



LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB  
First established 1943

### *Message from The President*

It seems like such a short summer, hopefully followed by a long warm fall. It's such a lovely time of the year. In 2010 I purchased a Campsis Radicans for the Archive garden and I'm looking forward to its first blooms. There seems to more around every year and of course this vine is synonymous with the fall. The Japanese Anemones have been in bloom for quite some time now as well as the Crocosmias. There are far too many fall plants to mention but Eucryphia Nymansensis is one that I must recommend. I planted this in my father's garden several years ago. The mother plant came from Milner Gardens and the offspring was a prize at the BCGCC meeting. I just love to see this come into bloom in August because the flowers are like white tissue paper. This is an easy large shrub to grow and blooms at a very different time of the year than most shrubs. Hopefully, there will be many bright spots at the general meeting - we always expect a longer meeting after the summer as there is much to talk about from our summer activities and the gardens are full of items for display.

Speaking of summer, our members' tour went well despite the rainy weather. There were lots of flowers and fun garden ideas to see and I hope you will share your photos with the Club by sending them to Brian to be placed on our website.

This fall our speakers will be talking about Dahlias and vegetables. Our November speaker hasn't been confirmed yet and December will be our members' Christmas Party.

Regards,

*Bonnie*

SEPTEMBER 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.

#### September 15, 2011

Jennifer Zuk  
Dahlias

#### October 20 2011

Tom Baumann

#### November 17, 2011

TBA

#### December 15, 2011

Christmas Party

#### Mailing Address:

Lynn Valley Garden Club  
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North Vancouver, BC  
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<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 Wineberg

Nancy Gelin

Jan Valair

### Newsletter Editor

Diane Allison

[theleaf@lynnvalleygardenclub.org](mailto: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

Rosemarie Adams

#### Sound System Set-up

Maurice Jones

Hartwig Rother

#### Website

Brian Didier

#### Next Executive Meeting

7:30pm, Thurs. Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> - details

TBA - please phone Lynne

#### The Leaf Deadline:

Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>



## Treasurers Report

Jan Lockmuller

At the October general meeting, we will discuss our banking arrangements. The more restrictive policies at the Credit Union requires changes to our current practices. An option is to move to a major bank like the Royal. Please contact Jan by e-mail if you require information before that meeting. [janlockmuller@shaw.ca](mailto:janlockmuller@shaw.ca)

As of August 31, 2011:

Operating funds

Committed to date:

Reserve:

Bank balance:



## Tea Time

Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips

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



## Sunshine

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

Wow for the first time in 2 years we are at full capacity of 125 members and we have 2 people on the waiting list for next year. We had 3 new members join us over the summer please welcome:

Irene Turner

Bob Sandison

Penny Le Couteur

It's time to renew your membership for 2012! 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, 2011 will be accepted) to the next meeting or mail your membership renewal to Rosanne Matheson - details are on form. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. From Teresa and Rosanne.



## This Month's Speaker

Lynn Batt

My talk will be about everything you wanted to know about dahlias and more. I'll go into growing dahlias, how to determine what form the dahlia is and how to choose the winning dahlia from your garden. There will be lots of different varieties for you to see- a bevy of colour. I've been judging dahlias for decades and also have BC Council of Garden Clubs certification for Horticulture and Floral Design judging as well as being a Master Gardener. Looking forward to seeing you in September.

Jennifer Zuk



## Members at Large Report

### Members Garden Tour –The Day of Rain

Many thanks to the enthusiastic souls who braved an unbelievably wet day to tour five gardens, and demonstrated their enthusiasm further by lingering and asking questions and being genuinely interested in the answers. Thanks to Mike Wakefield, Carole Ferryman, Jackie Morris, and Inga for offering up beautiful, varied and well-tended gardens to enjoy. A personal thank-you to those expressing appreciation of my far more modest efforts. Finally, thanks again to Inga for hosting our mostly dry lunch.

It was such a lot of fun, despite the rain. We hope more members will consider offering to include their gardens on the tour next year. After all, the weather could only be better!

