



# Over the Garden Wall

White Rock and District Garden Club, **March, 2023**  
<https://www.white-rock-garden-club.ca>

President – Darlene Chamberlain Secretary-Pat Catton  
Treasurer- Eileen MacBean Editor- Melanie Rantucci

**Inside This Issue:** President's Message, Winners, Master Gardener Tip, Techie Tip, Garden Stuff, Market Place, Bradner Flower Show, Surrey Tree Sale, Upcoming Speaker and Trip

## President's Message

Thank you to all members who contributed to making our February meeting a beautiful Valentine's Day!



It may have been snowing recently but we enthusiastic gardeners are making our plans for our gardens - cleaning up and starting our seedlings. Our club is making great plans for tours, speakers and our Plant and Bake Sale, which takes place the day before Mothers' Day, May 13th. Get your shovels out for the plants you are donating and your oven mitts ready for baked goods donations. This is always a very successful event! We look forward to increasing our membership through posters around the community and word of mouth. The poster will be sent to

members by email for posting in their apartment buildings or sharing with neighbours and friends.

Now that we are in full swing again we are moving forward with an excellent, hardworking executive. We still have the position of Vice President available. The position requires the person be willing to fill the position of President for 2024 and 2025.

Enjoy the approach of Spring!

*Darlene Chamberlain, President*



## Winners

### Name Tag Draw -Plant of the Month

Margaret Maddocks won a lovely carnation plant.

*Bev Polywkan*

## 50/50 Draw

The draw was won by Darlene Chamberlain.

*Sharon Stanley, Raffle*

## Awards

Margaret Maddocks was presented with the 5-Year Step Down Award for her time serving on the Executive as Parlour Show Secretary. It was noted that over the years she has filled this role several times and her dedication to the club is much appreciated.



## Programs

### February Speaker

We are currently still pursuing people both in the pruning field and the honey bee field for the coming March 14 meeting and if neither of these pan out, then we plan to go with recommended you-tube videos.

*Eleanor Enns & Elizabeth Young, Programs*

### Upcoming Trip-Sun Yat Sen Chinese Gardens

We are planning a bus tour to Sun Yat Sen Garden on June 15<sup>th</sup> (bus trip plus dim sum lunch). Entrance fee to Sun Yat Sen will be \$12.50 and members can buy the Dim Sum lunch. There will be a sign up sheet at the March meeting and after that people can

register by contacting Elizabeth Young at 604-542-1924 or elizam0804@hotmail.com. We are also working on a tour to Petals and Butterflies in the latter part of May and possibly another tour the fall.

*Eleanor Enns & Elizabeth Young, Programs*

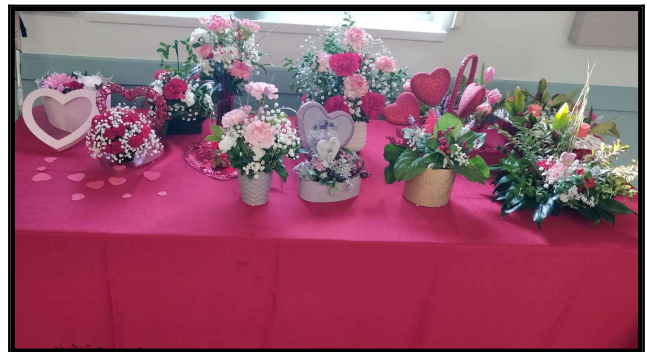
## Floral Valentines

Many beautiful floral arrangements, and goodies for our refreshment table were brought by members to the February club meeting. Photos of some of the beautiful floral arrangements are sprinkled throughout this newsletter for your enjoyment.

Those early bulbs are trying again to peak out and should be ready to be exhibited at our April Spring Floral Show. Our enthusiastic Floral Art beginners group are meeting regularly so watch for their entries as well.

See our website for the show schedule to start thinking about what you might enter.

*Donna Lawson, Show Director*



## Garden Stuff

### Time for Spring Cleaning?

The recent snowfalls have sent me into the back of cupboards that I haven't seen for awhile. Why am I keeping that? Why did I ever buy that? And my favourite... what is it?

Have you done the same? Well bring those no longer wanted, never used, gently used items along to the March meeting. By donating to our club you will feel relieved, you will have empty spaces and the club profits.

