



OVER THE GARDEN WALL

White Rock & District Garden Club, December 2025

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

Elizabeth Young, President; Eleanor Enns, Treasurer; Alexis Kent, Secretary; Dodi Mesenchuk, Newsletter

Inside this month: Christmas Party, New Members Welcome, Gardening Puzzle, upcoming events, and more!

President's Message

My garden appears rather dismal at the moment. The only plants still displaying green hues are the many different types of ferns. While these ferns continue to provide a pleasant visual presence, the rest of the garden is in transition.

The bleeding hearts, the various hostas, and the columbine have all been winterized. As a result, their vibrant foliage and blooms are no longer visible, leaving the ferns as the dominant feature.

Looking back, I wish I had planned ahead and planted a fall garden featuring reds, oranges, and yellow colours to bring warmth and brightness as the season changed. Next year, I intend to do so—if I remember. With the colder months approaching, it is almost time to start thinking about Christmas decorating.

I would like to thank all the volunteers for their wonderful work this year and look forward to a successful 2026. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Elizabeth Young, President

Welcome New Members!

We are please to welcome all are new members for 2025: Elaine A, Nina B, Letty B, Colin B, Melody C, RoseMarie D, Donna D, Edie G, Francois G, Jane H, Joan H, Wayne H, Mihoko K, Rebecca L, Valerie M, Darrell M, Dodi M, Maureen P, Rose S, Susan T, Ellen Y, Any Yu, Ellen Y, Bonnie M, Hiroko S.



Newest Member to Website Committee:

Val MacLanders joined the WRGC in May of 2025 and has volunteered to be an active

member on the Website committee. Thank you for stepping in Val!

Bev Sass, WebSite

November Meeting News

50/50 Draw Won by: **Valerie MacLanders**

Best Dahlia Trophy: **Sharon Stanley**

Plant of the Month: Christmas Cactus.

The Christmas Cactus symbolizes hope, resilience, and endurance due to its ability to bloom vibrant flowers in the winter. It also represents festive celebration and protection, while the tradition of passing it down through generations gives it a meaning of longevity and maternal love.



Front Porch

As we enter the last month of 2025, December is a time of reflection. Let's take this opportunity to celebrate our achievements, big and small. The big feeling on the little porch is one of gratitude. The porch is part of our annual May sale, certainly, our big, biggest fundraising event. But let's celebrate the little porch showing at our 9 participating monthly meetings. Let's thank both the kindness and generosity of the members who recycled by donating, and those who completed the circle of reuse by purchasing from the porch. Thank you one and all, those 9 months



earned \$948.00 for our garden club. No Front Porch this December.
Be naughty, save Santa the trip
Joyce O'Brien, phone 604-910-4483

Spring Plant Sale News

Spring Plant Sale Overview

Although spring may seem far off at the moment, it is the perfect time to start thinking ahead to our upcoming spring plant sale. As you prepare your gardens and planters for the winter months, please consider the club's spring event.

How You Can Help

If you have oversized plants in your garden that require dividing, we encourage you to pot up any divisions for the club's sale. Simply set aside a pot and keep it safe until spring arrives. Additionally, make a note of any plants that will need to be divided early next season so you can contribute to the club's collection. Terry Haight is collecting 1-gallon pots. If you have any 1-gallon pots please drop off at Terry's house.

Assistance with Plant Division

If you need guidance or help with dividing your plants, please do not hesitate to reach out. Linda Bradley can be contacted at (604) 319-1538, and Terry Haight is available at (604) 340-9977 to assist with any questions or support you may need.

Terry Haight, Plant Sale Director

Christmas Party Planning

Event Overview

We are delighted to announce that our Annual Christmas Party will take place at our meeting on December 9. This festive occasion promises to be a wonderful opportunity for members to celebrate together and enjoy the holiday season.

Goodies to Share

Each member is asked to bring **six** goodies to share with the people at their table. If everyone contributes six items, this will ensure three dozen treats are available for

each table of six, providing plenty to go around. Please remember to bring your goodies to share the festive spirit with your fellow members.

Festive Hat and Sweater Contest

Get creative and show off your holiday style by participating in our contest for the most festive hat and sweater. Prizes will be awarded to those with the most imaginative and spirited outfits, so don your best holiday attire and join the fun!