### Plant Sale 2012

Next year's plant sale will be Saturday, May 12. It's not too soon to cast an eye over your gardens and consider which plants could be divided, either this fall or in the spring. If anyone needs pots, remember I have tons.

*submitted by Cari Wineberg, MAL*

*The rest of us would like to also thank Cari for sharing her garden. And a big thank you to all the MALs for organizing our tour.*

## Plant of the Month

*Acer griseum*  
Paperbark Maple

*Acer griseum* is one of the best trees for a small garden. It is a slow growing deciduous tree that has the most incredible red and orange autumn foliage colours. The leaf of the Paperbark maple is not the palmate leaf that most of us picture on a maple tree. It has a leaf that consists of three 3-6" leaflets, each coarsely toothed, developing a dark green colour by summer. It is late to leaf out in the spring, with the buds usually starting to swell around the end of April, making it the perfect tree for over spring bulbs and those part shade perennials that like a bit more sun in the spring.

The very small, yellowish-green flowers appear in clusters in early spring, and its seed is a two winged samara – another



name for those cute little whirly-copters that all maples have. The tree has a lovely rounded crown and matures at about 30 feet tall and 20 feet wide. This is definitely a tree that you want to prune as little as possible, allowing its natural form to develop.

As the name suggest, the Paperbark Maple is noted for its beautiful cinnamon-brown coloured peeling bark. The bark is attractive year round and the peeling lasts all winter. It will draw even your non-gardening friends toward it.

*Acer griseum* is very easy to grow. It prefers moist, well-drained soil in full sun or part shade, however it does colour best in full sun. It is not tolerant of drought, so may need supplemental watering if the summer is dry. It has no serious disease or pests, so the only care it requires is a little compost once a year.





## Banding Hummingbirds

*In a recent email to all fellow Master Gardeners, Derry Walsh shared some notes on her experience in banding hummingbirds. I found it so interesting that I asked Derry if I could pass it on. Hope you all enjoy it too - Diane*

For hummingbirds, we had a trap which looks like a crab pot. It is made of tulle. We erect the trap using the hook where the hummingbird feeder has been so they know where to look for sugar-water. The sides of the trap can be lifted up using fishing line. We put the regular hummingbird feeder inside the trap hanging from the original hook.

Someone sits 30-40 feet away beside a metal stand across which the fishing line is clamped. This person keeps his eye on the trap and when the HB enters and starts to feed, he drops the sides of the trap. Presto! One HB trapped! Now if the HB enters and has not yet started to feed, he/she will fly out before the trap is down.

We record HB who entered and were not trapped, those which were trapped, and those HB who just came around for a look (visitors) and didn't enter the trap. The 'visitors' give a good idea of how many HB are in the area. Another person goes to the trap, lifts one side and puts his/her hand in and retrieves the HB (often easier said than done).

The HB is brought to a table nearby, and wrapped in a 'straight-jacket' of flannelette closed with a straight pin.

The bander, takes the HB and pulls out one (tiny) leg from the flannelette nightie, and measures the ankle and there are three sizes of bands all pre-cut (S, M, L). She fits the appropriate band in the banding tool, wraps the

band around the ankle and then clamps the band closed using this special tool. She wiggles the band to make sure it moves smoothly around the ankle.



Someone else is recording the band number and all other measurements and details. Once the band is on and the HB is in the records, the bander determines sex and approximate age (measures specific feathers: R5, culmen, wing chord, tail), looks for how much fat is on the chest and in the neck area (she blows the chest feathers up away from the skin) and there is a chart of amounts of fat seen. They will be low fat early in the season, and then it builds during

the season and is at its maximum when they take off for Mexico.

All the HB I have seen at Widgeon Marsh, South Surrey, my home in Aldergrove, and the Coquitlam Watershed have all been Rufus. Because the Rufus all molt each year in Mexico, we are unable to tell how old the adults are. We can differentiate between adult males and adult females and this year's hatchers males and females, nothing more. However, if we catch a HB which has been banded previously, we are able to look up the band



number and see where it was banded and when. This is how we know one of our banded HB flew via Camrose, Alberta (recaptured) and then to Mexico. One of the BC banded HB was recaptured in Tallahassee, Florida.

