



# THE LEAF

LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

ESTABLISHED 1943

November 2019

## President's Message - Anna Marie D'Angelo

Many of us have become more aware of making choices that are good for the environment, beyond maintaining our joyful plants and gardens. So why do we still use plastic forks when we have cake at a club meeting? The short answer is that it will be a lot of time and expense to source bamboo or compostable forks for the rare occasions when we need them. We also don't have the storage to keep them at the ready. It is much easier if we bring our own cutlery from home, as they did last month for the lunch at the BC Council of Garden Clubs' AGM in Burnaby. We will give our club members plenty of notice that they may want to bring a fork along with their mug should there be cake. I hope there will be no plastic fork shaming should anyone forget.

At the last executive meeting, we continued to address some administrative loose ends after updating our job descriptions. This time, we discussed our social media, email addresses and electronic presence on line. The executive decided that it would be best if we had two members who knew the user names and passwords of any single electronic channel, and one of those persons must be part of the executive. This way, our social media channels are in the control of the club's executive. Trivia question: *How many email addresses does the club have?* Answer: *Three!!* Who knew, until we counted?

Thanks to all for the great input about the *Leaf* hard copies' availability at the general meetings. To reduce the amount of work for our volunteer Membership people, and to help the environment—yes, always a consideration - the executive decided that the club will only provide the *Leaf* electronically, starting in January 2020. We won't have hard copies available at the meetings any more. We will provide pamphlets for any guest who wishes more information about the club. There will be sealed envelopes with the *Leaf* inside, for the handful of members who historically have been getting hard copies.

And now to the fun part:

**Christmas party. It is on the second Thursday, Dec 12, (not our usual third).**

Please bring:

- a savoury or sweet "finger food" dish;
- a mug;
- cutlery if you think you'll need it;
- a non-perishable food bank donation;
- your pruners;
- a clean, empty (!! ) wine bottle for a craft;
- some greenery to share on our communal greenery table, for everyone to use.

We will make two candles out of one beeswax sheet each. One of the candles can be used in a greenery centerpiece, which is a repeat of the popular craft we did last year. We will also have a surprise easy craft that uses an empty, clean, dry, wine bottle. Door prizes will go for the cutest and tackiest Christmas outfits. Aline Burlone is going to present the 75<sup>th</sup> history slides again as a special treat. Remember, no regular business happens at the Christmas party: no plant table, no guests—just crafty fun.

Lastly, please get your membership renewals in ASAP. Same price as last year and the year before... What a deal!

## LVGC MEETINGS

3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August) at  
**St. STEPHEN'S Church**  
1360 E 24<sup>th</sup> Street

*Please note that meetings start promptly at 7:15 PM*

## SPEAKERS

Nov 21  
**KEITH WADE**  
*Biological Evolution of the North Shore: Why Do Our Forests Grow the Way They Do?*

Dec 12  
**HOLIDAY PARTY**  
*Note that this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month!!*

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

<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>

November LEAF photo credits to Rita Marshall, Courtney Mitchell, Maria Issa

**Executive 2019**

<b>President</b>	Anna Marie D'Angelo
<b>Vice President</b>	x
Penny LeCouteur	x
<b>Secretary</b>	
Jackie Morris	x
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Ginette Handfield	x
<b>Membership</b>	
Susan Huber	x
Sue Callahan	x
<b>Members at Large</b>	
Daphne Page	x
Doreen Dew	x
Hiromi Matsui	x
Linda Howe	x
<b>Committees</b>	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	
Maria Issa	x
<b>Plant Table</b>	
Norma Buckland	x
<b>Hospitality</b>	
Carole Cobbett	x
Susan Nicholls	x
Maggie Davis	x
Sharon Carabatta	x
<b>Sunshine/ Door Prizes</b>	
Shirley Lawson	x
<b>Website</b>	
Aline Burlone	x

