



LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB  
First established 1943

September 2010

### 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.**

### **Message from The President**

I hope everyone had a great summer. The members' tour was a success, we had terrific weather. The selection of gardens was diverse; we saw a garden which provides food for the needy, a commercial style of garden built with a very minimal budget, a country garden with huge heritage trees which provided us with much needed coverage from the sun while we enjoyed our lunch. We then enjoyed music in our final garden.

Now that fall is here we need to think about filling out the slate for our next executive. Please help Maurice by phoning him and volunteering to fill the two vacant Member At Large positions.

Please bring your coffee cup to meetings as we only provide a few for guests.

The year moves quickly on as we tidy up our gardens in preparation for the winter and predictions are a *La Nina* year, which for us, means colder and snowier conditions. So let's enjoy a gorgeous fall and plant lots of plants for next year's sale.

*Bonnie*

*Gardening is a kind of disease. It infects you, you cannot escape it. When you go visiting, your eyes rove about the garden; you interrupt the serious cocktail drinking because of an irresistible impulse to get up and pull a weed. ~Lewis Gannit*

**September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**David Sellars**

Chaos in the Rock Garden - Putting Theory into Practice

**October 21, 2010**

**Sue Watson**

Winter Plant Demonstration

**November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Bill Bischoff**

Planning and Planting the Garden

**December 16, 2010**

**Christmas Party**

details TBA

**Mailing Address:**

Lynn Valley Garden Club  
c/o Office Services Etc.  
#52214

110-223 Lower Mountain Hwy  
North Vancouver, BC  
V7J 2C0

<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

Rosemary Wagner

Brian Didier

Jan Valair

### Newsletter Editor

Diane Allison

### COMMITTEES

#### Plant Table

Audrey Dewan

Bernie Robb

Christel Glaser

#### Hospitality

Doreen Wakefield

Pat Phillips

#### Bright Spots

Laurie Parkinson

Leah Younger

#### Sunshine/Door Prizes

Illa Jackson

#### Sound System Set-up

Maurice Jones

Hartwig Rother

### Next Executive Meeting

7:30 pm, Thursday, October 7  
at the home of Jan Lockmuller

### The Leaf Deadline:

Sunday, October 10, 2010



### Treasurers Report

Jan Lockmuller



### Tea Time

Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips

Please bring your own mug and remember 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. Please phone her.

Donations of new items for door prizes are always appreciated.



### Membership

Teresa Reid, Rosanne Matheson

It's time to renew your membership for 2011! Please help us out by renewing your membership early for next year. The fees are \$20.00 per person or \$35.00 per couple. Please fill out the attached membership renewal form and bring it, along with your payment (cash or post dated cheque for December 31, 2010 will be accepted) to the next meeting or mail them to Rosanne Matheson – details are on form. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



### from the Editor

Diane Allison

Don't forget to submit your choice of *Favorite Plant*. Were you able to select one? It's not that easy! Please fill out the enclosed form and put it in the submission box at the next meeting, or just email your choice to me. You can include your name or be anonymous if you prefer.



### This Month's Speaker

Lynn Batt

This month's presentation is about rock garden design and how it relates to natural landscapes and habitats. The talk includes photographs of alpine flowers in their natural habitats and a discussion of chaos theory and how it applies to the shapes of landscapes and flowers. A practical example of building a rock garden using the principles of chaos theory is provided.

David Sellars and his wife Wendy have a one acre garden in South Surrey. They developed their garden from scratch 23 years ago and first planted many rhododendrons and specimen trees. They became interested in rock gardening 10 years ago and have built an extensive alpine garden. David is Vice President of the Alpine Garden Club of British Columbia and is a member of the North American Rock Garden Society and Scottish Rock Garden Club. David started and maintains the web site [www.mountainflora.ca](http://www.mountainflora.ca) which features alpine flower hikes all over the world.

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## LVGC Member's Tour

About 40 LVGC members toured four gardens on July 10, 2010.



We started in the garden of **Ann Pentland**. From the main street, you enter through a low hedge to follow a gently curving path shaded by several trees, including a graceful *Styrax japonica*. A pondless stream burbles along beside the path edged with ginger, hostas, ferns, and *Brunnera* 'Jack Frost'. Then you pass



under a rose- and clematis-covered arbour into a sunny open area centred by a stunning *Acer griseum* (Paperbark Maple). A richly textured border surrounds the lawn, clearly demonstrating that a true plants person lives here. Cries of "Ooh,



look at that!" and "What's that?" echoed on all sides. The path curves round past the front door through another arbour dressed with *Clematis* 'Princess Diana'. In the side garden, a *Paulownia* (Empress Tree) shades the kitchen window. A living willow fence surrounds the organic vegetable garden next to a Mountain Ash with a pink rose clambering through its lower limbs. More raised beds of vegetables in a classic herb garden pattern take advantage of the sunny back yard. A hammock awaits this busy gardener under a kiwi grown on another arbour in a quiet corner next to a fence smothered by a climbing hydrangea. This garden is both productive and beautiful.