If the empty drawers bother you, scan the sales table, purchase a book, puzzle or trinket.

You deserve whatever treasure you find.

The two donations of garden stuff made through our website has already shown a profit of \$27.00. This is a good way to encourage friends and relatives to donate without you doing the heavy lifting. Encouraging folks to visit the website.... might also spark their interest in coming to see what we are all about. Call me if you wish pickup 604-538-2549

*Joyce O'Brien, Garden Stuff*

## Plant Sale Plans

Plans are well underway for the plant sale. If you are needing assistance digging or putting up your plants, we have a team available to help. I also have lots of pots available if you need them. If you were planting up your seeds for spring, we are looking for vegetables and annuals for the sale as this was a request last year. Also, if you have any plants you think would work in the hanging baskets, please plant extras for us as we are planning on doing 40 baskets this year. We are planting them up in early April.

Some items on our wish list are clean paper bags to use for the garden stuff table, 2 card tables, 2 more folding wagons, black plastic flats, and as always, lots of plants, garden stuff, items, and baked goods.

We will have a volunteer list at the March meeting and we are encouraging all members to sign up, as our numbers are smaller this year and the need for many volunteers is great! We are setting up on Friday May 12 from 7 pm to 9 pm

and the sale is on Saturday, May 13 from 9 am to 1 pm.

If you need assistance with plants, require pots, or have wagons or card tables to lend or have questions regarding the plant sale, please contact me at 604-340-9977.

*Terry Haight, Plant Sale Director*



## Website Committee

### Techie Tip:

### Three Tips to Protect Your Credit Card Against Fraud

1. **Don't** make payments over the phone with your credit card. Scammers have been known to cold-call victims to perpetrate financial fraud.
2. **Don't** read out the details of your credit card in public. And don't ever write them down anywhere for someone else to view or find.
3. **Don't** provide your CVV when using your credit or debit card in person or in a public place.

*Bev Sass, Website Committee*

## Website/Social Media Update- New Password

- Our group met Feb 22, next meeting scheduled for April. Welcome to Ozana Seselja who joined our committee.

- We are looking for suggestions of items/pictures to post on our social media to help increase the clubs presence in the community. Send in suggestions to [parlourshow@white-rockgardenclub.ca](mailto:parlourshow@white-rockgardenclub.ca) or talk with Marilyn Murphy or Ozana Seselja.
- Margrit updated the March Events Calendar on the Website with some great tips. Hope you have time to check them out. We should all check out the March 3rd tip as it is that time.
- The paper copy of the membership renewal form has been modified to make it easier to use and gives each person the control as to whether their picture will appear or not in Newsletters or on the Website. This form is found on the Contact Us page along with the on-line form. However, we would prefer you submit the form electronically rather than by paper (save those trees).
- Margrit is getting close to completing the re-organization of the History records. The committee plus several long time members reviewed all the prepared material. We will be doing a presentation of the information at a future general meeting. In summation, the history section is better organized and contains much more information than we currently have on the website.
- Zoom Recordings – Zoom made a change that requires you to login in order to view a recording.
- During the March general meeting Donna Lawson and Bev will do a presentation on the Floral Art information contained on the Website (bring your questions).
- The “Members Only” section of the website is password protected for security. You must keep this password confidential. The password will change in March.

The new password will be:

**1IrisforU!**

(You must capitalize the I and the U plus add the !)

*Bev Sass, Website Director*

## Master Gardener Tip Forcing Blossoms

Now is the time you can get your flowering shrubs to blossom indoors by “forcing”. Starting in January to early February you can get forsythias and witch hazels to bloom indoors. By mid-February, you can try eastern redbud, cherry, and red maples. And by mid-to-late February, you can bring in lilacs, honeysuckle, willows, and magnolias. Pussy willows, can also be forced indoors.

Start by pruning branches to force. Select branches that you would want to prune, or that don’t damage the shape of your shrub, such as towards the back.



Choose a branch with lots of buds that are beginning to open (flower buds are fatter and more rounded than leaf buds). Cut a 1 to 2 foot length (diagonal cut). Indoors, set the branches in a vase overnight. Cut slits from the cut, to several inches up the branch to promote water uptake.

