



LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
First established 1943

MAY 2011

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.

May 19, 2011

Nancy Moore
Vegetable Gardening

June 17, 2011

Christine Miller
Bears

Message from The President

You know you're a plant person when people frequently ask you to identify a plant and the description is something like little blue balls on a stick approx. 4 inches tall – translation: Muscari. Or, the thing that has nice tasting red berries – translation: Gaultheria Procumbens or wintergreen salal. One day it was a colleague whose young child had eaten some berries and had developed a rash and the poison control centre couldn't help him. This was because he had been told over the phone by someone that it must have been a rhododendron. Actually it was Daphne Laureola which has black berries and they are poisonous. Alas, another day in the life of a gardener. We've come a long way since the time of six books on gardening on the shelves at the library, no internet or computers and not really any access to information about clubs and where they meet. Today, we are inundated with information, beautiful pictures to help identify plants and many glorious books.

My latest purchase was Raymond Evison's Clematis For Small Spaces which I purchased at his talk in New Westminster. He was on a visit from his home on Guernsey. I was also a bit of a spend thrift and bought Clematis Rosemoor. His website can be found at - <http://www.raymondevisonclematis.com/main/home.asp?a=1>

Happy Gardening,

Bonnie

Member's Garden Tour July 16th

Please volunteer your gardens now to be on tour for our members' only garden tour. Contact the members at large or katsura@shaw.ca

Mailing Address:

Lynn Valley Garden Club
P.O. Box 16053
1199 Lynn Valley Road
North Vancouver, BC
V7J 3S9

<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>



2010 Executive

President

Bonnie Noakes

Vice President

Lynn Batt

Secretary

Lorraine Robson

Treasurer

Jan Lockmuller

Membership

Teresa Reid

Rosanne Matheson

Members at Large

Inga Steinebach

Cari Weinberg

Nancy Gelin

Jan Valair

Newsletter Editor

Diane Allison

COMMITTEES

Plant Table

Audrey Dewan

Bernie Robb

Christel Glazer

Hospitality

Doreen Wakefield

Pat Phillips

Bright Spots

Laurie Parkinson

Leah Younger

Sunshine/Door Prizes

Rosemarie Adams

Sound System Set-up

Maurice Jones

Hartwig Rother

Next Executive Meeting

7:30 pm, Thursday, June 2nd

at the home of Teresa Reid

The Leaf Deadline:

Sunday, June 5th



Treasurers Report

Jan Lockmuller

As of April 30, 2011:



Tea Time

Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips

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



Sunshine Report

Rosemarie Adams

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

Donations of new items for door prizes are always appreciated.



Membership

Teresa Reid, Rosanne Matheson

Membership is at 119 so we still have room for new members if you know of anyone who would like to join please pass the word around.

We have 4 new members who joined in April. Please take a moment to find Norma Buckland, Louise Miller, Elspeth Richmond and Robin Timms at our next meeting and make them feel welcome.

Please make the following additions and correction to your phone list:

Please add: June Barnes
Norma Buckland
Louise Miller
Elspeth Richmond
Sam Susanthan
Robin Timms

Correction to Tom & Margaret Davis phone:



This Month's Speaker

Lynn Batt

Nancy Moore:

I started my career in horticulture reluctantly weeding my family's huge vegetable garden for what seemed to be my entire childhood. Formally, I graduated from BCIT in Biological Sciences-Horticulture, and have been involved in landscape/horticulture ever since. I have held positions as the horticulturist for the Matsqui Parks Department, and as manager of a wholesale shade tree nursery. Since 1988, I have owned my own landscape design/consulting business--Visions Green Enterprises, and since 1990 have taught landscape design and horticulture skills at the University of the Fraser Valley in Chilliwack. I teach the Master Gardeners (sections of the Core and Advanced programs) and continuing education classes, as well as giving talks and seminars to garden clubs, Elder College, churches, libraries and many other clubs and groups. I am a director and am actively involved in the Abbotsford Community Garden. My topic on May 19 is vegetable gardening -- everything from how to set up the garden to dealing with watering, garden pests, weather and diseases.



From the Plant Sale

A big THANK YOU to our Members at Large, *Inga Steinebach, Cari Weinberg, Nancy Gelin and Jan Valair* for all their hard work!



MYSTERY PLANT

PLEEEZE can anyone identify this healthy specimen that was major topic of conversation at the plant sale? So far we think it could be one of the members of the artichoke family (*Cynara cardunculus*). Possibly the donor, who is also unknown, can contact Carol Ferryman who has volunteered to raise "Mystery" to adulthood and provide our first plant to sell at the 2012 sale.





The Bride's Bouquet – with obligatory garden content

Kate Middleton's bouquet was a shield-shaped wired bouquet of myrtle, lily-of-the-valley, sweet William and hyacinth. The bouquet was designed by Shane Connolly and draws on the traditions of flowers of significance for the Royal Family, the Middleton family and on the Language of Flowers.

