

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, DECEMBER 10, 2019

### WHITE ROCK & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

President, Patti Wolczuk, gave a warm greeting to all at today's meeting which began at 2:00 pm. She introduced and welcomed a new member, Kim McGreevy. As it was our annual general meeting and Christmas party, we had a full afternoon ahead of us.

Last month's minutes were approved as written, per motion by Melanie and seconded by Margaret Maddocks. There was a unanimous vote of approval. Patti thanked Linda for doing the minutes, and gave her a gift of a beautiful plant.

Patti spoke about aspects of her Presidency, and said it had been an honour and a joy to serve the Club in this capacity. Patti had coffee mugs made up that has our Club logo on them. She generously gave a cup to all our Club members. We were delighted to receive them and expressed our thanks to Patti.

With humour and grace, as usual, Yvonne spoke a few words to us about Patti. On behalf of our Club, she expressed gratitude towards Patti and gave her a card and a gift certificate.

Patti also gave gifts to recognize the individuals who contribute to our Club in various committee activities. Their names were called out and they were presented their gift. They and their committees are as follows: Bernice Day (kitchen), Mary Joe (historian), Iris Peacosh (plant of the month), Sharon Stanley and Claire Muirhead (draw/raffle), Eileen Davidson and Louise Long (welcoming), Heike Czisch (tidy up), Rosemary Milsted (sunshine), and Ken Parker (equipment). Nan Devereaux had been on phoning committee, but is now in a care facility and is unable to continue. Patti asked that we keep Nan in our thoughts.

The Treasurer's Report was given by our Treasurer, Lorna Bury. Lorna stated that our financial balances have grown this year and attributed this to a growth in membership (and fees from the same), our having an excellent Plant and Bake Sale in May, and monthly income from Plants Plus Table and the Raffle/Draw. We have ample funds to continue and have increased activities next year.

Membership: Director, Tim Roark, said we now have a membership of 83. He spoke about the Life Membership honour and that we now have gold lapel badges for individuals in this group.

Yvonne then came up front and spoke about the contributions that Donna Lawson has made to our Club. Donna was then honoured with the designation of Life Member. Our members gave Donna a long and tremendous applause. Much appreciation was expressed to Donna for all that she has done and continues to do.

The other Directors of the Club each said a few words. (Their reports are to be submitted to the President for attachment to these AGM Minutes.) Gifts were given to the Directors and each person on the Executive from Patti. Some highlights of their remarks are as follows:

- Donna Lawson, Show Director, thanked our members for making over 220 floral arrangements for the Come Share Society.
- Margaret Maddocks, Parlour Secretary, stated that last year 25 of our members have entered various shows. She encouraged all members to consider entering.
- Darlene Chamberlain, Trophy Director, gave out the following trophies. The Kiwanis Plaque for best photo was given to Patti. The Jean Wilde Memorial Plaque was given to Margaret Maddock for the most points earned this year in floral art. Novice Floral Art Trophy was won by Beverly Sass. The Piere Memorial Trophy was given to Mary Openshaw.
- John Davidson, Newsletter Director, said that last year (for our Club) he sent out over 700 emails. Through "snail mail" he sent over 80 items. He said that the amplifier is now fixed.
- Melanie Rantucci, Past President, was given a step-down award for serving on the Executive for five years. She received her Step-down Certificate from Patti.
- Mary Openshaw, Director of Plants Plus, spoke about the annual Plant and Bake Sale (and how it has grown over the years), and the Plant Plus Table (that she has started for our Club and which continues to be very successful). She asked for a helper with this monthly endeavour. At today's meeting, Joyce volunteered. Mary thanked our members who have helped her bring into our meeting (from her car) the items for sale at the Plant Plus Table. Mary said that next year will be her last year as Director of the Plant and Bake Sale. Should any of our members be interested in taking on this job, they should contact Mary.
- Margrit Elmiger-Isert, Program Director, spoke about our Club's various activities and outings throughout this year. She encouraged people to contact her if they have ideas for future activities.
- Beverly Sass- Website Update. We were told that the Website is about to go "live." So our members can view it in advance, John Davidson will send out an email with the link. Bev encouraged members to contact her if they had any questions or concerns.

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We had a break in which we partook in delicious treats and hot beverages. The tables were beautifully set up with a festive look – tablecloths and Christmas floral arrangements. We enjoyed visiting during a lengthy break while we were entertained by John Parsons who sang accompanied by a guitar and electronic instrumentation. Our meeting resumed at 3:35.