**Executive Meetings**

**1st Wednesday of the month**  
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8, 2019  
*chez Susan Huber*  
x

**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
December 4, 2019

If you have material to delight your fellow members - please submit it via the time-honoured routes or email to  
<mailto:lynvalleygardenclubnewsletter@gmail.com>

Thanks to all who contributed to this edition: Courtney Mitchell, Linda Howe, Judith Brook, Penny LeCouteur, Jackie Morris, Koichi & Margaret Nakahara

**SPEAKER**

**Dr. KEITH WADE --- Thursday, NOVEMBER 21, 2018**  
***Biological Evolution of the North Shore: Why Our Forests Grow the Way They Do***

Dr. Keith Wade was born in Vancouver and developed a keen interest in the natural world as exemplified by his many insect collections and terraria. He attended UBC for a BSc in zoology and botany, and an MSc in plant ecology, before going to Australia for a PhD in biogeography. In 1969, he returned to Vancouver and joined Capilano College (now Capilano University). He taught biology for 39 years, including 8 years as Chair of Pure and Applied Sciences. He also had several semester leaves teaching at McGill and taught individual ecology courses at UBC and SFU as well as being a research associate at the UBC Botanical Garden. He served on the Boards of VanDusen Botanical Gardens Board and the Vancouver Aquarium B and is currently on the Aquarium's Research Advisory Committee. His greatest pleasure is leading botanical and general natural history study tours to many parts of the world: the first to Malaysia in 1979, and the most recent to Peru this September. Although birds have gradually replaced plants as his area of major interest, but he finds all areas of natural history endlessly fascinating.

**2018 AGM REPORTS*****President's Report - Anna Marie D'Angelo***

The Lynn Valley Garden Club had another busy and successful year with the highlights being our enjoyable **75th anniversary** events and holding a highly successful **Plant Sale**. We also enjoyed our first full year in our new meeting space at St. Stephen's hall. The hall is proving to be comfortable to access and use, with ample room compared to our old space. Club members had input on how to celebrate our milestone anniversary where we decided to better support the bus tour cost, provide subsidized 75th anniversary t-shirts, have a special September meeting celebration and do public awareness about our history. A special treat, not in the initial planning, was the fantastic slide presentation about our club's history by Aline Burlone. Aline's polished presentation was a showstopper at our September meeting. The presentation is being donated to the archives for future reference and enjoyment. The September meeting was extra special as seven former long-term members attended, thanks to Rosemarie Adams's efforts. A 75th anniversary table set up at the plant sale and then again at our September meeting shared our history. Thanks to Linda Howe for doing the bulk of the work for the table. It looked fantastic at both places. With our plant sale's new venue and new date (the May long weekend), we didn't know how much business to expect. Would our regular customers find us? Would we have thousands of unsold plants left? Thanks to everyone's hard work – especially Members at Large Doreen Dew, Daphne Page, Linda Howe and Hiromi Matsui -- we were blown away at the sale's success. We almost sold out and netted almost double what we did the previous year, which was considered to be a good year. I continue to be amazed at the teamwork at our plant sale. Our group effort was emphasized with so many members donning their 75th anniversary t-shirt for the occasion. Thanks again to Susan Huber and Maria Issa for making the t-shirts happen. We kept with our tradition of donating half of our plant sale proceeds and because of the increased revenue made the highest donation ever, to good causes.

Our new meeting space also allowed us to expand our membership numbers from 125 to 150, which we filled, and we already had a slight wait list by the fall. Again, welcome to our new members. I especially want to thank the new members who are joining the executive. We look forward to your fresh input on running our club activities.

Our **bus trip** took us to UBC Botanical Gardens and Thomas Hobbs' Southlands Nursery in South Vancouver. Thank you again goes to organizers Rosemarie Adams, Diane Sekora and Doreen Marbry. Feedback about the bus journey itself has prompted us to make changes to the bus tour budget for next year to hopefully provide a more comfortable trip.

