



Over the Garden Wall

White Rock and District Garden Club, **November, 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, September Show Winners, Upcoming Program and Trip, Cedar Rim Trip Photos, Planting Garlic, Surprising Things You Can Do with Your Phone, Garden Stuff, Fundraiser Success, Report from BCCGC Meeting, Show and Share

President's Message

Remembrance Day is approaching. It is a time to reflect and remember all the family members and friends who sacrificed their health and those who sacrificed their lives for the freedoms we enjoy. May we continue to enjoy those hard won freedoms.



In preparation for 2024, we have our schedule lined up and our finances are in good order. We are planning our Christmas party and discussing our elections that will be taking place at our December Annual General Meeting on December 12th. Any contributions you can make towards helping to run the club are appreciated. *A big welcome and thanks to Gayle Horrie who has stepped up as our VP, effective immediately.*

Darlene Chamberlain, President



October Meeting Winners

50/50 Draw

The draw this month was won by Eleanor Enns.

Sharon Stanley, Raffle

Name Tag Draw -Plant of the Month

A potted pink rose was won by Iris Peacosh. A flower display in a pumpkin, donated by Terry Haight, was won by Judy Froelich.

Bev Polywkan, Plant of the Month

Trophy Winners

Trophies were awarded from the September Parlour Show: Board of Trade Cup for the Best Vegetable Collection to Terry Haight; the Brackman and Kerr Trophy for the Best Vase of Sweet Peas to Eileen Davidson. Trophies for the September Mall Show were also awarded:

Rotary Cup for Best Collection of Dahlias to Terry Haight; Board of Trade Trophy for the Best Single Dahlia to Sharon Stanley

Bev Polywkan, Trophy Director



Photo Contest

Entries in our Annual Photo Contest will be in display at the November meeting. The topic is "A Picture of an animal or bird visiting your garden".

Members judge by voting for their favorite and the trophy for the winner will be presented in December.

Donna Lawson, Show Director

Cedar Rim Nursery Trip Day

In spite of the rain, a hardy group from our club enjoyed a private tour of at Cedar Rim Nursery on Glover Road in Langley on Wednesday, October 18th. We learned about drought resistant plants, hedging, fruit trees and more. Some members couldn't resist the 10 % discount to shop for a few of the enticing items on offer.



Melanie Rantucci, Editor

Upcoming Programs

Morgan Creek Tropicals Tour

We have another Fall tour booked. This time it's to Morgan Creek Tropicals, 4148 184 Street, Surrey, on Tuesday, November 21st at 1:30 p.m. Here's your chance to purchase some of your favourite tropicals for yourself or to give as Christmas gifts (if you can force yourself to give them up!). Members can purchase plants on site at the end of the tour. No cash please, purchases by debit or credit card only. There will be a sign up sheet available at our November meeting for those who have not already indicated that they would like to attend this tour.

Eleanor Enns & Elizabeth Young, Programs



Speakers

We have booked Andre` Erasmus as the speaker for our November 14th meeting. He will be creating some floral arrangements to illustrate and elaborate on the key elements in design: composition, texture, colour and contrast. We have heard very positive recommendations from other garden clubs in the lower mainland about his presentations and it promises to be a very entertaining and informative session.

Andre` believes in bringing the outdoors inside and often includes greenery and wild flowers

found on roadsides and empty lots in his arrangements.

He has invited the members of our club to bring to our meeting an average sized vase, some greenery (branches like boxwood, pieris, mock orange – whatever needs pruning in your yard) varied in colour and texture and if possible, bring some flowers as well. You will make your creation while he is also creating additional arrangements from the front of the room.

At the end of the session, all arrangements created by Andre` will be awarded to members of the audience as door prizes.



Show and Share

Bring a Remembrance Day floral arrangement to our November meeting for our members' enjoyment. Or if you still have some plants or veggies in your garden, bring some to "show what you grow". We will be displaying these on the head table and on the refreshment table, This is not a parlour show or competition, just show and share.



BC Council of Garden Clubs Meeting

On Saturday, Oct. 28th, Eleanor Enns and I attended the conference put on by BC Council of Garden Clubs as representatives of the WRDGC. The fee was \$40.00 and well worth the money.

There were three guest speakers:

- #1. Richard Hebda speaking on, Everything you ever wanted to know about irises;
- #2. Ian Lai speaking about an Amazon River Adventure;
- #3. Scholarship recipient from UBC, Meredith Wilson, speaking about her research on peat moss and bogs in the Mount Pleasant area of Vancouver.

The juried floral displays were amazing, and our Mary Openshaw won three first place ribbons.

After a delicious hot lunch we had time to "shop" with various vendors.

All in all, I would suggest others go for the experience in future years. It was a delightful day.

Elizabeth Young



Mary's first and first prize entries...

Garden Stuff

Christmas is Coming!

You have probably heard Christmas is coming. Are you downsizing? Changing your colour scheme? Switching from Santa's to snowmen? When plowing through all those boxes, Keep the club "Garden Stuff" table in mind.

If you are kindly baking goodies for break time, wrap together a few extra treats to be sold, again our club wins, non-bakers win, and you gain the glow of giving, spread a little sugar!

The Garden Stuff table has been extremely successful. Club members have been most generous with donations enabling the table to be an excellent source of income.

However, not all items are suitable, too heavy for transport, dated, etc. if you are questioning a particular item, please don't hesitate to call or email a photograph for inclusion.

