



LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
First established 1943

FEBRUARY 2012

Message from The President

I thought our January guest speakers, Ric Erikson and Sharon Lisette were excellent. I've heard several different bee talks over the past year or so, and I learn something new from each of them. I think Ric's talk was more particularly addressed to gardeners, so gave me more to think about. I plan on setting some spaces in my garden to leave undisturbed, and putting out some nesting materials. I was interested in Ric's suggestion of boring holes in trees for bees, especially bumble bees, and wanted more information on this. Couldn't find anything on-line about size of holes, so asked Ric and he came back with following information. Native Bees build nesting sites in holes bored by other insects and their preferred hole sizes are 1/8", 3/16", 1/4" and 5/16" each hole should be 6" to 8" deep, 2" to 3" apart and from 6" to 36" above the ground. A variety of different sizes with south and east facing openings will probably lead to the most success as you would then be providing habitat for many different species at the same time. Another suggestion of Ric's was to bundle together lengths of any hollow stems. Bundle together and put in a protected place, facing east for morning sun. You can use hydrangea branches, bamboo, any hollow stemmed plants. Look forward to getting more information on Ric's "Bee Stewardship" program.

I'm excited to tell you our Executive is planning a bus trip for our Club in early summer. We hope to visit a couple of gardens, and a couple of nurseries. Allowing for an hour at each garden and nursery, plus an hour for lunch and an hour travel each way, we'll probably leave the Church at 9 am and return around 4 pm. There will be a nominal charge of \$15 per person, and the Club will fund the balance of cost. We'll have more details in the next month or so, we have to co-ordinate available times/dates with gardens/nurseries we want to visit, but once we get it organized and details published, I would ask that you sign up as soon as possible. We may be limited to bus seats, so stay tuned. Last time we did a bus trip it was a lot of fun, a nice chance to mix and mingle with club members. (We hope to be able to include a native plant nursery on our itinerary, in keeping with Ric Erikson's advice on how native plants are the best bee attractants). Christine Gooch, our new Vice-President is working on getting bus options/prices, and finding a suitable date – likely end of May or early June. Thanks Christine.

I'm writing this first weekend in February and forecast is sunny and almost warm. Won't be long before we can really get into our gardens, but don't forget to leave some areas undisturbed for those bees !

Rosemarie Adams

Meetings Schedule

LVGC meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at St. Clement's Church.

Please note that meetings start promptly at 7:15 pm.

**February 16, 2012
Bill Bischoff
Tufa**

**March 15, 2012
Charlie Sale
Bucket Hill
&
Pre-meeting sale of
Unique Soil Amendment**

**April 19, 2012
Elaine Senft
Roses**

Mailing Address:
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2012 Executive

President

Rosemarie Adams

Vice President

Christine Gooch

Secretary

Bernie Robb

Norma Buckland

Treasurer

Harvey Lawson

Membership

Doreen Marbry

Diane Sekora

Members at Large

Nancy Gelin

Cari Wineberg

Rita Marshall

Chris Pharo

Newsletter Editor

Lynn Batt

theleaf@lynnvalleygardenclub.org

COMMITTEES

Plant Table

Audrey Dewan

Bernie Robb

Christel Glazer

Hospitality

Doreen Wakefield

Pat Phillips

Bright Spots

Laurie Parkinson

Leah Younger

Sunshine/Door Prizes

Carol Ferryman

Sound System Set-up

Maurice Jones

Hartwig Rother

Website

Brian Didier

Next Executive Meeting:
March 1, 2012
at the home of Nancy Gelin

The Leaf Deadline: March 4, 2012



Tea Time

Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips

We would like to thank Jan Lockmuller for her gift to the club of 2 beautiful hand-knitted tea cozies which we needed badly!!

Please bring your own mug and remember the coffee we serve is decaffeinated.



from the Editor

Lynn Batt

Newsletter submissions please.

Everybody has their favorite and/or latest book, tool or tip.

Please write a few words about it and send them in..

A few of you have written/or want to write articles. Please send them in.



Sunshine

Carol Ferryman

Please let us know of any of our members who have been ill or have lost a loved one.

Donations of new items for door prizes are always appreciated.



Membership

Doreen Marbry, Diane Sekora

We have completed our Membership renewals with the exception of 4 members. Thanks everyone! To date, we have 116 renewed members including 6 honorary members and 3 new members. We are pleased to welcome Darlene Crenna, Jackie Reade-Slater and Vanessa Crittenden as our new members. 8 members were unable to renew. We are able to accept new members to our club. If you hear of anyone wanting to join, you can direct them to us.