Our **Members' Garden Tour** in July had us visiting Loutet Farm and its neighbor, Gerry's Garden, in the Grand Boulevard area, followed by stops in Lynn Valley at Pat Holmes' lovely garden, and ending with lunch *chez yours truly*. The weather was a bit rainy, but it was nice.

to see so many come out and enjoy the spaces. Thanks to Susan Huber, Penny LeCouteur and Ginette Handfield for organizing the **Members' Garden Tour**.

Our speakers this year were excellent and varied as record numbers of members, now upwards of 70, attend meetings. Who could forget how the room held its collective breath when Jim Morris carefully transplanted his bonsai onto a piece of slate as part of his presentation? The Veggimates seeding workshop is always a highlight and reflects the gardening expertise among us. I especially liked Pam Erikson's talk on daylilies and hostas – thought I knew it all on the latter! -- as well as Laura Caddy's talk on alpine gardening – not normally a big interest of mine. Thanks to vice-president Penny LeCouteur, and also former vice-president Hiromi Matsui, for arranging everything to do with the speakers. .... And a special thanks to the unsung heroes who helped get the projector and microphones working at the last minute at our meetings. Don't understand why the microphones and projector don't work as expected when we set up, but it seems to happen regularly.

Speaking of unsung heroes, our Hospitality committee – Sue Nicholls, Carol Cobbett, Maggie Davis and new to the group, Sharon Carabetta, do a great job for the club at all the meetings and [*spoil us during - ed*] the plant sale and their work is much appreciated.

At the AGM we will be voting for new members of the executive. They include:

President:	Norma Austin,
Vice-President:	Jacquie Morgan,
Secretary (1 year):	Susan Huber,
Treasurer (1 year):	Ginette Handfield,
Membership:	Doreen Marbry, Sue Callahan (1 year),
MALS:	Jackie & Jim Morris (1 year), Pat Holmes (1 year), Suzanne Mazoret and Lori Herman.

Nominations for the positions will also be taken from the floor during the meeting. A vote for the slate will follow.

Next month, is our Christmas party, on the **second Thursday**, not our usual third Thursday, of the month, **Dec. 12**. See information in this Leaf about the Christmas Party.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anna Marie D'Angelo

### **VP Report - Penny LeCouteur**

We've had a wonderful variety of speakers in 2019 thanks to the advice and suggestions of many members.

January 17, 2019	Michael Denhamer, "The Edible Garden Project"
February 21, 2019	Margaret Nakahara, "Orchids for the Home"
March 21, 2019	Jim Norris, "Bosai for the Novice, or Learning to Manage Expectations"
April 11, 2019	Mike Lascelle "Beauty and the Feast"
May 16, 2019	Pam Erikson, "Daylilies and Hostas"
June 20, 2019	Affinor Growers, "Vertical Horticulture"
Sept 29, 2019	Laura Caddy, "The UBC Alpine Garden"
October 1, 2019	Anastasiia Dushyna, "Growing and Harvesting Herbs; and Tasty Medicinal Plants"
November 21, 2019	Keith Wade, "Biological Evolution of the North Shore: Why Do Our Forests Grow the Way They Do?"
"	

Thanks to you, the members, who have passed along suggestions for speakers: it was a big help! And a special thanks to former VP, Hiromi Matsui, for leaving a solid foundation on which to move forward.

### **Membership Report - Susan Huber & Sue Callahan**

LVGC has **150 members** registered for 2019. Membership registrations went through two major changes in 2019:

- in March members agreed to amend the constitution to increase membership from 125 to a maximum of 150
- **fifteen** new members signed up to join during the Plant Sale (a record)

We now have a growing waitlist (6 people!) for any spaces that may become available in 2020. Starting in January 2020, waitlist names will be offered vacant spots on a "first come, first served" basis. Membership Cards will be available at the January 2020 meeting

Attendance at meetings has been great for 2019 -- with an amazing 91 attending the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting in September – our average attendance was 72 from January to October.