Musical Entertainment

To enhance the festive atmosphere, we have hired "Cheek to Cheek" to provide Christmas music throughout the afternoon. Their performance will help set the mood and get everyone in the holiday spirit. We are all looking forward to a joyful and entertaining afternoon together. This will be approximately 2:30 PM to 3:45PM

Christmas Arrangements for Seniors' Homes

Floral Arrangements Donation Initiative

We are pleased to announce that we will once again be creating and donating floral arrangements to seniors' homes in our area during the Christmas season. This initiative is a wonderful way to spread joy and connect with members of our community.

Arrangement Details

Each arrangement is crafted with artificial flowers and greenery to ensure longevity and ease of care. Typically, these are assembled in small China containers, such as festive Christmas mugs or candle holders. It is important to use the dry form of oasis to secure the arrangement; this can be held down with tape for stability.

Guidelines for Contributions

- Please do not use candles, candy, or live flowers, as these items are not suitable for the seniors' homes.

- Do not use paper cups or plastic containers, as they are prone to tipping over.
- Members invited to make 2-3 small Christmas centerpiece



- Keep in mind quality over quantity. Please make sure that it's something you yourself would want to be given.

Donation Drop-Off

Please bring your completed arrangements to the **December meeting**. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated and will help brighten the holiday season for our local seniors.

Thank you in advance for your kindness & generosity.

Donna Lawson, Show Director

HELP NEEDED!

Seeking New Executive Member

Our club is currently in need of dedicated individual to fill an important position within the Executive team: Secretary. The Executive meets on the last Tuesday of each month, and these roles are vital to ensuring the smooth operation of our club.

Available Positions

- **Program Director:** need to attend Executive Meetings, book guest speakers for 4 meetings per year, Talk to Eleanor Enns for more details. This position could be split between 2 people
- **Secretary:** This position is essential for taking the minutes at each executive meeting. Please reach out to our current secretary,

Alexis, for more information about this role.

How to Get Involved

Alexis is available to explain what each role entails and will provide support to help you get started.

Your Contribution Matters

Our club relies on the contributions of its members. We encourage you to volunteer. By joining the Executive team, you will be a valued part of a supportive and enthusiastic group.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a difference in our club.

Elizabeth Young, President

Christmas List for Gardeners

It's that time of year again when we think of gifts to give and to receive at Christmas. I have asked some of my gardening friends what they would like to receive for a garden-related Christmas gift. You can put these on your shopping list for friends and family, or on your Santa list when friends ask what you would like as a gift.

1. Quality gardening tools like bypass shears.
2. Jigsaw puzzles with a garden and Santa theme.
3. Garden gloves Bamboo Nitrile Garden gloves
4. Aprons or buckets with pockets like those used by electricians.
5. Flower-themed bookmarks.
6. Garden books.
7. Sun hats and cream.
8. Garden-oriented Christmas ornaments.
9. A seed box with envelopes for saving seeds or seed saving envelopes
10. Large hoops to hold up perennials or other garden structures such as a trellis.
11. Garden clogs
12. Gardeners Magazines, e.g. Fine Gardening www.finegardening.com Canada's Local Gardener www.localgardener.net Harrowsmith www.harrowsmithmag.com.
13. Permanent plant markers.

14. Gift cards for garden centres.
15. A Christmas plant such as Christmas Cactus, Poinsettia, Amaryllis
16. Last but not least: strong man to help with digging and planting.

Melanie Rantucci, Master Gardener

Upcoming Events

- Results of **Photo Contest** will be announced at the December meeting.
- **WRGC: AGM** December 9th prior to Christmas party, voting for Executive, Budget Approval.
- **West Coast Seeds Fund Raiser:** February 2026, more info in January
- **Speaker:** Jason Crouch, Fraser Valley Rose Farm
- **Christmas Décor Videos:** If you are interested in making a Christmas Porch Pot, a Christmas Wreath, or a Christmas arrangement, we have videos showing you how to do this on our website. Go to the Gallery section <https://white-rock-garden-club.ca/gardening-images-plants-shrubs-flowers-south-surrey-bc.html> and click on "View our Video Gallery Here" then click on 'Go directly to our You Tube Channel. You can then view any of the three videos there made by our club members for you.