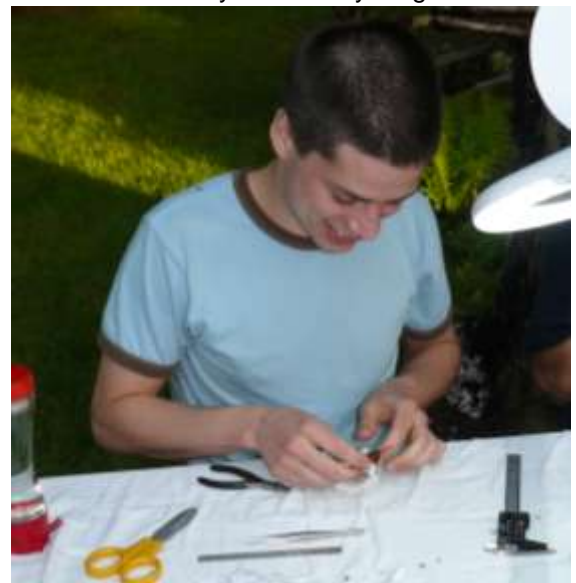


Early in the banding season, we can see the egg in the females when we blow the feathers from her abdomen. We look for pollen on the beak and what colour. Some researchers can identify the pollen granules as to flower species. We look for parasites (round vs tubular), number and colour. Last year, we were collecting a feather for isotope analysis to see if they can track where the HB has been and when. I haven't heard the results of that study. We remark on anything abnormal. One of the HB yesterday had a healed lesion next to her beak. Sometimes we get bent beaks.

Then we weigh her in the blanket, then weigh the blanket to get her weight. Yesterday they were all in the 4.0-4.8 gm

range. Periodically if the HB seems stressed or thirsty we stick her beak into a HB feeder and she will drink. When we take the blanket off, we give her a drink and put her in the palm of a hand and often she just flies away. If she is slow to fly, we drop our hand to allow wind into her feathers and she will fly off. The young males are really chattery. You don't really need to look at their neck or tail feathers. The chattering gives them away as young males.

Yesterday, we banded 26 in three hours plus two were recaptured (same day). Two thirds were young males. The bander has to band something like 150 HB under supervision of a qualified bander before she can be registered as a bander. I think it is the federal government who controls the registering and hands out the bands. The bander is limited to whatever she is registered for i.e. a HB bander cannot band a hawk. I think raptors: hawks, eagles, go together in one registration. The banders are usually keen 'birders' aged 18-30 with good eyes!



The real negative of the banding experience is that I have to get up at 3.30 am to be at the meeting place at 4.30 am to car-pool to the banding site e.g. Widgeon Marsh, to set up and be ready to start banding at sunrise. There is a fixed protocol for the Hummingbird Monitoring Network. The study started in 2002 in Arizona and California. <http://www.hummonnet.org>. The other negative is that if there are no hummingbirds, we still have to stay set up to continue banding for five hours. Once the sun comes up and the flowers start making nectar, there is a real drop-off in the HB numbers at the feeders.

Yesterday at the Coquitlam Watershed, it was not an official monitoring site. It may become an official site sometime in the future. We had great action for the first two hours and then almost nothing so we quit after three hours. That site is a forested site with lots of salmon-berries, blackberries, etc, for nectar and the Coquitlam River nearby. In the evening, the HB suck the flowers dry of nectar and the flower doesn't make any more nectar until the sun and the temperature rises the following morning. I guess a third negative is that the mosquitoes are bad at sunrise and we cannot use DEET on our hands because it will transfer to the HBs.

*One other interesting tidbit that Derry sent out last year:*

In May 2010, two people were being trained as hummingbird banders at Brackendale. At the end of the day they had a fabulous recapture. An adult female first banded as an adult in 2002, and caught again and again (2006, 2009 and 2010) at the same site all within about a week of each other. This little female must be at least 9 and it looks like she has returned to the same place for her summer holidays each year. What a gal!