Attached to this issue of the *Leaf* is your 2020 Membership Renewal – we will be accepting renewals and payment at the November meeting. You can pay by cash or cheque (you can postdate to 31 December 2019) at the meeting, OR You can always mail your renewal form along with cheque to the Club's Post Office Box at:

Lynn Valley Garden Club

P.O. Box 16053

1199 Lynn Valley Road

North Vancouver, B.C.

V7J 3S9



\*\*\*\*\***If members have not renewed by January 1, 2020, we will offer their spaces to those on our waiting list.\*\*\*\*\***

With your membership comes an electronic copy of the *Leaf*.

Since January 2018, the *Leaf* has been distributed in *electronic format only* to the membership (*via* email or by viewing on the Club's website <http://lynnvalleygardenclub.org/newsletters/>). As of 2020, print copies of the *Leaf* will no longer be available at monthly meetings. Members will continue to receive newsletter issues by email or can view the newsletter on the club's website. We are moving to only electronic distribution based on the cost of print production, the environmental cost and the time commitment by the Membership Committee.

And finally, guests are welcome at the November 21st meeting – for the usual fee of \$5/guest. However, please remember that the **December Christmas Social is for members only** and guests cannot be accommodated.

### Treasurer's Report – Ginette Handfield

As of the end of October:

Bank Balance:	\$10,678.36
Cash on Hand:	\$479.45
Total of	\$11,157.81



Please review the proposed budget for 2020 **repeated this month** in advance of the Annual General Meeting this month. We will discuss and vote on it.

(I missed the October meeting and do not have the information on the proceeds of the Plant Table. I will report in the next *Leaf*.)

### *... a few words from Hospitality:*

*- Carole Cobbett, Susan Nicholls,  
Maggie Davis, Sharon Carabetta*

Dear Members,

Please bring a cup or mug of your choice (For the Christmas Social, a festive themed one would be great!), but please **REFRAIN from bringing MEGA SIZED travel mugs!** If you must bring a travel mug to our meetings, please take care NOT to fill it to the brim thereby actually taking 2 or 3 cups of the beverages at a time [*those teapots are pretty small... -ed*]. We have already increased the quantities of coffee and tea on offer at our regular meetings. However, we'd still like to make certain that EVERYONE gets some refreshments, especially at our Christmas Party.

We thank you in advance for your anticipated co-operation.

*The Hospitality Gals*

### MAL Report – Doreen Dew, Hiromi Matsui, Linda Howe, Daphne Page

After the New Year, the MALs will spring into action (pun intended) and will provide us with pre-plant sale lists of "Plants we want"; "Plants we don't want"; "Plants nobody should want or bring" – the latter with info from the invasive plants website; "Plant info to be supplied with plants" [*Note to Self: start your mental plan now - ed*] and other useful tips and tricks – so watch this space!

**Ho! Ho! Ho!**

## **Christmas Party Time!**

The social event of the season (!) will be held on **Thursday December 12th** at our usual meeting place (St. Stephen's). Note that it is NOT the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, but the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. Your Christmas Party Committee has met and arranged an outstanding program of events (crafts) and refreshments. Now all you have to do is each bring the items listed below.

>>>REMINDER: Sorry there are no visitors for the Christmas Party.<<<

There will be three crafts this year and hopefully there will be enough time for everyone to try their hand at all three. They won't take long.



**Firstly** – back by popular demand – we will again have a wax candle making station. If you have forgotten how to do it, or haven't done this before, don't worry as there will be plenty of help available. One pair of candles per person; if there are left over wax sheets and wicks, we will sell them off - probably around \$3 per set.

The **second** craft will be a table centerpiece made with greenery and whatever else you like (decorations, tinsel etc.) We will supply these decorations, or you can bring some of your own. You can put your candle or candles from above in your centerpiece if you want. Or take it home and add a different candle.

