



Over the Garden Wall

White Rock and District Garden Club, December, 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, November Workshop Photos, Morgan Tropicals Photos, Christmas Party Plans, Floral Circle News, Caring for your Amaryllis, More Surprising Things You Can Do with Your Phone, Front Porch

President's Message

Christmas is Coming!

As we approach Christmas and our last meeting for 2023 we can look back and reflect on happy memories- parlour shows, mall shows, tours and speakers. Our executive and committees have worked hard and our finances are in good order.



Covid did interfere to some degree with members attending meetings but we survived as a club thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of our members.

I'm happy and relieved to say that our club will continue in 2024 thanks to members who have volunteered to be President, Vice President and

Secretary. These are the key positions that allow our club to function.

We have welcomed many new members this year and I really appreciate that some newer members are volunteering and participating fully in our club.

It has been a pleasure to serve as President for 2022 and 2023. Thanks to all who supported me in that role.

I wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy, Prosperous New Year 2024!

Darlene Chamberlain, President

November Meeting Winners

50/50 Draw

The draw this month was won by Ozana Seselja.

Sharon Stanley, Raffle

Name Tag Draw -Plant of the Month

A White poinsettia was won by Gayle Horie. A floral Arrangement made by Eileen MacBean as a demonstration for the workshop was won by Marilyn Murphy.

Bev Polywkan, Plant of the Month

You're Invited to our Annual General Meeting and Christmas Party

At our December meeting we will be having our Annual General Meeting where we will be electing the new slate of Executive, hearing reports from 2023 Executive members, and presenting awards to members. Then we will have fun!!!

We ask that each member bring 6 goodies to share with their table, e.g. 6 butter tarts, a small plate of short bread, etc. Also please bring your own Christmas mug for tea or coffee. We will also be having an ugly Christmas sweater contest and Christmas hat contest. Show us your best or worst.... there will be prizes!! Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Terry Haight



Morgan Creek Tropicals Tour

A large group of members enjoyed the tour of Morgan Creek Tropicals, at 4148 -184 Street, Surrey, on Tuesday, November 21st. We learned a lot about how tropical plants are grown. A few members purchased some plants on site at the end of the tour.

Eleanor Enns & Elizabeth Young, Programs

November Meeting Fun

Although our workshop leading guest was unable to come, due to covid infection, our

members rallied round and gave a few fund demonstrations. Members enjoyed making beautiful arrangements shown in this newsletter.



Christmas Centre Pieces for Seniors in Care Homes

This month we encourage our members to bring small (about 6 inch diameter) artificial floral centre piece arrangements to our meeting for donation to seniors homes.



This year they will be going to Brella (formerly Come share) and two homes at White Rock Seniors Village on Maple Street. Please be sure the material is firmly in place in the container with dry oasis in the bottom. **DO NOT USE PAPER CUPS CANDLES OR CANDIES.**

Thanks very much for donating your time and talent to help make Christmas happy for people in care homes.

Any questions, call me 604-538-8858

Donna Lawson, Show Director

Show and Share

Some beautiful arrangements were brought to the November meeting for the Show And Share table.



Thanks to all who shared their creations.

This month we welcome members bringing Christmas arrangements to show.

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.

Donna Lawson, Show Director



Front Porch (formerly known as Garden Stuff)

Yes, we have a new name for 2024, due to our lack of “garden stuff” and better reflecting our eclectic offerings to our community.

Thank you to all donors and buyers for making the Garden Stuff a success in 2023. The garden

club has reaped the rewards of your generosity. Puzzles, books, jewellery, candles, odds and ends whatever you have to contribute, someone, somewhere probably has a use for it. Or the artistically inclined will create a new clever addition to their garden, Christmas display or whatever they are working on. Members have refurbished, painted, added spit and polish and are now enjoying your offerings. They have read your books, solved your puzzles, used your discards.

Please call 604-538-2549 or email Joyceobrien@shaw.ca if you need pick up or you are doubtful about your gift to The Porch.

Joyce O'Brien, Front Porch

Gardening Tip

Caring For your Amaryllis

from Almanac, November 30, 2023

This time of year we enjoy growing spectacular Amaryllis bulbs. Here's how to encourage a healthy bloom.

When you get your Amaryllis bulb, soak it for a few hours in lukewarm water to re-hydrate the roots. Then plant it in a pot with 1 inch or less of space all around and 1/3 of bulb above the soil, in a well-draining potting mix. Place the pot in a bright spot and water only when the soil is dry. It takes 6 to 8 weeks to bloom so don't be disappointed if it doesn't bloom for Christmas if you planted it late!

After it has bloomed you can preserve it for next year by cutting off the flower stalk and letting it live out the winter in a warm, sunny spot, watering regularly and fertilizing weekly. It can be moved outside in the summer. At the end of August, put it in a cool, dark place and let it dry out, then bring it out to a warm, sunny spot in

mid-November. Water and fertilize and hope for re-blooming in time for Christmas 2024!



Website Committee

Techie Tip: Second Surprising Things Your Phone Can Do

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

Here is another extremely clever feature that can help you with everyday tasks that is hidden inside the settings on many smartphone models.

Tip #2. Your Phone Can Tell Friends Where You Are

Want people to find you in a large park or at a bustling tourist attraction? Your phone can send a map via text message that pinpoints your exact location for them.

On an iPhone: Open a text message, tap the profile of the sender at the top of the screen. Then tap Send My Current Location.

On an Android: Open Google Maps, press and hold your finger on your current location until a card listing the address where you are pops up. Then tap Share > Messages to send your location via text message.

Next Month: Tip#3

Eileen Davidson, Website Committee

Floral Circle News

Fun Manipulating Leaves

At the November meeting of the Floral Circle, the group enjoyed a workshop led by guest, Dorothy Scott. She demonstrated how to bend and shape leaves in interesting ways to use in floral arrangements. We will be using these techniques in future parlour shows.

Trip to Chilliwack

A group of our club members attended Floral Artists of the Fraser Valley Christmas Gala held in Chilliwack on November 23. Floral designer, Brenna Quan, AIFD (American Institute of Floral Designers) demonstrated the creation of 6 different, and very innovative floral designs for Christmas. All attending had a fun filled day, sharing our interest in floral design.

Donna Lawson, Show Director



Juicy Bits:

12 Days of Christmas for Gardeners

Adapted by Mary Openshaw

On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me

A wheelbarrow and a new rake

On the 2nd day of Christmas, my true love gave to me.. (and so on)

2 Cultivators

3 Dutch hoes

4 Sharpened shovels

5 Garden gloves

6 Bypass pruners

7 Pressure washers

8 Men manuring

9 Ladies digging

10 Lords composting

11 Gardeners planting

12 Women weeding

Next Meeting

Tuesday Dec. 12, 2023 at 2pm

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

Don't forget to bring goodies and a mug!



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 mj-pharm@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