiser. We make 50% of the before-tax list price of each item you order. At check-out, tax is added to your selected items. You place your own order on-line. When you check the free shipping to NWHS, your items will be shipped to Audrey's home after our participation ends on April 21. Audrey will contact you when your order is in her hands. If you do not like to do financial transactions on-line, Audrey will gladly submit your order for you. Thanks!

### 'BROWN' IS THE COLOUR:

Unlike our 2019 colour for the photo contest, blue-green, you will have no trouble finding brown plant material in gardens. The challenge this year is to take photos that are "really good". Think: composition, where does your eye follow, the two-thirds rule, elimination of distracting elements. Most important: have fun looking and observing. Complete photo & container contest rules are available in a separate handout.