And **thirdly**, there will be a "mystery craft" and we won't be telling you what it is as we want it to be a surprise. For this third craft you will need to bring an empty wine or beer bottle. (If by chance you forget and bring a full bottle your committee would be happy to help empty it!!!)

As usual, the refreshments will be supplied by you. Finger food please. Even if you make the most wonderful Christmas potato salad, we don't have any means of serving, or eating it, except by fingers. Sweet or savoury – your choice. Somehow, we always seem to end up with a reasonable percentage of sweet and savoury so we will leave it to you.

Remember to wear your most festive Christmas attire. There will be two major costume prizes this year – one for the cutest Christmas outfit and one for the tackiest. There is one judge this year and she will remain anonymous – to prevent undue pressure being applied!!!! If you thought your outfit would be a shoo-in for the cutest and get awarded the prize for the tackiest, please accept our apologies. Remember "beauty is in the eye of the beholder".

Here is the list of what each member should bring:

- \* a plate of sweet or savoury finger food
- \* a cup/mug for hot mulled cider
- \* greenery for making the table piece – bring enough it to share.
- \* pruners to cut the greenery – LABELLED so that they go home with you.
- \* an empty [sigh] wine or beer bottle.
- \* **a non-perishable item (or 2, or 3) for our food bank collection.** [As Maria will miss the Christmas Social – A volunteer is needed to lug the donations to the Harvest Project box at Bla-Bla's]

## **Plant Table – Norma Buckland**

While not an AGM-style report, it is notable that the Plant Table is a source of amazing finds and great deals all year. As it has been perfect gardening weather, the Plant Table is looking for interesting fall plantables. Bring your plant or PLANT-RELATED donations to the meeting. The Plant Table will play an interesting role in an upcoming LVGC field trip "THE BIG DIG!!!!" More later, keep reading.....



**The Veggimates' Vegetable of the Month – did not materialize – AGAIN! – but they may be forgiven in February.**

*Yes, there will be a veggie night for the February meeting!!*

*- Jackie Morris*

The Veggimates would like questions and suggestions. Also, we need another couple of veggie growers (even if they only successfully grow one or two kinds of veg) to volunteer to say something or to respond to some questions. Talk to us! How best to respond to me? Email?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Donations:

Each year, we donate a lot of money to local groups and charities. We don't want to miss good opportunities to make a big difference – so if you have a good idea for where we can do some good, please submit your ideas/suggestions to the executive >>>before <<< the June meeting. Ginette will be looking for volunteers to form a Donations Committee.

If you remember, at the October meeting, we passed a motion to see whether the club was in a position to make an extraordinary donation to the Inuvik Greenhouse to support northern food security. This is their fundraising link: <https://www.inuvikgreenhouse.com>. While the Executive agreed that Inuvik Greenhouse was definitely worthy, making extraordinary donations set a bad precedent of accommodating people's special charities. Instead, we will add them to our donation list for next year. In the meanwhile, we would encourage those of you who hate to wrap Christmas presents, to consider making a donation your Christmas gift.

A small group that Courtney and Jackie belong to are the only outside people at the annual WISH Society Christmas Party. They have operated a table for several years where they offer Christmas cards – as many as the women want. It started out as a literacy project but it is more importantly a way for the women to keep in touch with family and friends. Women who know of this table will bring a list and often ignore their dinner to write cards. Jackie and Courtney's group will mail them, if requested. They often see the women giving cards to the WISH staff and thanking them.

WISH operates a drop-in centre open 6 PM to noon in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, where female sex trade workers can relax in acceptance and safety and meet their basic needs (food, clothing, nursing care, personal items, showers), receive individualized support and participate in programs. There are security gates and live door monitoring and no men are allowed at all.

