

Over The Garden Wall

White Rock & District Garden Club December, 2020

<https://www.white-rock-garden-club.ca/>

Mary Openshaw, President

Johanne Mramor, Secretary

Lorna Bury, Treasurer

President's Message

Multitasking

Remember the performer who used to come on the Ed Sullivan Show with his plate spinner act? He was definitely a multitasker. He would set up flexible poles and start a plate spinning on the top of the first pole, then move to the next pole and start another plate spinning and so on and then need to come back to the first plates to speed up their spinning so they wouldn't fall. There were times this year when I felt like a plate spinner. But then I did make that commitment in January to step out of my comfort zone every day for a year.

Being your President definitely helped me to expand my comfort zone. And Covid 19 has challenged all of us to find ways to stay connected and helpful even when not comfortable doing so. ("What do you mean I have to do stuff electronically?").

I miss seeing you in person; hearing the little stories that happen spontaneously at a meeting and I miss the snacks and the hugs. I missed the hubbub of the plant sale. Your Executive found places to meet in person until we couldn't. By the way (btw), your Executive this year has been the MOST SUPPORTIVE group, both to me and to each other. Hear about their accomplishments in our year-end reports. I hope you can find a way to come to the meeting on the 8th. You can phone in to attend or click on the Zoom invitation. Be festive and wear your fascinators hat and decorate your viewing space.

Mary Openshaw, President



Question

What Does "Parlour Show" Mean

I have been asked this question often, so decided to try and find out how it originated. I asked several of my judging friends and one came up with a possible answer. Likely in England, because the old Aristocrats' had parlours in their homes, where ladies

would meet for social gatherings. Probably teas, quilting bees, Woman's Institute group, then maybe quilt shows, and perhaps even flower shows in the parlour. Could that be how "Parlour Show" was born?

That's all I have but if any of you have ideas or knowledge, please let me know.

PS: In our garden club the shows that do not receive trophies are called Parlour Shows, whereas the ones that do receive them are called a Show. Points are given at all shows, and the person at years end with the most Points, wins the trophy to keep for one year. Questions? Call me, Donna.

*Donna Lawson, Show
Chairman*

Show Program 2021

Our club has 4 shows per year, **Spring Show** (in April), **Rose & Bloom Show** (in

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June), **Fall Show** (in Sept, at the Mall), and **Fall Show** (in Sept. at our meeting). These are all called shows, not parlour shows, because they are the 4 shows where trophies are earned and presented. The only actual Parlour Show we have now is in November, with no trophies given. Several years ago, we had a Parlour Show every month. Also, in April, we have a Floral Circle Group Display (there again, not a Parlour Show) at the Mall. It helps to avoid confusion if these are called by their proper names.

Donna Lawson, Show Chairman



Merry Christmas to you and your family...and stay safe.

Margrit Elmiger-Isert, Program

Party Time

Mulled Wine

- 2 cups of water
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 3 cloves
- 1 star anise or 1/2 tsp nutmeg
- 3 cups wine

Combine the water, sugar and spices. Bring to a boil and simmer 10 min. Remove whole spices. Add the wine. Reheat slightly and serve hot. Makes about 5 cups.

December Zoom/Phone Christmas General Meeting

December, 8, 2020

Because we cannot be together in person, let's participate in this meeting with a glass (or two...) of **MULLED WINE** (we know it is a bit early in the day, but we can make an exception!)... wear a



CHRISTMAS FACINATOR and have a Christmas decorated area around you to make this occasion complete! Yes, let's do it!



New Zoom

Version 5.4.3 (58891.1115)

Notification was received today that there is a new version of Zoom software released (Version 5.4.3 (58891.1115)). To ensure everyone can access the meetings without problems I suggest everyone download the latest version by going to the Zoom website. Go to <https://zoom.us/download> and select the download appropriate to your PC, tablet, cell phone Android or iPhone. For most PC's it will be Zoom Client for Meetings (the first entry). Download only takes a couple of minutes.

Bev Sass, Website

Rogers Festival Fruitcake

Enjoy

- 1 pound pecans
- 1 pound pitted dates
- 8 ounces citron, slivered
- 8 ounces candied pineapple cut in bite size chunks
- 1 pound candied cherries, halved
- 3 pounds seedless raisins
- 1 cup dark rum
- 1/2 cup Rogers golden syrup
- 1/2 pound butter at room temp
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 6 eggs separated

3 cups all purpose flour
2 tsp cinnamon
2 tsp nutmeg
½ tsp ground cloves
2 tsp cream of tartar
1 tsp salt
½ tsp baking soda

Place the first 6 ingredients in a large bowl. Combine with ½ cup dark rum and ½ cup Rogers syrup. Cover tightly and let stand at room temperature for at least 24 hours. Line two 9" tube pans with 2 thicknesses of brown paper and grease well.