Keep the vase in bright room away from heaters or direct sun. Re-cut the ends on a slant the next day. Change the water every few days and mist flowers when they appear.

The blossoms should come out in a few weeks (forsythia 1 week, spirea 4 weeks, wisteria 3 weeks, honeysuckle 3 weeks, lilac 4 weeks, magnolia 3 weeks). . If it doesn’t work the first time, try again a few weeks later.

*Melanie Rantucci, Master Gardener*

## Juicy Bits

### City of Surrey Tree Sale

The City of Surrey has announced details for this spring's tree sale events. The first online tree sale opens March 1 at 9:00 am and closes on March 15, with a tree pickup date of March 26. The second sale opens April 19 at 9:00 am and closes May 3, with a pickup date of May 14.

The City of Surrey hosts four online tree sale events each year. Trees are sold on a first come, first served basis. All trees are \$20 (includes taxes). Purchases will be made online and then later picked up from the Surrey Operations Centre (6651 148 Street). Each sale will have up to 1000 trees available for purchase, while supplies last. Varieties may include maples, dogwoods, magnolias and assorted fruit trees which all grow well in Surrey. Two additional tree sale dates will be announced later in the year.

More information is available at [www.surrey.ca/renovating-building-development/trees-yard-garden/tree-sale-program](http://www.surrey.ca/renovating-building-development/trees-yard-garden/tree-sale-program)

### Bradner Flower Show

Once again, the Bradner Flower Show will be taking place at Bradner Community Hall, 5305 Bradner Rd, Abbotsford. The show takes place April 14 - 16 from 10 am to 4 pm daily. Admission is \$2.50.

The show, which began in 1928, attracts attendees from all over the lower mainland. There will be many varieties of daffodils on display, most of them developed in Bradner. There will also be plants and shrubs on sale at wholesale prices, from vendors who do not normally sell to the public. An array of crafts and art will also be on display and for sale.

The Tea Room features soups, sandwiches and goodies all made fresh in the licensed kitchen. As always, all proceeds from cut flower sales will be donated to Abbotsford Regional Hospital. Bradner Community Club is a registered non-profit society. Info at [facebook.com/bradnerhall](https://www.facebook.com/bradnerhall) or <https://www.bradnerhall.ca/events.html>



### Membership- New Poster

We now have 58 members, some new and renewed. A beautiful poster has been designed by the Executive to promote membership in our club. They will be posted on bulletin boards around the town. A copy of the poster is being sent by email to all members to post where they see fit.

A new membership brochure is also being developed.

We hope to see new people at each meeting. Please help to make new people welcome, invite them to sit with you, and explain about the club's activities as needed.

*Fran Deptuck, Membership Director*

## !!!Email Alert!!!!

Please be aware that my email has been hacked and some people are receiving emails purportedly from Melanie Rantucci but varying email addresses (if you hover mouse over my name you will see it is NOT my address [mjrpharm@telus.net](mailto:mjrpharm@telus.net)). These emails have a link for photos that is corrupted and may hack your computer. I cannot stop this even by changing my email entirely as they have simply taken my contacts. Please DON'T open anything from me that is NOT from my email address or only includes a photo link. I will always include a blurb about what I am sending and sign my name and identify that the email is regarding the White Rock Garden Club or WRDGC.

Examples of Bogus Emails from me (they are really tricky):

Have a look at photograph #4 <http://www.wskm.txihdtp.com/>

or

I obviously should have emailed them way sooner - anyway here they are now, these four photographs: <http://yaois.xfkaooch.com/>

Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

*Melanie Rantucci, Newsletter Editor*

## Next Meeting

**Tuesday March 14, 2023 at 2pm**

See you at Cranley Hall, 2141 Cranley Dr., Surrey. Meeting starts at 2 pm. Hall opens at 1:00 p.m.

Let's celebrate **St. Patrick's Day** with wearing a little green and bringing goodies or floral art to show a bit of your Irish.

If you are unable to attend in person, an invitation for a Zoom meeting will also be sent out by email prior to the meeting and a recording of the meeting will be sent afterwards.

In accordance with current law, Vaccination Certificates and masks are optional.

*WRDGC Executive*

