



LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB  
First established 1943

### Members Garden Tour –1<sup>st</sup> week in July

Unfortunately there were no members that offer to show their gardens for our annual members' garden tour. There will be no tour this year. Hopefully next summer, hopefully.

### Nominating Committee

Maurice Jones is busy forming a nominating committee. There are several executive openings to be filled in the coming year. Please when you are called about taking on a position think seriously of saying YES. The club can only continue when members are willing to stand for election. Being on the executive is a great way to meet members and to learn the ins and outs of our club.

### A Trip to Butchart Gardens.

If there is interest in a trip to the garden, one will be booked for September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. We would catch the 9 AM ferry and return on the 7 PM. We would car pool to the ferry's long term parking. Walk aboard. The #81 bus takes us to Butchart. This will be discussed at the June meeting

### Pesticide By-Law

The District's Pesticide Use Control Bylaw is now in effect. District residents are no longer permitted to apply certain pesticides to their lawns and gardens. For further information visit [www.dnv.org](http://www.dnv.org)

**We have three new members, a big welcome goes to  
Mini Lee, Jeff Lee and Carol Patrickson**

June 2009

### 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.**

**June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Cors de Lint**

Unique Soil Amendment

**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Barbara Fairclough  
Grasses**

**October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Charlie Sale  
Flora of the Drackensberg.**

Lynn Valley Garden Club  
Website

<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>

#### Mailing Address

Lynn Valley Garden Club  
C/o Office Services Etc.  
110-223 Lower Mountain Hwy  
North Vancouver, BC  
V7J 2C0



## 2008 Executive

### President

Maurice Jones

### Vice President

Bonnie Noakes

### Secretary

Kathy Stubbs

### Treasurer

Sandra Smith

### Membership

Diane Allison

Carole Rapp

### Members at Large

Jackie Morris

Pat Holmes

Jacqueline Lamont

Joyce Page

### Newsletter Editor

Irene Dudra

### COMMITTEES

#### Plant Table

Audrey Dewan

Bernie Robb

Christel Glaser

#### Hospitality

Doreen Wakefield

Pat Phillips

#### Historian

Carol Ferryman

#### Bright Spots

Laurie Parkingson

Leah Younger

#### Sunshine/Door Prizes

Illa Jackson

#### Sound System Set-up

Maurice Jones

Hartwig Rother

#### Next Executive Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, 7:30pm,  
at the home of Diane Allison

#### The Leaf Deadline:

Sept. issue: Sept 8th, 2009



### Treasurers Report

*Sandra Smith*



### Tea Time

*Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips*

Please bring your own mugs, and remember that the coffee we serve is decaffeinated.



### Sunshine Report

*Illa Jackson*

Please let Illa 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.**



### Notes from the Editor

*Irene Dudra*

The **Plant Sale** generated \$391.00 for raffle items and, \$4212.00 in plant sales for a total of \$4,603.00.

Any feedback regarding what people felt worked well or what could be improved is welcome. Please contact Joyce Page - 604-987-1933.

Pat Holmes thanks everyone for all their hard work and complimented the members for providing such a variety of outstanding, healthy plants. Thanks also to all those who donated items for the Raffle.

## Plant Sale signs are to be returned.

Last year the club donated \$2,650.00, of the money raised at our 2008 plant sale, to various charities. In October 2009, the executive will present a list of charities to which we can consider donating some of the funds raised at this year's plant sale.

### Plant Table

Don't forget the sales table. If you have any gardening items at home you could donate, please do so. Have you any plants that were not up to putting in the plant sale, by now they are probably doing okay, great for the sales table and great for the members looking for plants.

**Divide bearded irises:** Lift and divide bearded irises once they have finished flowering. Remove any dormant sections from the centre of the clump, and replant the fresh new shoots

**Cut down early-flowering perennials:** Remove faded flowers on perennials such as lupins and delphiniums. Early pruning often encourages a second flush of flowers late in the season. Cut the flower-spike down to just above a new shoot or leaf, and give each plant a generous liquid feed to encourage fresh growth. Remove the seedheads from aquilegia to prevent them from spreading.

**The World Rose Festival, June 19-21, 2009.** The Event at the Bayshore will have 500 registrants and the show at the Convention Centre will have displays by garden shops, judging of floral art, garden lectures, market place, and interactive displays. [www.worldrosefestival.com](http://www.worldrosefestival.com) \$18.00 presale, \$16.00 senior. Tickets can be purchased at Avant Gardener.

Tricia Edgar is looking for people interested in becoming involved in her GROWING TRADITIONS idea to develop mentorships between experienced gardeners and new gardeners. If you are interested: [www.ryansgarden.com](http://www.ryansgarden.com)

**Open House and Plant Sale:** July 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am – 2:00pm. Strathcona & Cottonwood Community Gardens, Prior and Hawkins Sts. Vancouver. Contact Joanne - 604-253-3384

**Country Garden Tour,** Maple Ridge, Sunday, June 21, 9 – 5pm, 8 gardens to be shown. Money raised for the Sunshine Foundation “Dreams for Kids”. Contact Gayle Lyons, 604-467-2956

