



# Over the Garden Wall

White Rock and District Garden Club, **October, 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, Photo Contest, Upcoming Programs, Master Gardener Tip, Techie Tip, Garden Stuff, Market Place, Budget, Constitution Vote, B-Sharp Tool Sharpening at October Meeting, Donation to BCCGC, Register For BCCGC Meeting

## President's Message

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!**



**Welcome to our newcomers.** Terry Haight held a welcome get-together for our newcomers and 5 attended along with some of our executive. They are an interested, enthusiastic group. Here is a list of some new members for you to look for and welcome at the next meeting:

- Patricia Corder
- Pat Ezzy
- Kathy McAuliffe
- Brenda Saunders
- Vilja Selde
- Sarah Simmons
- Tiffinay Sireni
- Cecile and Wendell Victory
- Eric Ho

An up to date Membership List will be sent out with this newsletter.

We are actively seeking members to volunteer for executive positions coming open for 2024. Please contact a member of our executive if you are interested. Remember that studies show that volunteering improves health. This quote from the Peace Arch News March 25, 2014 tells us that, "Today's seniors lead very full lives and they want to give back so their skills and expertise can benefit their communities. The many health benefits associated with volunteering enhances the meaningful and rewarding life experience volunteering provides." So consider volunteering for the sake of your health!!!

*Darlene Chamberlain, President*

## September Meeting Winners

### 50/50 Draw

The draw this month was won by Margrit Elmiger-Isert.

*Sharon Stanley, Raffle*

### Name Tag Draw -Plant of the Month

Heike Czisch was the winner of the Plant of the Month, a snake mikado. These plants are very easy to grow and very hard to kill, and that

sounds like a winner to me. It grows best in bright light but tolerates any light level. Just water and fertilize occasionally. It will grow to a height of 12 inches and spread to 6 inches. It likes a temperature of 65 to 85 F. The shape of the leaves are a little different from most Snake plants.

*Bev Polywkan, Plant of the Month*



### **Trophy Winners**

Trophies were awarded to winners in the June Rose and Bloom Show. Darlene Chamberlain received the Mottershead Trophy for Best in Class, and Eileen Davidson won the Hay Memorial Trophy for Highest Aggregate Points of June Rose Show.

*Bev Polywkan, Trophy Director*

### **Successful Mall Show**

The Fall Show at Semiahmoo Mall was a huge success once again. Many thanks to all who volunteered to help greet people and answer many questions from the public. Older people especially like to talk about the gardens they once had, and of course the dahlias are the favourites.

The Best Dahlia in the show was won by Sharon Stanley, the Best Floral Art Novice was won by

Terry Haight and Best Floral Art Advanced for her Contemporary design was won by Eileen Davidson. Congratulations to all who entered.

Awards will be presented at the October meeting. If you missed it, you can see photos of the exhibits on our website in the gallery section. Click on this link for a short cut,

<https://www.white-rock-garden-club.ca/gardening-images-plants-shrubs-flowers-south-surrey-bc.html>

*Donna Lawson, Show Director*



### **Enter the Photo Contest**

Our Annual Photo Contest is coming up. The topic is "A Picture of an animal or bird visiting your garden" One picture per member, and size no larger than 5" x 7".

Please hand photos to me at the October meeting. Members will judge for their favorite at the November meeting and the trophy will be presented in December.

*Donna Lawson, Show Director*

### **Upcoming Programs**

#### **Sign up for Tours**

We have a private tour booked for our club at for Wednesday, October 18th at 10:30 am. at Cedar Rim Nursery on Glover Road in Langley. A

10 % discount will be available to those attending the tour. The tour will focus on drought resistant and native plants.

November 21 at 1:30 we will have a tour of Morgan Creek Tropicals. Details to follow

Sign up sheets will be available at the October meeting for both tours.



### Speakers

At our October meeting, the owner of BC Bees will be educating us about bees and their value to our gardens and to us.

In November:, Andre Erasmus will be teaching us about the elements of design in a floral arrangement. He suggests we bring a small vase, some greenery, perhaps pieris, boxwood , or mock orange and maybe a flower or two to make our own designs. At the end of the session, all arrangements that Andre makes for demonstration will be awarded as door prizes.

*Eleanor Enns & Elizabeth Young, Programs*

### Vote on Changes to Constitution to be Held at October Meeting

At the September meeting, the WRDGC Executive presented seven proposed changes to the WRDGC Constitution, originally drawn up by the original Executive 70 years ago, and

revised only once before in 2018. As things have changed over the years, the Executive believes that we need to update the club Constitution and By-laws in a few areas. Such as:

- change the number of officers and term of executive positions,
- voting Quorum reduced,
- update the committees list and
- the process for budgeting and spending money.

These changes will aid smooth running of the club and improved accountability.

In accordance with the existing constitution, these proposed changes were sent out with the September newsletter and were presented and discussed at the September meeting. A vote will now take place at the October meeting. If you need another copy of the document please email Melanie at [mjrpharm@telus.net](mailto:mjrpharm@telus.net).