Websites of Interest

- **Select Roses** website has great information about caring for roses. In particular for this time of year there is information about winterizing your roses.
- <https://www.selectroses.ca/rose-care>

WRGC Next Meeting: AGM Tuesday December 9th at 2 pm

We look forward to welcoming all members and guests at Cranley Hall, located at 2141 Cranley Dr., Surrey. For those arriving by car, additional parking is available on the street behind the hall—simply take the street to the right of the hall and the first left.

The hall opens at 1:00 p.m. If you enjoy socializing before the meeting, please feel free to arrive early. The meeting itself will commence promptly at 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Party

After the AGM meeting we will have our Christmas Party. Please bring 6 items for your table, that will give 3 dozen items for each table.

Don't forget to bring your mug!

**Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year to All!**



Membership Renewal Time!!

We will be renewing all memberships for 2026 in January. Please complete the online membership application on our website:

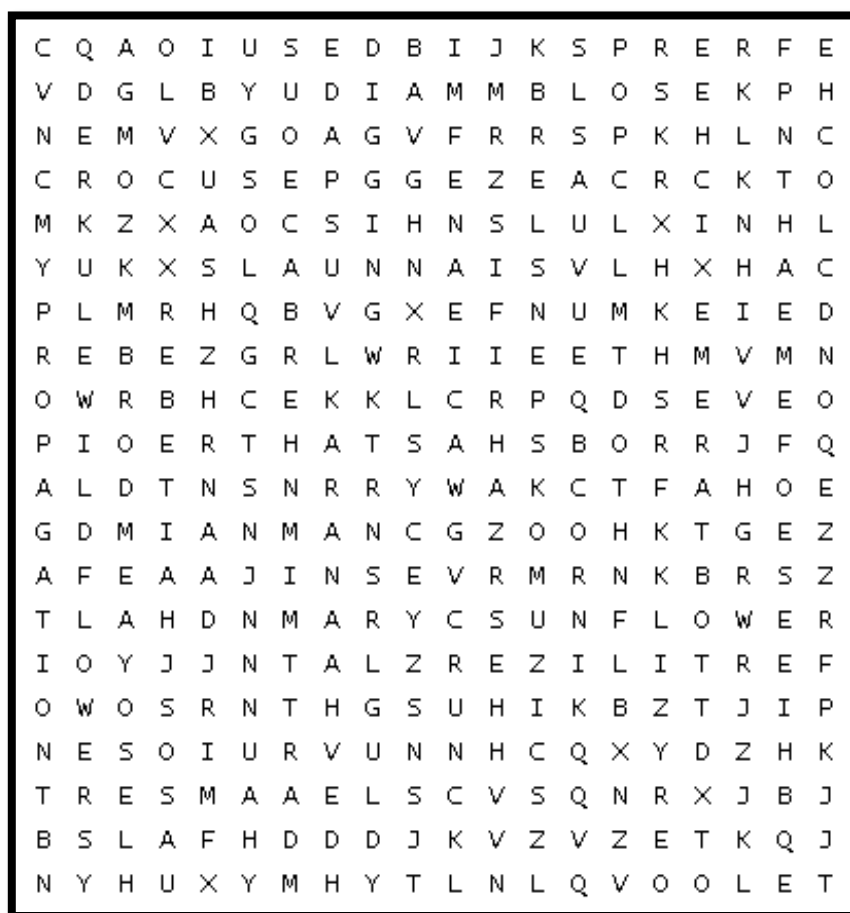
<https://white-rock-garden-club.ca/contact-us-the-gardening-club-south-surrey-bc.htm>. If you have trouble with doing this, the Web Site Committee will be on hand at the January meeting to help you.

Then come and pay the membership fee of \$25 or \$30 per family at the January meeting

Fran Deptuck, Membership Director

Gardening Word Find

AGERATUM
ANNUALS
CHRYSANTHEMUM
CLOCHE
CROCOSMIA
CROCUS
DIANTHUS
DIGGING
ESPALIER
FERTILIZER
GARDENING
HERBACEOUS
HERBS
HOE
PERENNIALS
PROPAGATION
ROSES
SHASTA DAISY
SPADE
SUCKER
SUNFLOWER
WILDFLOWERS



Newsletter Submissions

We encourage members to contribute to our newsletter. Submissions are always welcome; however, please note that, due to space constraints, it may not be possible to publish every item received.

If you wish to submit an article, note, or suggestion, please contact our editor, Dodi Mesenchuk, at dodim@mail.com.