Vice President

Christine Gooch

!!! IDEAS !!!

Looking for ideas for guest speakers for our monthly meetings
Please include their e-mail address and/or telephone number

[Any and all ideas welcomed](#)

Please e-mail Christine Gooch crgooch@telus.net



Treasurers Report

LVGC DONATIONS PROPOSED 2011

The executive recommends the following donations from our 2011 income. 2010 donations, dispersed March/11, are listed for your information. Voting on this 2011 budget item will be at the March 2012 general meeting.

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
BC Council Scholarship	200	0
N V District Library	200	100
Cedar Gardens	250	250
LGH Acute Psychiatry Therapy Garden	250	250
Evergreen Therapy Garden	250	250
Margaret Fulton Centre	250	250
Wild Bird Trust	250	250
St Clement's Church	200	200
Land Conservancy	200	200
Wildlife Rescue Assoc. of BC	200	200
<i>Seeds of Diversity</i>	100	100
<i>FOGS (Park & Tilford)</i>	200	
	2550	2050

February Gardening To Do List

adapted from the Twelve Month Gardener

- order seeds and start sowing under glass
- pot up geranium cuttings
- clean-up and weed flower beds
- lift and divide perennials.....perfect time to decide what to pot up for the plant sale
- finish tree pruning, and prune summer flowering shrubs that bloom on this year's wood
- prepare vegetable beds working in plenty of compost or manure
- at the end of the month....apply dolomite lime to lawns



Members at Large Report

Yet Another Reminder Our Annual Plant Sale May 12, 2012

Dear members,

Please remember, as if we'd let you forget, that our Annual Plant Sale is approaching, and we're hoping you're all getting ready to pot up divisions of perennials and sow seedlings and perhaps even divide up some overgrown houseplants to donate. This sale allows us to be a positive force in the community with our donations to different organizations.

Please remember also to label your donations as clearly as possible, with as much pertinent information (sun/shade, flower colour, etc.) as you can manage. For those of you who are new at this, you can use cut up white or yellow plastic pots. I also save all price labels from nurseries which have plain backs and can be repurposed for our uses...

It is proposed that the club will supply one yard of soil amender for club members to use for potting up for the sale. This soil will be available on Saturday, February 18, in the church parking lot, from 9:30 am. If any is left, on Sunday it will be available at 1629 Ashley Close (just opposite the Legion on Lynn Valley Road). Bring buckets or sturdy bags to collect it with. I will also bring a selection of pots for people who need them. Soon sign-up sheets for job slots for the sale will be circulated. Please remember we'll need people for both the Friday afternoon and early evening for set-up, and for the sale itself on Saturday. It would be ideal if people could volunteer for one shift on the Friday and one on the Saturday. If you're new to the club, you'll find this is a good chance to connect with other members. And it's always fun. Even in the rain. (But of course, we're confident of better weather this year...)

Your Members At Large—Cari, Chris, Nancy and Rita



Tools, Tips and Tomes.....Featuring Members' New Finds and Old Favorites

Fresh Food from Small Spaces by R J Ruppenthal

.....the square inch gardener's guide to year-round growing, fermenting and sprouting.

It's quite an interesting read, especially for people wanting to start growing food, and it's available at Lynn Valley Library.

The Well-Tended Perennial Garden by Tracy DiSabato-Aust

.....planting and pruning techniques

Exactly how to prepare, plant, prune, pinch, dead-head and stake..... it's available at Lynn Valley Library.

“Dirt” the dvd movie is available at Lynn Valley Library.

.....grassroots solutions to returning soil to fertility and thereby increasing food production worldwide.



This Month's Speaker

Gardening With Tufa

Bill Bischoff

Tufa is a naturally occurring, sponge-like and light weight rock that is very easy to work with and shape into many forms. Holes can be drilled into its surface with woodworking tools, to accommodate plants. This material can be used to make very natural looking rockeries of just about any size. Where space is limited, it can also be used to make very attractive looking dish gardens. Its light gray-brown colour and rough looking surface combines easily with plants to be an eye catching garden feature. Walls can be built with Tufa to be planted on both sides with plants that display best as hanging specimens. This makes planting and caring for plants very accessible.