*WRDGC Executive Committee*

### Upcoming BC Council of Garden Clubs Meeting Opportunity for Members

The BC Council of Garden Clubs will be holding their fall meeting on October 28th from 10.00 am to 3:00 pm at the Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Ave., Burnaby. There will be 3 speakers: Richard Hebda, talking about irises, Ian Lai speaking about an Amazon River adventure, and masters student, Meredith Wilson, speaking about her research on peat moss and bogs. There will also be a short floral design show. Lunch is included.

Our club is sending two representatives, Eleanor Enns and Elizabeth Young, who will have a report for us at the next meeting. If you

are interested in joining them, please contact them or click on this link for more information about the speakers and exhibitors and to download the registration form (cost is \$40). <https://bcgardenclubs.com/resources/meeting-materials/>

*Donna Lawson, BCCGC Rep.*



## Garden Stuff

### Fall Clean-up? Remember Us!

While preparing patios and yards for fall and winter remember the Garden Stuff table. If you didn't use that particular item this past season, donate it to our club. Gardening tools, ornaments, pots not so much (unless really cute, they don't sell). If you are separating plants to bring inside for the winter, share with the club. Dried herbs for example may be just what someone is looking for to add to winter soups.

Bring your pennies to the meeting as there will be an abundance of puzzles and books to choose from to enjoy during the longer evenings. If you have questions, call 604-538-2549.

*Joyce O'Brien, Garden Stuff*

## 2024 Budget Planning

The Treasurer has prepared a budget for the club for 2024. The Executive have discussed and approved a budget that will be presented to members for discussion at the October club meeting then voted on at the November meeting. This proposed budget is being sent by email to members along with this newsletter.

## Master Gardener Tip

### Time to Plant Bulbs

October is the time to plant bulbs. It's best to buy bulbs loose rather than in packages so you can check that each one is in good condition (no nicks or soft areas) and large for larger blooms. Flower bulbs can be planted right up til soil freezes, but earlier is better. They look best if planted in groups of at least 5 in a bunch. Be sure to plant at correct depth or they won't bloom; 2 to 3 times the bulb's width. Put some bone meal in the hole and sprinkle bulbs with cinnamon powder to discourage disease.

While you're at it, pick up some garlic to plant. Plant garlic after the soil has become cool and wet. For best results, add lime and compost to the top layer of soil before planting garlic below so that the tips are covered by soil.

It is a good idea to cover all bulb plantings with a thick layer of mulch for the winter, such as leaves or straw. Then look forward to those early spring sightings of crocus and snow drops in the dull days of February when you feel fed up with winter!

*Melanie Rantucci, Master Gardener*



## Website Committee

### Techie Tip: Passwords – how often to change them – how to make them secure

You have probably heard that it is best practice to change your passwords every three months to safeguard your accounts. There are now some changing thoughts that there are minimal benefits to doing so, and it might even be counter-productive. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) no longer recommend regular password changes. However, your passwords should be a minimum of eight characters that include upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols. Each application should have its own unique password. Often it is good to use a phrase to create a strong password by using the first letter of each word. For Example “ #3 My name is Bev and I like chocolate” = #3MniBaIlc.

*Bev Sass, Website Committee*

## Business Cards

The executive have decided that each member will be given four business cards. The purpose of the business cards is for members to give the card to someone who might be interested in the club, to help generate new members for the club. Members can pick their cards up from the membership desk on arrival to the October meeting or at break time.

*WRDGC Executive*

## Thanks for the Donation

Thanks to Patti Wolczuk and Tim Roark for the generous donation of \$80. to the BC Council of Garden Clubs' Scholarship Fund.



## WRGC Fundraiser with BeSharp Sharpening Service in October

\*\*\*\* REMINDER \*\*\*\*

Executive members are excited about this fundraiser. Owner Eric Ho – current member of the club is offering a garden tool sharpening clinic for club member. You may have seen him at the local farmers market. He will bring his mobile sharpening van to our October meeting and while members are in the meeting, he will sharpen your items. **Fifty percent of the fees paid for sharpening garden tools will be donated back to the club. Payment for services to be paid in cash. Credit Cards not accepted for garden tools but will be for scissors or knives as they are not part of the fundraiser.** Eric has a website listing all the types of items (knives, scissors, garden tools, etc.) that he can sharpen with estimated costs: <https://be-sharp.io/> Bring your items and Eric will put each member's tools into a container with your name, to make it easier for drop off and pick up. Should he get more tools than he can complete in the 2 hours – Terry Haight has kindly offered to arrange pickup from her home at a later time. Eric will be setting up his mobile sharpening van at 1 pm in the Cranley parking lot.

*WRDGC Executive*

## Floral Artists Gala Nov.23



**FLORAL ARTISTS  
OF THE  
FRASER VALLEY**  
www.floralartistsfv.ca

presents  
**2023 CHRISTMAS  
GALA**  
**November 23, 2023**

Featuring Designer  
**BRENNA  
QUAN**  
AIFD



Tickets \$20 - available  
from FAFV members  
or call Marlene  
604-792-2252

**Central Community Church**  
**46100 Chilliwack Central Road**  
Chilliwack, BC  
Open at 12:30 pm; Demo 1:30 pm

## Juicy Bits:



## Next Meeting

**Tuesday October 10, 2023 at 2pm**

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

*WRDGC Executive*

## !!!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) . 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 photo-  
graphs: <http://yaois.xfkaooch.com/>

Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

*Melanie Rantucci, Newsletter Editor*