### **Suggestions to discourage cats from visiting your garden:**

- Get a dog
  - Orange or citrus peels - an orange; not the whole thing, but the peel. It has a smell that cats hate.
  - Various black pepper or spice concoctions
  - The plant Rue: break off pieces about a foot in length and spread them around. It might not look that good, but it does keep the cats away.
  - Use rose prunings placed twiggy shrub cuttings and rose canes over top of the cat's favourite spots.
  - Chicken wire: lay the mesh down, covering all the exposed soil. Cats don't like walking on the mesh, nor can they dig up the soil.
  - Catscat; a mat made of spiked plastic and is put under the soil where cats like to dig for their litter box. This works really well but can be costly if you need to deter them in a large garden,
  - Catstop: an ultrasonic unit that will keep cats away.
  - Other suggestions included: moth balls, a layer of wood chips, live trapping cats and then taking them to the SPCA, planting really full flower beds, spraying water and growing Marigolds.
- From the **Heritage Perennials' Newsletter**

### **Reporting Invasive Plants in BC communities has never been easier**

It's never been easier to report invasive plants! The Invasive Plant Council of BC is pleased to announce the establishment of a provincial toll free hotline, 1-888-WEEDSBC, to which callers can report invasive plants and make a difference in their community.

The Invasive Plant Council of BC is a grassroots, non-profit society working collaboratively to build cooperation and coordination of invasive plant management in BC. IPCBC workshops, activities, and events educate the public and professionals about invasive plants and their potential risks. This toll free hotline will continue to assist the IPCBC in “spreading the word, not the weed” through outreach and education; thus minimizing the establishment of invasive plants.

Membership is free and open to anyone willing to work collaboratively.

For more information, contact the Invasive Plant Council of BC (IPCBC):

[www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca](http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca) <<http://www.invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca>> • (250) 392-1400 • 1-888-WEEDSBC  
• [info@invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca](mailto:info@invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca) <<mailto:ileekie@invasiveplantcouncilbc.ca>> **Submitted by Christine Gooch**

**Pests & Disease:** As a general rule, healthy plants rarely have problems. Plants that are struggling to survive are unable to fight off attacks from bugs and disease. Before reaching for the pesticide bottle, review the growing conditions, hours of sun, water, soil and fertilizer -----the answer most often lies here!!

## Six Tips for Effective Weed Control

**Let Sleeping Weeds Lie:** Every square inch of your garden contains weed seeds, but only those in the top inch or two of soil get enough light to trigger germination. Digging and cultivating brings hidden weed seeds to the surface, so assume weed seeds are there ready to erupt, like ants from an upset anthill, every time you open a patch of ground. Dig only when you need to and immediately salve the disturbed spot with plants or mulch. In lawns, minimize soil disturbance by using a sharp knife with a narrow blade to slice through the roots of dandelions and other lawn weeds to sever their feed source rather than digging them out. Keep in mind that weed seeds can remain dormant for a long, long time.

**Mulch, Mulch, Mulch:** "Mulch benefits plants by keeping the soil cool and moist and depriving weeds of light. Organic mulches, in particular, can actually host crickets and carabid beetles, which seek out and devour thousands of weed seeds. Some light passes through chunky mulches, and often you will discover—too late—that the mulch you used was laced with weed seeds. It's important to replenish the mulch as needed to keep it about 2 inches deep (more than 3 inches deep can deprive soil of oxygen). In any case, you can set weeds way back by covering the soil's surface with a light-blocking sheet of cardboard, newspaper, or biodegradable fabric and then spreading prettier mulch over it.

**Weed When The Weeding It's Good:** The old saying "Pull when wet; hoe when dry" is wise advice when facing down weeds. After a drenching rain, stage a rewarding weeding session by equipping yourself with gloves, a sitting pad, and a rug or tarp for collecting the corpses. As you head out the door, slip an old table fork into your back pocket because there's nothing better for twisting out tendrils of henbit or chickweed. When going after bigger thugs, use a fishtail weeder to pry up tap-rooted weeds, like dandelion or dock. Under dry conditions, weeds sliced off just below the soil line promptly shrivel up and die, especially if your hoe has a sharp edge. In mulched beds, use an old steak knife to sever weeds from their roots, then patch any open spaces left in the mulch.

**Lop Off Their Heads:** When you can't remove weeds, the next best thing is to chop off their heads. With annual weeds, deadheading buys you a few weeks of time before the weed "seed rain" begins. Cutting back the tops of perennial weeds, like bindweed, reduces reseeding and forces them to use up food reserves and exhaust their supply of root buds, thus limiting their spread.

**Mind The Gaps Between Plants:** Close plant spacing chokes out emerging weeds by shading the soil between plants. You can prevent weed-friendly gaps from the get-go by designing with mass plantings or in drifts of closely spaced plants rather than with polka dots of widely scattered ones. You can usually shave off about 25 percent from the recommended spacing.

**Water the plants you want, not the weeds you've got** Put drought on your side by depriving weeds of water. Placing drip or soaker hoses beneath mulch efficiently irrigates plants while leaving nearby weeds thirsty. In most climates, depriving weeds of water reduces weed-seed germination by 50 to 70 percent. Watch out, though, for the appearance of deeply rooted perennial weeds, such as bindweed and nutsedge, in areas that is kept moist. They can take off in a flash when given the benefits of drip irrigation.

Beyond these strategies, enriching your soil with organic matter every chance you get can move your garden along down the weed-free path. Soil scientists aren't sure how it works, but fewer weed seeds germinate in soil that contains fresh infusions of good compost or organic matter. One theory makes elegantly simple sense: When soil is healthy and well fed, weed seeds sense that they are out of a job and are less likely to appear. **From Fine Gardening Website: thanks to Michelle Clay.**