Items donated for the Garden Stuff table will have at least two months at the garden club meeting so our members have first opportunity to find a treasure, then merchandise goes on to a larger audience at a local charity.

If you have questions, call Joyce
604-538-2549
Joyceobrien@shaw.ca

Joyce O'Brien, Garden Stuff

Gardening Tip

Tips for Planting Garlic

It's not too late to plant your garlic. They do best when planted in cold ground.

DAY BEFORE PLANTING:

- break apart cloves
- soak overnight in a solution of:
1 gallon water

1 heaping Tbsp. Baking Soda (neutralizes fungal spores)

1 Tbsp Liquid seaweed (gives energy boost)
(this mixture protects the cloves from fungus, mite eggs)

DAY OF PLANTING:

- soak in a container of rubbing alcohol or 100 proof vodka for 3 - 4 minutes. (alcohol kills pests, pest eggs and pathogens the first soaking missed).



PLANTING

- Plant immediately in loose soil at least 6" deep
- add composted manure
- plant cloves 6" - 8" apart
- plant with point up, 3" - 4" deep.

MULCH:

- cover with 3" - 4" pine needles, grass clippings, or leaves

Mary Openshaw, Lifetime Member WRDGC

Website Committee

Techie Tip: 4 Surprising Things Your Phone Can Do

Reference: Consumer Reports, October 2023, CR Insights, Tech Update, p12

Hidden inside the settings on many smartphone models are some extremely clever features that can help you with everyday tasks.

1. Your Phone Can Read to You

Many models can read the content on your screen out loud, whether it's a text, an email, or a newspaper article.

On an iPhone: Go to settings > Accessibility > Spoken Content > Speak Selection.

Once enabled, you can highlight text and click the Speak button. If you have Speak Screen enabled, you can have the whole screen read to you by swiping down with two fingers, or you can ask Siri to "speak screen."

On an Android: Go to settings > Accessibility > Select to Speak. Depending on your model, a small icon of a person or speech bubble will appear on the screen in any app; just tap it.

Next Month: Tip#2

Eileen Davidson, Website Committee

Successful WRGC Fundraiser with BeSharp Sharpening Service in October

An amazing \$335 in sharpening was completed at our October meeting. Half goes to the club, so \$167.50 was raised and Eric is chipping in \$2.50, so he will be presenting WRDGC with a money order for \$170.00 at the next meeting! A big *THANK YOU* to Eric for also stepping in to give a very informative and entertaining little presentation when our speaker as arriving late.

Missed the meeting! You can arrange for sharpening by contacting Eric.

Eric Ho, BeSharp Sharpening
www.be-sharp.io 604-245-6663

WRDGC Executive



Amaryllis Bulb Kits

2023 Huntington Society Fundraising Campaign

This year I will again be selling beautiful Amaryllis bulb kits to raise money for Huntington disease research. They will be keeping the same price as last year, \$17.00 per kit, how great is that? Each kit contains a premium bulb, pot, soil and saucer. The Huntington's sovereign orange ranges from brilliant red to soft coral.

Last year there were a lot of late orders but re-ordering adds deliveries and increases the cost to the Huntington Society (and drove me crazy!). Therefore the last date for orders will be November 30, final! That will be my one and only call for delivery!

Cash, or e-transfer preferred but cheques accepted.

Call 604-538-2549, text 604-910-4483 or email me to order. Would love to hear from you.

Joyce O'Brien, WRDGC Member

Next Meeting

Tuesday November 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. Guest Speaker 3pm.

WRDGC Executive

Floral Circle News

We have a small group of club members that meet monthly in the pursuit of advancing their knowledge on floral design. They work together as a group, and enjoy sharing their ideas. In October, the meeting consisted of decorating a pumpkin.

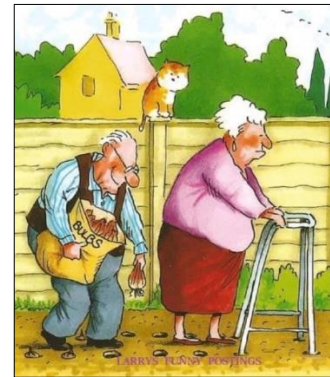


They also enjoy outings to nurseries, floral groups, and have guest demonstrators at some meetings. The group will be attending Floral Artists of the Fraser Valley Christmas Gala held in Chilliwack on November 23, which is open to the public. For further information contact Marlene at 604-792-2252. There are beginner's classes in Floral Art held within our club. There will be a notice in the January newsletter re starting date and place for meeting. If interested in joining and/or learning about these classes please call Donna Lawson at 604-538-8858.

Donna Lawson, Show Director

A poster for the 2023 Christmas Gala. The top left features the logo for Floral Artists of the Fraser Valley (FAFV) with the website www.floralartistsfv.ca. The main text reads "presents 2023 CHRISTMAS GALA November 23, 2023". Below this, it says "Featuring Designer BRENNAN QUAN AIFD". A photograph of Brenna Quan is shown on the right. Ticket information states "Tickets \$20 - available from FAFV members or call Marlene 604-792-2252". The location is "Central Community Church 46100 Chilliwack Central Road Chilliwack, BC" and the event is "Open at 12:30 pm; Demo 1:30 pm".

Juicy Bits:



!!!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 photographs: <http://yaois.xfkaooch.com/>

Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Melanie Rantucci, Newsletter Editor

Arrangements from previous years to celebrate Remeberance Day ...