We are looking for donations of unused Christmas cards with envelopes. The cards the women seem to prefer are sparkly/shiny, colourful, fun, kids themes, featuring animals or birds. We often have donations of a few INDSPIRE cards (not Christmas) by First Nations artists with Aboriginal themes. We put these out a few at a time and only allow one per person. The cards seemingly not wanted are dull or featuring scenes of fancy homes, happy white children or lots of presents. *Jackie and Courtney will pick up any card donations you have, at the November meeting. Thanks in advance!*

PLEASE BRING CARDS NOW – TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING – as the WISH event is the same day as our Christmas Social. If you forget, call Courtney and arrange a pickup or drop off.



### *"It's worth attending LVGC meetings!" says Anna Marie D'Angelo*

I totally agree. Both the monthly general meetings and the Executive meetings are worth the trip. We make all sorts of wonderful friends who look out for us. Thanks to LVGC, all sorts of cool things appear in one's inbox. For example:

*From Hiromi:* "Margaret Nakahara recommends feeding orchids with liquid kelp fertilizer from a fellow in West Van. [www.kelpman.com](http://www.kelpman.com). I just got a small bottle - \$7.95 - add 1 tsp to every litre of water. Email - [info@kelpman.com](mailto:info@kelpman.com)

*From Tom Davis:* "Still here Sunday noon!" – accompanied by a photo of a pile of firewood. We scooted right over....

.... And if you are among the lucky Executive (who get treated royally by whoever is hosting) you get special goodies: Ginette served *calissons d'Aix*, whose origins date back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century – a delicious delectable made of almond paste and only found in the South of France. [see link!!!]

.... The Exec shared a lot of giggles as we strayed to "plant-related clothing" and Penny described what well-dressed gentlemen wear in Papua New Guinea [check the link in your email!!!] and for a hint, see Ann P's gourd. We also heard that if you google "LVGC" – then "Las Vegas Gambling Club" pops up. "Who knew?" as Anna Marie likes to say.



Guess whose gorgeous Callicarpa this is?

AND YOU GET OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THIS: ANNOUNCING THE FIRST, OF HOPEFULLY MANY

## LVGC BIG DIG

FRIDAY, NOV 22 -- SATURDAY, NOV 23 -- SUNDAY, NOV 24 -- MONDAY, NOV 25

10 AM TO 3 PM EACH DAY [rain or shine!!!]

AT E 1ST STREET AND ST DAVID'S - AT THE BIG MOODYVILLE DEVELOPMENT SITE

**Here's the deal:** LVGC has been given permission by Wall Centre Construction Ltd, to come and dig up any plants we can find – and rescue them for the Plant Sale. Evan Gorrell, the superintendent, and his big bosses, like the idea of us rescuing plants and donating proceeds to the community. We look good, they look good. How all this came to be, read the background in *The Compost Bin*.

**How it will work:** You can come on any, or all, of the days, between 10 AM and 3 PM – and hunt for plants. There are lots – you just have to keep your eyes peeled. The place looks empty and picked over – but nature always wins and lots of plants have survived, some have re-seeded, suckered, multiplied etc. Some of us – Ann P and friend Laura, Courtney M, Daphne P, Ginette H and I (Maria) have walked the entire site and we can assure you that there is definitely lots of good stuff. We hope that many of you will want to come – as teams would be the best: one to identify, one to dig and one to de-weed and pot up – with local soil to save your garden soil. It would be good to do this systematically, so that we can completely clear an area of ALL the potentially saleable plants.

**What we need from you:** Come and dig! If you can't dig, BRING POTS – big ones!!!! If you can't bring pots – offer to store plants over the winter - or help transport to their winter location(s). If you just want to come out and identify plants – we would be eternally grateful. Or you can sort them, label them once they are potted up. Or just come and watch and take photos and encourage the troops.

**Some ethical considerations:** As I told the developers that the plants will be for the Plant Sale, it would be nice if most of them actually ended up there, as a matter of honour. Sooooooo, if a few plants land in your garden and take root there, I would hope that, also as a matter of honour, you would make an appropriate donation to the Plant Table.