The flowers' meanings in the bouquet are:

Lily-of-the-valley - Return of happiness

Sweet William – Gallantry

Hyacinth - Constancy of love

Ivy: Fidelity; marriage; wedded love; friendship; affection

Myrtle: the emblem of marriage; love.

The bouquet contains stems from a myrtle planted at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, by Queen Victoria in 1845, and a sprig from a plant grown from the myrtle used in The Queen's wedding bouquet of 1947. The tradition of carrying myrtle begun after Queen Victoria was given a nosegay containing myrtle by Prince Albert's grandmother during a visit to Gotha in Germany. In the same year, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert bought Osborne House as a family retreat, and a sprig from the posy was planted against the terrace walls, where it continues to thrive today. The myrtle was first carried by Queen Victoria eldest daughter, Princess Victoria, when she married in 1858, and was used to signify the traditional innocence of a bride.

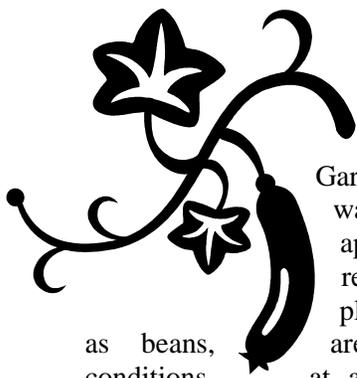
Grow your own strawberries! Order through our club!

You've likely heard that strawberry is one of the many fruits that should be bought as organic, due to the spraying and treatment of the non-organic version. This article will educate you on a further reason— the synthetic-created chemical used to sterilize the soil prior to large farm conglomerates setting the plants into the ground in the first place. Yes, **Bromomethane**, commonly known as **methyl bromide** is used to completely sterilize the soil, to kill everything and I mean everything – good and bad, to a great depth. It's a toxic, ozone-depleting gas that kills everything down to 2.4 metres – weeds, fungi, bugs. In 2004, over 7 million lbs were applied in California, the source of most of Vancouver out-of-season berries. The 'Montreal Protocol' was signed into force in January 1989 with the objective to phase out the use of substances affecting the ozone layer. The US petitioned for Methyl bromide exclusion from this protocol and allow use for 'critical' applications – which seemingly includes the growing of strawberries. The applications of this mainly U.S.-produced synthetic include tomato, strawberry, and ornamental shrub growers, and fumigation of ham/pork products.

Methyl bromide is a highly toxic fungicide and the second most widely applied pesticide in the world. In other countries, it is primarily used on "high value" export crops bound for North America, European, and East Asian markets, such as tomatoes, peppers, grapes, strawberries, tobacco and flowers. However, methyl bromide has a dramatic environmental impact. After being sprayed on crops, the pesticide drifts into the upper atmosphere where it damages the ozone layer, which blocks ultraviolet (UV) rays from reaching the Earth's surface. Although a shorter-lived substance than chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) — a better-known family of ozone-depleting compounds — methyl bromide destroys ozone molecules at 50 times the rate of CFCs. It literally poisons the soil and sickens the air. Identify the companies growing your strawberries, through your grocery store if necessary – write to them and demand accountability with the mention of the possibility of withholding your grocery dollars.

References: Catherine Porter, The Star.com June 21, 2009, Wikipedia, Canadian National Management Strategy, by Ozone Protection Programs, Environment Canada, November 2005

submitted by Judith Brook



Some vegetables require less water than others

Gardeners who want to save water might consider an unusual approach: plant crops that don't require much water in the first place. "Some vegetables, such as beans, are adapted to drought conditions at a very basic, cellular level," explained Jim Myers, professor of horticulture at Oregon State University. "Tepary beans grow successfully in desert and near-desert conditions. They are native to the American Southwest and have been a staple food crop there for hundreds, or probably thousands, of years."

Beans in the cowpea group, such as the familiar black-eyed pea, also have this characteristic. The black-eyed pea needs little water and grows poorly if watered too much. "However," Myers said, "the cowpea beans need heat to mature, and cool nights can limit growth and reduce seed set. The same is true for okra."

Some common beans, like snap beans and pole beans, require a short growing season and can set a crop on small amounts of moisture. Tomatoes, squash and melons establish deep root systems quickly and can

draw moisture from the deeper soil long after the surface has become dry in midsummer, Myers said. "There's also a zucchini variety (Dark Star) bred for its ability to grow under dry-land conditions with roots that seek out the water table. As long as these vegetables have water early in their growing season, they tolerate drought. In fact, many tomatoes actually do better if you cut off irrigation in mid- to late summer." Cutting the water also reduces the ability of certain fungal and bacterial diseases to take hold.

By and large, cool-season crops are not drought-resistant. These include cool-season legumes such as peas, lentils and fava beans, and the crucifer crops: Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kale, kohlrabi, mustard, broccoli, turnips and watercress. Sweet corn and lettuce are shallow-rooted and don't do well without a lot of water.