After our break, Patti spoke about the Executive's recommendation for a new Executive position to be established. It would be Website Director. (Please refer to the email sent regarding the Agenda of today's Annual General Meeting. Included in the document is a write up pertaining to the proposed Website Director's position. It details some of the position's responsibilities). In the aforementioned document and in speaking to the Club, Patti explained the procedure that is required to establish another Director's position. This is per our Article 6 in the Club's Constitution. To initiate this change, it needed to be tabled. That procedure occurred at today's meeting my a brought forward motion made by Iris and seconded by Eileen. It shall be voted upon during January's meeting.

Nominating Committee Report/Election of New Officers: Past President, Melanie Rantucci chaired this procedure. Following a brief description aspects of our organizational structure and the duties of some of the positions, Melanie spoke about positions that needed to be filled and those which have incumbents. Individuals are willing to remain in their current positions with the exception of President, Vice President, and Secretary. Collene offered to be Publicity Director, and Lorna is willing to remain as Treasurer. Both were approved by our Membership's vote. Melanie Rantucci nominated Johanna Mramor for Secretary. She was approved by vote for this position. Diane Kew indicated she is willing to assume the position of Vice President. This was approved by vote. Unfortunately and despite a great deal of encouragement and willingness to support the next President, no one from the Club will take on this position. At the end of today's meeting the position of President is now vacant.

Plant of the Month: Iris presented and described the Plant of the Month which is commonly called the Christmas Rose. Also known as a Helleborus. It is an evergreen, perennial flowering plant of the buttercup family. It blooms in the winter, is easy to care for, is deer resistant, and attracts bees. It was won by Denise Douglas.

The award for "Best Hat" worn today was given to Francis O'Grady.  
The 50/50 Draw for \$87.90 was won by Donna Lawson.

Numerous gifts were won from the Draw with the recipients being: Jan, Claire, Mavis, Sharon, Diane Kew, Patti, Marilyn Gillan, Judy, Yvonne, and Fran.

The meeting ended with Patti thanking all for their contribution to today's successful, fun party. She then wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Respectfully submitted by Club Secretary, Linda Martin

**P.S. Our next General Meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> is our annual POT LUCK Luncheon. Doors open at noon for lunch at 12:30pm.**

DIRECTORS Reports Follow:

President's Year End (Patti); Programs (Margrit); Newsletter (John); Membership (Tim); Plant Sale/Plants Plus (Mary O); Shows (Donna); Publicity (Linda).

Trophy and Property Report Not Available.

# **WHITE ROCK & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB**

## **PRESIDENT'S FINAL REPORT DECEMBER 10, 2019**

My goodness where did that year go. Hard to imagine writing 2020 on a letter. That used to be so far in the future.

It certainly was a packed and enjoyable year. The Executive were busy as were so many members who worked hard this year to make the Club productive and fun for us all.

Some real 'keeper' memories included:

- 'Sticker' shock when Melanie first showed me the list of President's duties; while enjoying the January pot-luck lunch, I was wondering 'how did she do all that!'
- Discussing the decision with Margrit to cancel/not cancel the February meeting due to snow; she's so organized and pragmatic.
- Enjoying the great guest speaker from Wild Birds Unlimited & getting a hummer feeder ring (yet to be tried but will let you know)
- Having a donation/spending spree at the Plants Plus jewelry sale, so good
- Realizing that Donna and Margaret had the spring show at Semiahmoo Mall and the spring parlour show well in hand; fabulous entries from the members
- Reviewing Mary's wonderful task chart for the Plant Sale; that woman is so creative and energetic; what a great success that was by and for the Club; the bake sale, flower arrangements and raffle were great revenue generators, too. Makes you proud of us.
- Loading up with pig manure at Cranley for our garden.
- Hearing more about the seed library from Collene; she is a great resource and her 'buddy' idea was well liked, too.
- Going to Frances's place to pick up hundreds of bulbs that she had persisted in a quest to get from White Rock City
- Taking that fabulous bus trip to UBC Botanical Gardens, enjoying the story of the Nitobe Garden from a great guide; having a quick power shop; thanks, Margrit.
- Making a hat for the bee party at Donna's and enjoying the wonderful entertainment arranged by Donna, Collene, Margrit et al; looking forward to more involvement of the Club with Kevin in promoting pollinator health in our area