**What to bring:** BOOTS, rain gear, SHOVEL, (personal snacks and drinks) POTS, POTS, POTS, (extra dry clothes) FLATS-WITH PLASTIC BAG COVERS (Ann P's trick), PRUNERS, LOPPERS, PICK/MATTOCK (for the bigger things), wheelbarrow? Garbage bags or kitty-litter bags for when we run out of pots; sense of adventure.

We will also need IDEAS: there are some HUGE plants that would be good to find homes for: a 30 yr magnolia, for starters.... Keep your eyes and ears open!

**The waiver:** On your behalf, I have promised the developer that if you twist your ankle or cause other damage to your lovely self, you will not sue them. Please don't. Also, if any of you attending have medical, nursing or First Aid training, please let me know and be on the alert. ☺

**Why this BIG DIG is important:**

1. If we publicize this – and give the developers some seriously good profile – maybe other developers will follow suit and not trash North Van's plant heritage. We can't stop progress -- because, as the (Hungarian?) saying goes: "Money talks, dogs just bark" -- but at least we will be able to save plants in the future, for the future.
2. This will be the first of probably several "BIG DIGS" at this site, as there are also some plants behind the blue fence – that I have my eyes on [Big Dig #2]. Also, there is one, or maybe more, entire lovely, untouched gardens that could be ours a bit later into the project. So this is our "dress rehearsal" for future events.
3. These are all free plants for the Plant Sale: so we can look ahead to another ridiculously successful year!

"BE THERE OR BE SQUARE"



## Ten of the Strangest, Grossest, and Spookiest Species in B.C.'s Parks

-- found by Linda Howe



While the link is in your cover email – because I am being religious about copyright - “fair use” does allow me to show you one picture. Even the names of these species are really gross: dog vomit slime mould (left), dead man’s fingers, or witch’s butter – to name a few.

“Slime moulds are eerie to begin with: despite being brainless collections of single-celled organisms, these weird masses – some form blob-like cushions while others form very organized shapes – can exhibit behaviour and “make decisions”. Dog vomit slime mould takes a generic lumpy form. It changes shape and colour with age, but still lives up to its disgustingly descriptive name at all stages and colours.” [see 2<sup>nd</sup> link to slime mould hunting for dinner]. You HAVE to go to both websites to see this stuff. Nature is just fabulous!

## Vertical Farms in Supermarkets

-- found by Judith Brook

Earlier this year, we heard from Affinor Growers who talked to us about their vertical growing systems. They are not alone – U.K. Supermarket Marks & Spencer will launch Infarm vertical farms in six more London stores.

“We believe that by offering produce grown and harvested in the heart of city, that’s how we want to practise this form of agriculture – resilient and sustainable and beneficial for the planet, while meeting the needs and desires of city dwellers like Londoners,” Co-founder of vertical farming start-up Infarm, Osnat Michaeli, told the author on the phone from London, speaking about Infarm’s new partnership with UK supermarket Marks & Spencer.

Marks & Spencer is a much-loved retailer in the UK, which was established 134 years ago and is known for high quality clothing, home wares and food products. Infarm’s hydroponic vertical farms will be launched in six more Marks & Spencer stores in central London by the end of the year, following the initial launch at the 105 year old Clapham Junction location in early September, which has been reopened as a food hall.

For the last few weeks, M&S shoppers have been able to purchase fresh herbs like Italian, Greek, or Bordeaux Basil, Mint, Curly Parsley and Mountain Coriander. The herbs are sold with their roots attached to maintain freshness. Infarm chose London for this rollout because it represents many of the sustainability challenges that people will experience in cities over the next decade.

...similar to those used in Papua New Guinea as gentlemen's clothing



Use the link in the cover email to read the rest of the article – and think how similar, yet different the Inuvik Greenhouse is to Marks & Spencer. The problem is the same.

