

Over The Garden Wall

Issue #8

October, 2018

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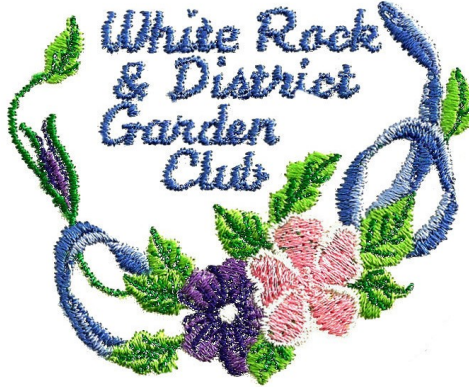
President's Message

Fall Is Here

The Fall season is upon us and we are enjoying some nice sunny days as well as much needed rain to prepare our trees and hedges to get through the winter. The Farmer's Almanac is predicting snow showers for most of November and more rain and snow than normal for the winter, with normal temperatures!!! I am thinking I should dig up my dahlias this year and not rely on just a good mulch cover or they are likely to rot. I also have to get to digging up my gladiolas and doing a bit of dividing of perennials in the next few weeks. In addition, I must plant the crocuses (croccii???) and garlic and the beautiful purple aster and winter pansies I bought today. However I can spare a few minutes to let you know I am looking forward to seeing you at our October meeting, and still hopeful we can develop some form of social media for our club (see below).

Social Media for WR&DGC

I was sad to hear that there were many concerns by our members about spending money for social media. I feel it is a necessity to keep the club alive. At least we must have an email account, so that we can respond to requests about our club in a timely manner – someone left a message on my phone about coming to our next meeting, but I was away for 3 weeks so it was a while before I could return the call.



I understand some people were interested in the idea of a passive website. Although not as useful and interesting for our members to enjoy as a full-service interactive site, we will explore this option. We will arrange for someone to speak to the club about this at the November meeting – what it

would provide, how much it would cost, and what is involved in setting it up.

I also understand some people are concerned about privacy. Please be assured that we would never agree to anything that would threaten member safety. Membership lists would not be available on a website, and only those members involved in managing the website will be able to be contacted through the website. Anything like newsletters and photos of members would be in a member only area of a website that is only accessible by passwords. And as I explained in the last newsletter, we would be paying a service to keep our site secure. Can all the organizations and businesses now on the internet be on the wrong track, or are they prepared to take a small risk for the benefits of communicating with their members and friends?

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Some members voiced the question about whether we want our club to grow. We could certainly accommodate up to 100 members in our hall, and more members would bring in more membership fees to allow payment for professional speakers and better programs and trips. But I'm more concerned with **SURVIVING**. We need to keep getting new members as older members leave due to ill health or moving away to nursing homes. And those new members will be younger and have more expectations about what our club will offer online.

These are just my views I am sharing with you. We will continue to have open discussion about this. I hope that members will keep fully informed about these issues, and I look forward to hearing you express your wishes and opinions freely.

Calling For Volunteers To Be Part Of The Executive

Please consider becoming part of the Executive. You will become a valued part of a group of people passionately working to make our club a fun and interesting activity in our community. There will be lots of help learning what is needed – it is all carefully written down and others can help explain what needs to be done. It just requires a little of your time each month – one extra day for a meeting of Exec and a little time to prepare sometimes. No one is alone in their role – we all help each other do what needs doing. You can even share a role with a friend if you prefer. Ask past and present members of Executive what is involved. **Please, please** consider being part of the team that makes it all happen! The survival of our club depends on it, because without an Executive, the club would have difficulty continuing.

Christmas Is Coming!!!!

Well not quite yet, but according to the stores it is, with all the Christmas merchandise being set out beside the Halloween candy. But it doesn't hurt to do a little advance planning, and so the

Executive have been trying to come up with fun things to do at our annual Christmas meeting. If you have any ideas or know of a group who can provide some entertainment, please let us know.

Melanie Rantucci, President

Winners

Fall Dahlia & Floral Art Show

Trophies

Best Dahlia – classes 1-29 **Sharon Stanley**

Rosettes

Best Floral Art Advanced classes 33-36 **Mavis**

Taylor

Best Floral Art Novice classes 37-40 **Darlene**

Chamberlain

Margaret Maddocks, Show Secretary

September Parlour Show

Trophies

Board of Trade Cup - Best collection of vegetables **Iris Peacosh**

Lashley Hall cup - 3 Perennials in a vase **Mary**

Openshaw

Rosettes

Flowering Hydrangea Shrub - **Claire Muirhead**

Annual or Perennial over 20" - **Mary Openshaw**

Margaret Maddocks, Show Secretary

Reminder

Fall Photo Contest

Take a picture of your **Hanging Basket** and enter it in the photo contest at the October meeting. The hanging basket must be planted by you, not purchased and more than one entry is allowed. The only other rule is that the picture should be 4" x 6" or 5" x 7", no larger. At the November meeting, the members select their favourite photo and the winner is presented with a trophy at the December meeting.