In addition to using well-known water-saving techniques such as drip irrigation and mulching, try grouping your vegetables according to their water needs. In general, give your vegetables no more water than they need – rather than as much as they can withstand.

RECOMMENDED PLANTING TIMES:

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BEANS					—	—	—					
BEETS				—	—	—	—					
BROAD BEANS		—	—	—						—	—	
BROCCOLI		(seed inside-mar)	—	—	—	—						
CABBAGE				—	—	—						
CARROTS				—	—	—		—				
CELERY		(seed inside-feb)			—							
CILANTRO			⤿	—	—	—	—	—	⤿	(cover mar/sep)		
CUCUMBERS				(seed inside-may)	—							
GARLIC			—						—	—		
KALE			—	—	—	—						
LEEKs			(seed inside-feb/mar)	—	—							
LETTUCE			(seed inside-mar)	—	—	—	—	—	⤿	(cover sep)		
ONIONS				—								
ORIENTAL MIX			—	—	—	—	—	—				
PEAS		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
SPINACH			⤿	—	—	—	—	—	—	⤿		
SQUASH			(seed inside-may)	—								
TOMATOES				(seed inside-mar/apr)	⤿	(transplant w/ cover-may)						

CROCS

Linda Harrison from St. John's Church in North Vancouver will be selling Crocs at our meeting on May 19th for \$10.00 a pair. They are available in black, white and beige and in a wide range of sizes for men, women and children. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to a variety of charities including Sage Transition House and Queen Mary Community Services Association. Crocs are great for the garden and around the pool or hot tub.



The Bulletin Deadlines (BC Council of Garden Clubs newsletter)

Issue: March/April

due: February 15

Issue: May/June

due: April 15

Issue: July/August

due: June 15

Issue: September/October

due: August 15

Issue: November/December

due: October 15

Issue: January/February

due: December 15

contact: BulletinEditor-BCCGC@shaw.ca

submitted by Judith Brook

Why to do they do that?

*The genus **Dicentra** has been renamed
- it is now **Lamprocynos** !!*

ABOUT TOWN

May 21 & 22 Sat & Sun - **Vancouver Japanese-Canadian Sumi Bonsai Club Annual Show** FloralHall. Sat: 10:30- 4:30pm Sun: 10:30-4pm Admission by donation. Info: Tony Nasu 604.432.6160

Saturday May 28 - **Dart's Hill Open House** - 10-4, guided tours at 11:30 and 1:30, admission by donation.

June 4 & 5 Sat & Sun **Taguchi Bonsai Club Spring Bonsai Show**, in Floral Hall. 11-5pm admission: by donation Info: Sandy Knoll 604.224.1343

Thursday, June 9 **Cedar Series: Culture and Horticulture** with Garden Director Harry Jongerden. - 7:30 p.m. at VanDusen - a tour of western culture from the Garden of Eden to the Garden of VanDusen exploring how culture affects horticulture and how horticulture creates culture. - Members \$10 and non-members \$15.

Jun 11 & 12 Sat & Sun **VanDusen Private Garden Tour**, 10- 4 pm - don't miss this weekend feast of garden hopping **Tickets:** \$30 available May 15th. **In Person:** at the Garden or by mail

Friday, June 17 – **Pruning and Training Fruit Trees** - 12pm-3pm. UBC Botanical Garden Reception Centre, 6804 SW Marine Drive. \$40 public, \$33 garden members 604-822-3928

Sat. June 18 – **Managing Bees** – 1-2:30pm - join Beekeepers Ric Ericson and Sharon Lisette in the Queen Mary community garden as they delve into the hives and into what it takes to manage honeybee hives. - \$5 - register 604-990-3755. More info at gardensmart.ca

Sun June 26 - **Maple Ridge Garden Club – Country Garden Tour** – June 26 is to raise funds for the Sunshine Foundation "Dreams for Kids". Tickets \$15.00 each. Information [or to purchase tickets](#) contact Gayle @ 604-467-2956 or Margaret @ 604-467-1885

TIPS AND TRICKS

I've noticed the ants are bad this year again in my outdoor potted plants. Here is a quick way to commit ant mass murder. Mix corn syrup with 1/2 tsp of borax in lidded container that you can poke holes in and place in your potted plant. Works like a charm!

To germinate seeds quickly - distribute seeds evenly over damp, not wet paper towel and fold over, put in clear plastic sandwich bag, leave slightly open for aeration, put on top of fridge or on sunny windowsill for warmth. Check daily & dampen if dry. You will be amazed how fast they germinate this way.

If you don't have a greenhouse, this works well for seeds. Use clear plastic zippered bag that comforters etc. come in. Poke small holes in bottom of bag. Put potting mix in the bottom, plant seeds and zip up. Put in bright spot inside or outside is fine this time of year. Once seeds have germinated and have true leaves, you can transfer to pots or your garden.

submitted by Irene Dudra