- Visiting Johana's vegetable garden and being inspired by her gardening techniques and water distribution strategy as well as yummy goodies.
- Helping the Website Working Group getting the 'go ahead' from the Club; hoping the website will be finished soon.
- Talking to members before, during and after meetings; we have so many interesting members with great expertise.
- Taking in the great Fall Show at Semiahmoo Mall and the fall parlour show, too. Watching the proud trophy recipients receiving their awards from Darlene.
- Being delighted by Iris's What's Up presentations; kind of her to volunteer after I twisted her arm; so knowledgeable.
- Watching membership numbers go up month by month; thanks to Tim for getting our cards organized for next year.
- Sharing a laugh with Linda Martin who was 'on a roll', generating minutes so quickly that I couldn't keep up; more power to you.
- Learning about dahlia care from Mary; hoping I won't kill the next ones I try.
- Basking in Lorna's calm competence in handling our finances; watching the coffers grow throughout the year; pulling together the budget with her for 2020; she is gracious hostess too.
- Being enthralled with the variety of orchids presented by Margaret Nakahara; there are even more than I thought!
- Always enjoying the treats that Bernice arranged and that members brought to be shared at tea break.
- Heading off for a fun car trip with members of the floral circle to Chilliwack for demonstration in floral art trends; very impressive and the car was filled with laughter.
- Sitting down with a cup of tea to enjoy one of John's newsletters.
- Arranging for the new business cards and members pamphlet and having so many of you volunteer to help fold; then the reward of getting an opportunity to listen and share tales about our lives; to be treasured.
- Fran and her kiwis; another gracious and competent member....

I have only touched a few of these precious memories. I could go on but enough said.

*It was a very good year.*

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Wolczuk     White Rock & District Garden Club, President 2019

## WR&DGC 2019 Membership Report

I am pleased to provide this final report for 2019 regarding the membership in the White Rock & District Garden Club.

Our current membership stands at **83** which includes 22 new members who joined during the year. We look forward to more new members joining us in 2020.

It is important that we as an organization recognize those who contribute so much to the club over an extended period of time by honoring them with **Life Membership** in our club. Our current Life Members are **Carla Simpson, Shirley Rines** and **Mavis Taylor**. We are pleased to indicate that we have just purchased attractive gold lapel badges for these honoured members.

I will now invite Yvonne Pont to speak further on this important matter.

Finally we invite members to renew their membership for 2020 at this time. Cash, cheques, gold coins and diamonds are all accepted. The fee is still \$25.00 for a single membership and \$30.00 for a family membership of two.

Best wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Growing New Year.

Tim Roark, Membership Director, WR&DGC

## SHOW CHAIRMAN REPORT – 2019

Our club enjoyed 4 parlour shows this year, judged by Marilyn O'Neill, Emily Budinski and myself. First class work and many new ideas. Our Fall Show, held in Semiahmoo Shopping Centre featuring dahlias and other flowers, and floral art exhibits was judged by Cindy Tataryn, and 2 student judges, who wrote encouraging comments for every entry. These judges were amazed at our work and the large number of entries. The Beginners classes are proving successful, with several members showing their talents.

The Floral Circle group had another successful display at the shopping centre in the Spring with large boxed gardens using many subjects. We are very fortunate that the shopping centre supplies this space for us at no cost. We have also designed floral arrangements for the Care Home where we have our meetings, and for table centrepieces for a Seniors tea held in Ocean Park. The whole club participated in making 151 silk arrangements for Come Share Society at Christmastime last year, and are now busy trying to top that total.

We are in the process of reviewing the club trophies, and deciding which will be retired or replaced.

All in all, a very successful year, and I would like to thank all of you that helped me in so many ways throughout the year. Donna Lawson.

## **WRDGC Publicity Director's Report 2019**

Linda Bradley kindly agreed to perform some of the tasks of the Publicity Director in 2019 although she was unable to attend Executive meetings.

The local press, Peace Arch News was kept apprised of our meetings and activities. They continued to run the notice of meetings throughout most of the year. The Resource Guides for the local recreation centers were also given our contact information. However, as there were limited funds (no budget) to purchase ads, the Club did not have much predominance in the press.

Our posters inviting membership were well received at the local libraries, rec centers and even grocery stores on occasion. A full-time publicity Director and the new website should help promote the Club in 2020. However, the best press we can have is for each member to talk up the Club on all occasions. Word of mouth will help bring in new members.