Donna Lawson, Show Chair

Plants Plus

Share a Hosta

Choose a hosta that's grown too big or is in the wrong spot. Dig all around the hosta in a circle. Lift it onto a tarp for division. Cut it into quarters or pie shapes and pot up.

Part of your hosta may go into a different area of your yard or into a pot. Pot up some for next spring's Plant Sale. **Bring a pot or two to our October meeting to sell.**

Fall is the best time of year to transplant hostas and other perennials.

Hostas look wonderful in pots on a balcony or patio.

When transplanting hostess, dig a hole bigger and deeper than the hosta, add a mix of compost, aged manure, ground bark, mix it around in the hole, plant at the same level as where it grew before. Water in then top up with 1-2" mulch (leave a space around the crown with no mulch). Don't fertilize until spring.

Other plants to divide in the fall, move or pot up: Astilbe, Bleeding Heart, Iris, Daylily, Lily of the Valley, Peony, Veronica, Shrubs. Clematis (prune back to 12-18", plant crown 3" deep, water in).

Toonie Ties

For sale at October meeting, packages of 24, 60" polyester garden ties for \$2.00 each.

Halloween

Bring your Halloween decorations and harvest décor to recycle at the Plants Plus table.

Mary Openshaw, Plant Show

Be A Club Delegate

October 20,2018

Our club sends 2 members to the BC Council of Garden Clubs General Meeting. There are speakers, vendors, lots of coffee breaks and a great lunch. The club pays the fee and provides a gift for the raffle – a raffle you can enter to win. You also meet people from other clubs

from all over BC. Don't hesitate to volunteer for the next meeting.

John Davidson, Newsletter

Programs

Suggestions?

We are looking for suggestions on speakers and trips for 2019. Any topics, outings, interests, bring them to the meeting. We will pass around a sheet for your ideas. Thanks!

Margrit Elmiger-Isert, Program

Save Your Seeds

Some Tips

1. Choose your best performing plant, your biggest, fattest pod.
2. Collect seeds on a dry, sunny day.
3. Use clean scissors for cutting.
4. Use paper bags for collecting.
5. Label the bag.
6. Walk around your yard - are there new varieties friends would like? If it's a hybrid, it may not come true. Might have to take cuttings.

Zinnias, marigolds, chrysanthemums, rudbeckia, sunflower, calendula, dill, clematis, peas, beans, squash, lettuce, tomatoes,
Biennials - Lupin, sweet william, foxglove, lunaria, parsley, fennel

Mary Openshaw, Plant Show

Marketplace

Computer Club

Hi, Everyone,

This isn't about gardening but the computer club I belong to is looking for new members. So, if you are interested in computer related-topics or trying to learn how to use Windows 10, our club has meetings and hands-on lessons. We are the only club south of the Fraser River in the Lower Mainland that has a 12-computer lab. I'm teaching a beginner's class on Windows 10 at present. You can come to our Monday

meetings three times for free. Come and try us out! Have a look at our website, <https://newtonseniorscomputerclub.webs.com/>

Karol Dubitz, Member

Fall Show

Big Hit



Our Fall Show at the Mall was very well attended, and many complimentary comments were made, which we are passing on to our members.

One viewer came to our plant and bake sale and purchased dahlias. Then made a note to come to our Show.

- What fertilizer do you use?
- Why are the balloons added to the pink displays? ***



- Drove out from Abbotsford to see your show.
- Amazed that there are so many types of dahlias



- Loved the different arrangements
- An Artist who was inspired by dahlias and was trying to capture the "essence" of the bloom.



- And we always get this comment: "Are they for sale?"



To make it easier for viewers to understand why we add extra items to the arrangements, we will add the category rules to our table signs at the next show.

Also – thanks to Linda Bradley, who took extra effort talking to people, and writing down their comments.

Donna Lawson, Parlour Show

Next Meeting

October 9th, at 2pm

Doors Open at 1pm

Cranley Place Hall, 2141 Cranley Drive, Surrey.

Feel free to bring home made goodies to spice up our tea/coffee break. Remember to bring your own cup to save money and the environment.