The plants to be used can come from the alpine and desert regions of our planet. For our purpose, here in western North America, these plants could be from tempered and arctic zones. Because of the excellent drainage quality of Tufa, plants that need dry winter conditions are ideally suited for Tufa cultivation.

Luckily we have many sources for Tufa garden plants. Almost all garden centres have these plants available. The Alpine Garden Club of BC is a very good source for these plants, as well as its "Seed-Bank"

Helleborus

Sometimes referred to as 'Christmas Rose' or 'Lenten Rose', helleborus are the stars of the late winter/early spring garden. Their long-lasting blooms come in many colors and single or double forms. Plants generally bloom between December and March in cultivation, though some begin earlier, and others continue into April and May, particularly in gardens with colder spring climates. Nearly every garden has a spot for helleborus. Still, they remain unknown to many gardeners despite their toughness, beauty, hardiness, and habit of blooming in winter when most other plants remain dormant.

Helleborus are the easy to grow, preferring an average to rich, well-drained soil with plenty of added compost. These plants do well in part to full shade, but mine are in morning sun and are thriving.

Phoenix Perennials' Hellebore Hurrah! is February 24, 25, 26

My name is Donna and I am looking to get rid of horse manure. It's very clean – almost no contaminants (bedding etc.) It is not composted, as I have just moved my horse to a new location and have to start getting rid of it. If I can't give it away, it will have to be hauled to waste disposal which seems a shame if people can use it. The manure is located in the Maplewood area. Please let me know if anyone is interested. You can e-mail me donjoh001@shaw.ca or phone me at 604-988-5030

Art in the Garden Tour 2012

Saturday, May 26 & Sunday, May 27

12-5pm, rain or shine!

Applications for Gardeners are now available

Deadline for garden submissions is **Friday, February 24 at 5:00pm**

<http://nvarcouncil.ca/>

ABOUT TOWN

February 17, Friday **Environmental Documentary Night: Good Food**, 7pm, West Vancouver Community Centre - Mountain Room, free admission. “An intimate look at the farmers, ranchers, and businesses that are creating a more sustainable food system in the Pacific Northwest”.

February 18, Saturday **Spring Study Day “Put Your Tools Aside: Let’s Talk Gardening”**, 9:30am to 3pm, H.R. MacMillan Space Centre, presented by the Vancouver Hardy Plant Group, admission is \$45 at the door or members prepay \$40, featuring Keith Wiley and Anthony Archer-Wills

February 25, Saturday **Seedy Saturday**, in Van Dusen Floral Hall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Presented by the BC Master Gardeners Association A celebration of heritage varieties and organic gardening featuring more than 30 growers, seed companies and exhibitors and Heritage Seed Swap. Admission by donation.

March 3, Saturday **Backyard Seed Saving**, with Heather Johnstone, location to be announced, 2 pm to 3:30pm Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre 604-990-3755 Workshop is \$5.

March 10, Saturday **Pollination Power: Incorporate Orchard Mason Bees into Your Garden**, with Mike Nassichuk, at Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre from 1pm to 2:30pm 604-990-3755 Workshop is \$5

March 12, Monday **Keeping Track of Everything: How Labelling Makes the Difference** 12pm – 1pm UBC Botanical Garden, Reception Center, 6804 SW Marine Drive, admission is \$5 at the door

March 24 & 25, Saturday & Sunday **Vancouver Orchid Society Show and Sale**, Van Dusen Floral Hall, Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Admission - \$7.00. Info knakatani247@yahoo.co.jp

March 26, Monday **“If You Go Down to the Woods Today” Woodland and Shade Loving Plants** 7:30-8:45pm H.R. MacMillan Space Centre, presented by the Vancouver Hardy Plant Group, admission is \$20 at the door or members prepay \$17, featuring Jimi Blake

April 7, Saturday **Alpine Garden Club of BC Show and Sale**, 1pm-4pm Van Dusen Cedar Room and Floral Hall .

May 5, Saturday **Backyard Bounty Gardening Course** 9:30am to 4:30pm UBC Botanical Garden, Reception Center, 6804 SW Marine Drive \$55 public, \$45 garden members (includes UBC students)

MAY 12th LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE

June 15, Friday **Espalier: Pruning and Training Fruit Trees** 12pm to 3pm UBC Botanical Garden, Garden Pavilion, 6804 SW Marine Drive \$45 public, \$35 garden members