We next travelled to the **West Vancouver Fire Museum and Archives Society Garden**. This new garden and the archives site are being built by volunteers "scavenging and scrounging" for materials as host **Bonnie Noakes** put it. Without a budget to start with, the volunteers collected discarded lumber and other items from the roadside. A patio table with umbrella, chairs, kitchen cupboards, and a light fixture have all been "rescued", cleaned up, and put to good use. *Clematis* 'Little Duckling' grows up a newly built trellis at the back of the building. Huckleberry and *Mahonia* grow in the native section of the garden while a row of 'Snow Owl' Pavement roses which Bonnie started from cuttings delineates the edge of the parking area. The *Penstemon* is visited regularly by three hummingbirds. It will be fun to see how this garden develops over time.





We enjoyed lunch in the garden of **Laurie Parkinson** shaded by two huge old cherry trees decorated with colourful hanging baskets. We felt like we had been magically transported to the country. Half barrels of *delphinium*, Plume Poppy, *Rosa*



'Laura Ford', cosmos, and feverfew flank the sunny front entry. Inside, a lovely coral-coloured Rhododendron received as a wedding gift 17 years ago was still blooming lushly on July 10. Pots of 10' tall Himalayan Impatiens towered above us on either side of the walkway before the front stairs. Blue hydrangeas, ferns, foxgloves, and daisies in the side border complete the country feel of Laurie's garden. Everyone brought their own lunch and the club provided refreshments for a very pleasant stop on our tour.



Our last stop was the garden of **Illa Jackson**. A simple hedge surrounds the front courtyard with a young Coral Bark Maple in a huge planter box. Follow the sidewalk around to the back garden where you're greeted by a peek-a-boo view of the North Shore mountain peaks through two tall willow trees and cedars. A fence with orange railings and yellow top boards conveys a sense of fun and creativity. Colourful island beds, a "nest" of blown eggs, and a mulch of pine cones confirm it. Hypertufa pots embedded in a low retaining wall echo the fence colours in their plantings of orange and yellow *Portulaca* and sedums. A bouquet of pink, purple, red, and blue hydrangeas graces the picnic table. An arbour creates a passage way through the border between Illa's and her neighbour's garden. Everyone was invited to join the party with live music next door. All in all, it was a fitting end to a day of celebrating with friends our love of gardens. Thank you to all the gardeners who so kindly opened their gardens to us!

*submitted by Lorraine Robson*





## **Members at Large Report**

**Garden Tour, 2010** - The Members at Large and those attending the 2010 Members Garden Tour thank **Ann Pentland, Bonnie Noakes** (on behalf of The West Vancouver Fire Museum & Archives Society Garden), **Laurie Parkinson** and **Illa Jackson** for allowing us to visit their gardens. The weather was wonderful, each garden had its own outstanding plants and a good time was had by all. Thank you also to Laurie for hosting the lunch in her shady garden.

**Plant Sale, 2011** - Next year's plant sale will be held on May 7. This seems a long time from now, but September and October are the best times to dig up your overgrown perennials and split or divide and pot up for our sale. If you have any 'how to' questions, do not hesitate to call on any of the Members at Large.

'Happy Digging' from your Members at Large

## **DNV Community Garden Report**

This brief article describes the process leading up to, and successful initiation, of the first-ever District of North Vancouver (DNV) community garden!

In August 2009, Antje Wahl, a resident of the district, approached DNV to inquire about a grant for purpose of a community garden for district residents. The District suggested contacting Heather Johnstone of the Edible Garden project. From this contact, Antje reached Marj Carroll of the North Shore Community Garden Society. This society is a small dedicated group of eight volunteers, currently seeking a vice-president.

Antje and Marj spoke with neighbours in the Lynnmour area and found a group of residents who wanted a garden in place. Four residents and Marj Carroll prepared a grant proposal and planned the garden over the next months. The district supported the plan and provided the land (off Old Lillooet Road near the townhouse complex). The grants awarded were Walmart-Evergreen grant of \$10,000 and the DNV grant of \$15,000. The funds were used for materials, fence installation, carpenter honorarium and for perennial border plants. The DNV paid for water connection and taps, and grant money was not required for this portion. The DNV also donated the land for the garden.

Many work parties were scheduled over summer 2010 and staffed with eager volunteers. To say the ground was hard packed is an understatement -- our digging began with pickaxes before shovels could be used! The plots were assigned to gardeners via lottery, where gardeners with most volunteer hours at the work parties

had first pick from the 46 available plots. At time of this writing, work parties continue the final steps of site preparation. For further information, please see the community garden website:

<http://sites.google.com/site/lillooetparkcommunitygarden/>.