Combine butter with sugar and vanilla. Beat in egg yolks. Beat egg whites till stiff and fold them into the cream mixture. Stir in dry ingredients and mix well. Add the fruit and nuts and combine thoroughly. Divide the batter evenly, bake at 275°F for about 3 hours. When cake starts to brown on top, cover with greased brown paper. Cool in pans, when cool remove from pans and sprinkle ½ cup rum.

Store in a cool place.

Submitted by Sandy Jones. Member

Marketplace

Free Stuff for Projects

We have just cut down most of our grape vines and we have the vines available for anyone who wants them for making wreaths. We will have them available in the drive way at the side of the house. Please call if you are interested. Tim & Patti 778-574-1188
tim.roark@shaw.ca

More Free Stuff for Projects

Lots of clothes hangers, padded, hard plastic and wooden and some for pants. Great for craft projects at this time! Call Collene 778-545-5357 or
cclfd7@shaw.ca

Plant of the Month

Amaryllis

Nothing says "the Holidays" like a beautiful blooming Amaryllis. It displays trumpet shaped flowers in shades of pink, red, white,

and even orange, some double, with stripes or even ruffled edges. In my limited COVID search, I only found red and white, and opted for red.

In our climate zone, amaryllis is grown indoors in pots and forced to bloom to brighten the gray days of winter. Because I purchased a kit, the winner will have some work to pot it up.

Choosing Container: the bulb needs about an inch of space around it. A 6" pot works well for one bulb, a 10"-12" pot would be great for 3 bulbs. Drainage holes are essential.

Planting: Use a well-draining potting mix, with the top 1/3 of the bulb above the soil. Watering: water when the top 1" of soil feels dry. Do not pour water on the bulb crown or let the bulb sit in water.

Fertilizer: while the bulb is growing, feed it every couple of weeks with a balanced organic fertilizer (10-10-10).

Light: place in bright window, turning frequently to prevent the flower stalk from leaning toward the light.

Once the plant blooms remove it from direct sunlight and a slightly cooler spot, to prolong the bloom. Gently stake it for support. Do not discard after blooming. Remove spent flowers and after the entire stalk starts to wilt cut the stalk just above the bulb.

Encourage Foliage: Put your amaryllis outdoors for the summer so foliage can grow and feed the bulb for next years blooms. Bury the pot up to the rim in mulch, keep it regularly watered and continue feeding every couple of weeks.

Cold Storage: In early fall, the leaves will naturally turn yellow and die. Gently dig up the pot, cut off the dead leaves wash the pot clean and store for 6 weeks in a cool dark spot or in our climate, the fridge. Do not allow to freeze. After 6 weeks of rest, they will be ready to sprout and bloom again. Time to feed and return to the light.

It can be a challenge, requiring patience to get them to re-bloom, but I have managed to keep some going for 4 years. They may even form bulblets to start new plants.

Enjoy!

Iris Peacosh, Decorating



Here Is The Story

Dumb Move

What does a moment of inattention get you? Early September, Rick and I traveled to Prince George to meet our granddaughter, Ryleigh, in person, for the very first time. Rick's son and family had just bought an older home(70's) and it needed a little TLC. We spent 5 days, cleaning up debris (rotted wood, old tires, cans, etc.) and trimming trees, cleaning gutters (had small trees growing in them), repairing deck railing, mending fences, weeding garden and flower beds (thistles taller than I am and burdock up to my waist). You get the picture! Three big truck loads went to the dump and we were so pleased with our progress. It's now day five, after dinner, and I see a bird that is unfamiliar fly across the yard. I rush from the dining room table to the LR to have a better look, momentarily forgetting there is a step down to the LR. I fell in a heap with my right leg twisted under me and my ankle jammed between the hardwood floor and my body weight. Yup! Pulled the tendon so hard, it pulled a bone piece right off my ankle. It only took one distracted second! For all you concerned people, I am mending well, but being extra careful around steps and stairs. Spending time with our adorable granddaughter was worth every bit of pain. Thanks for the good wishes!

Iris Peacosh, Decorating

Juicy Bits

There Are 12 Reindeer

Did you know that according to the song, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", Santa has 12 reindeer? Sure, in the introduction it goes "There's Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen..." That makes 8 reindeer. Then there's Rudolph, of course, so that makes 9. Then there's Olive. You know, "Olive the other reindeer used to laugh..." That makes 10. The 11th is Howe. You know, "Then Howe the reindeer loved him..." 11 reindeer. Oh, and number 12? That's Andy! "Andy shouted out with glee. " The proof is in the song!

Submitted by John Davidson, Newsletter

Speaking of Reindeer

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December. Female reindeer, however, retain their antlers until after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen had to be female. We should have known this. Only women would be able to drag a fat man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night, and not get lost.

Submitted by John Davidson, Newsletter

Finally Finished Christmas Decorating.



Submitted by Joyce O'Brien, Plants Plus

Next Meeting

December 8th

This will be a Zoom meeting. Details to follow.

Merry Christmas