## Natural Garden Parties

The North Shore Recycling Program's Natural Garden Party program gives North Shore residents the opportunity to host an informative, casual gardening workshop right in their own home. We provide the gardening expert, you provide the guests. The theme this year is: "*Natural Gardening: Sustainable Techniques for a Glorious Garden*". The Garden Party Program is free and the NSRP will support you in your hosting efforts. This September, why don't you reconnect with your neighbours ... in the garden. The first 10 parties booked will be entered into a draw to win Garden Gourmet compost Bin, a compost aeration tool and a Compost Coaching session. For more information, contact Christine at Christine@nsrp.bc.ca or 604-984-9730.

### ABOUT TOWN

September 1-25 – **Zimculpt**. - returns to VanDusen bringing stunning stone sculpture from Zimbabwe. More than 300 pieces by several Zimbabwean sculptors are displayed throughout the Garden. Two artists, Passmore Mupindiko and Patrick Sephani, will be in attendance throughout the exhibition and carving on site daily. All pieces are for sale with partial proceeds going to support the VanDusen Botanical Garden Assn.

September 17 – **Lillooet Park Community Garden Grand Opening** – 10:00am – 1:00pm – located north of the Holiday Inn between Lillooet Road and Old Lillooet Road – rain or shine, snacks, games, garden tours, gardening and composting information, music, honey bee experts – [www.ediblegardenproject.com](http://www.ediblegardenproject.com)

September 17 – VanDusen - **Yes, please, trees** - For families with children ages 5 - 10 years. Investigate the wonderful world of trees as we meet some cool trees, learn ways to identify them, make leaf fossils to take home, and play tree-mendous games. Pre-registration required. Call 604-718-5898.

September 17 – **VanDusen Botanical Garden Volunteer Orientation**. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Orientation is a prerequisite for volunteer activities at VanDusen Garden. Bring your lunch, we'll provide refreshments. Dress for the weather. Meet at the Totem Poles near the Garden Entrance at 10 a.m. Learn about the many volunteer opportunities at VanDusen. Meet representatives from the VBGA staff and Board. Tour the Garden with experienced. To register or for info call Judy Aird at 604-257-8674 or email at [volunteer@vandusen.org](mailto:volunteer@vandusen.org)

September 17 – **TreeFEST 2011**. A celebration of environmental stewardship with a focus on the beautiful heritage trees of the Riverview Hospital site. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine. 2601 Lougheed Highway. Contact: Donna Crosby - [donna@rhcs.org](mailto:donna@rhcs.org) or 604-290-9910. [www.rhcs.org](http://www.rhcs.org)

September 24 – **Treasured Bulb Sale** - UBC Botanical Garden – 11:00-3:00

September 24 – **VanDusen's Annual Compost and Spring Bulb Sale**. Parking lot. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$5 for a 20kg bag. While picking up your compost, why not add a few bulbs to your purchase. Wide selection available.

September 24 & 25 – **VanDusen Dried Flower Sale**. Entrance Pavilion 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sale of dried flower centre pieces for Thanksgiving and autumn wreaths made from materials gathered in the Garden.

September 25 – Alpine Garden Club of B.C. Fall Sale. VanDusen Garden Floral Hall. 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free. Info: [www.agc-bc.ca](http://www.agc-bc.ca)

September 28 – **Loutet Farm Workbee** – no experience necessary, help build pathways, fences, weed beds, and more – fun for the whole family and all abilities – East 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Rufus Ave., NV

October 2 – **Salt Spring Island's 13th Annual Apple Festival** with 350 different apple varieties being grown organically! 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fulford Hall. Free admission for kids under the age of 12.

October 13 – **Secret World of Slugs and Snails** – at VanDusen with David George Gordon, science writer. Cedar Lecture, for info - <http://t.co/TQBNvtg>

October 15/16 – **UBC Apple Festival** – UBC Botanical Garden – 11:00 – 4:00 - a family event for all ages, apple tasting, many cultivars for sale, expert advice, children's area, contests, food fair – lots to do and see.

October 22 - **Growing Great Garlic** – with Mike Nassichuk – 1:00-2:30pm – John Braithwaite Community Centre, \$5 – to register call 604-990-3755 – more info at [gardensmart.ca](http://gardensmart.ca)