*submitted by Judith Brook*

## **Another Garden Tour Report**

The tour was lovely as garden tour always is. This year we saw Ann's lovely garden with the dramatic foliage and plant diversity, the stream in the front garden is so peaceful. Ann's back garden with its raised vegetable beds is a chef's kitchen garden, I also liked the community food garden she planted on the side of the property.

Laurie's garden was a welcome lunch retreat from the hot sun as the firs and vintage cherry tree provided much loved shade. It was a nice place for visiting.

Illa's garden with its Island beds of flowers had a very comfortable feel to it with bits of whimsy. I also liked the live performances from the neighbours next door, the music added to the experience.

I hope we keep up the tradition of a July garden tour as it is our show and tell at the end of the year. Hope everyone has a great summer.

*submitted by Rita Marshall*

## September

The golden-rod is yellow;  
The corn is turning brown;  
The trees in apple orchards  
With fruit are bending down.

The gentian's bluest fringes  
Are curling in the sun;  
In dusty pods the milkweed  
Its hidden silk has spun.

The sedges flaunt their harvest,  
In every meadow nook;  
And asters by the brook-side  
Make asters in the brook,

From dewy lanes at morning  
The grapes' sweet odors rise;  
At noon the roads all flutter  
With yellow butterflies.

By all these lovely tokens  
September days are here,  
With summer's best of weather,  
And autumn's best of cheer.

But none of all this beauty  
Which floods the earth and air  
Is unto me the secret  
Which makes September fair.

T is a thing which I remember;  
To name it thrills me yet:  
One day of one September  
I never can forget.

Helen Hunt Jackson  
(1830-1885)

## ABOUT TOWN

Thurs/Fri. Sept 16&17, 11-6 – **Indoor Plant Sale**, UBC Botanical Garden

Thursday, September 16, 2010 10 am - **Italian Landscaping in Britain in the 17th Century** with Bryn Homsey, VanDusen Cedar Room info 604-878-9821

Sunday, Sept. 19, 10-4 – **Alpine Garden Club Fall Sale** – VanDusen Floral Hall, free

Saturday, September 25, 2010 10 am - 3 pm in the parking lot: VanDusen's **Annual Compost and Spring Bulb Sale**

Sat. Sept 25, 12-4 – **Historic Stewart Farm Apple Day** – tours, tasting, sales – entry by donation – 13723 Crescent Rd., Surrey – 604-592-6956

Saturday & Sunday, Sept 25-26, 2010 10 am to 4 pm - **Dried Flower Sale** – VanDusen Entrance Pavilion: - Sale of dried flower topiaries, wreaths, bouquets and arrangements made from materials gathered in the Garden

Sat. Oct. 16 8:30-3:00 – **BC Council of Garden Clubs meeting** – St. Helen's Church, Bby, \$22 includes lunch and three speakers, registration deadline Oct.8, please see one of the executive for information if you are interested in attending

Sat./Sun. October 16 and 17, 11 am to 4 pm – **UBC Apple Festival** - located throughout the grounds of the Botanical Garden, admission fee – \$2 for adults, under 12 free. Includes free entry to the Garden.

**Master Gardeners Basic Program** – info sessions at the VanDusen Cedar Room on Tues. Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am and Mon. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. contact [gardener@bcmastergardeners.org](mailto:gardener@bcmastergardeners.org) or 604-257-8662 (messages) if you plan to attend or would like further information. Classes will be Tuesdays from 9:00am to 3:30pm starting January 11, 2011 and ending March 29, 2011.

*A pink Tilley type hat and white mug were left at Maurice's home  
after the garden clean up - please contact Bonnie*

## Classes at VanDusen Botanical Gardens

There are a number of new and interesting garden related classes that are being offered this autumn. Check out their website at <http://vancouver.ca/parks/parks/vandusen/website/> or phone 604-878-9821 for a brochure. Fees vary with the course offered. Here are just a few:

Designing a Small Space Garden with Estelle Bogoch - Sept. 23, 30, Oct 7, 6:30-9:30pm

The Secret's in the Soil with Egan Davis - Sept 25, Oct 2 9:30am-noon

Planting and Transplanting 101 with Gerry Gibbens - Sept 25, 1-4pm

Create magic in your Garden with Bulbs with Bettina Harvey - Sept 26 11am-2pm

Perennial Division with Egan Davis - Oct 2 1-3pm

Landscape Design Workshop with Estelle Bogoch - Oct 16 10-3:30

Troubleshooting in the Garden with Nancy Moore - Oct 19 7-9pm

Fall is for Fruit and Foliage with Gerry Gibbens - Oct 23 10am-noon