## “Save the Bees”

- Maria Issa

Looking at the article above, and thinking of the Inuvik Greenhouse, both - as will we – have the same challenge – that at some point, SEEDS will be necessary to keep the system going. Outsourcing seeds will also become more and more difficult. At that point, their marketable herbs, plants, veggies, will have to be allowed to flower and to propagate to maintain the system. Normally pollinators – bees, insects, bats, birds, rodents – do the work. In

stores or greenhouses this becomes a resource and logistics problem. So unless we wish to have armies of humans armed with Q-tips, stalking the rows, it would behoove us to save the little creatures who do the work for us. To this end, please use the link in your cover email, or google NRDC [Our mission is to safeguard the Earth, its people, its plants and animals and the natural systems on which all life depends.] and sign their petition to ban neonics. The letter – pre-drafted – goes directly to Bayer-Monsanto’s CEO. Wish the man Happy Christmas.

## A Visit to the Denver Botanic Garden, and a bit more...

- Courtney Mitchell

On a recent driving trip to Denver, Colorado, I visited the Denver Botanic Gardens, one of my favourite places in that city. This particular garden visit was prompted by the September presentation by Laura Caddy, curator of the Patrick Seymour Alpine Garden at the UBC Botanical Garden. She noted that the alpine garden in Denver was a particularly fine one. Laura also mentioned that the rocks used at UBC were imported from near Princeton, BC.



As I live in Caulfield and attempt to garden on the Coast Range granodiorite, I hoped to find plants at the Denver Botanic Garden that were at home in/on granitic rocks. Well, in that respect I was thwarted, as most of the plants were set



amongst limestone rocks. However, this alpine garden contains over 400 species and is beautifully laid out and well labelled (two photos).



Besides the alpine garden, the Denver Botanic Garden (23 acres) is noted for its Japanese garden and other theme gardens. One photo shows workers manicuring a ponderosa pine in the Japanese garden. These trees are selected from a very high altitude so they are naturally dwarfed, and then they are carefully shaped and maintained. I have always enjoyed the seasonal displays of iris and perennial beds, as well as the grasses, desert, and high altitude plants. There are also frequent exhibits by artists

placed throughout the garden. My favourite exhibits

from years past were those by Henry Moore (sculptor), Dale Chihuly (glass artist, photo of a permanent installation), and Tetsunori Kawana and Stephen Talasnik, whose huge bamboo creations floated across various ponds and flapped in the wind. I encourage anyone spending time in the Denver area to visit the Denver Botanic Garden, which has three separate sites in the greater Denver area.

Because this was a driving trip, we stopped at two other places



with small, well-labelled gardens of the local native vegetation. The Colorado National Monument has a small garden located at the visitors' center. The road through the Monument is a 23 mile drive that winds through spectacular red rock scenery. This gem is located a couple of miles south of I-70 at Fruita, CO, near the border between Colorado and Utah. This national monument is far less crowded than Arches National Park in Moab UT, less than 100 miles away. We also stopped at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center just east of Baker City, OR. Outside the center there is a nicely labelled garden of native vegetation set amongst the volcanic rocks. I cannot imagine how difficult it was for pioneers to traverse the Oregon Trail, especially to walk alongside their wagons across the rough lava fields – as my great grandmother did.



Our final stop was a visit with family in Portland, OR. We were privileged to be guests at the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon AGM meeting where my brother-in-law, Maurice Horn, gave the memorial lecture. Maurice is the co-owner of Joy Creek Nursery in Scappoose OR and I hope to entice him to come and speak at a LVGC meeting someday soon. As it was an AGM, I was privy to some amazing facts about the HPSO: membership 2,807; they sponsor numerous workshops, classes, and two plant sales – Hortlandia in spring where 110 nurseries sell plants, and a smaller Plantfest in fall; they give almost \$11,000 in grants and scholarships annually; and there were 151 gardens open for members to visit between early April and early October! These numbers are impressive, but I think the Lynn Valley Garden Club compares very well for its relative size and budget!! Alas, there was no time to visit the famous public gardens in Portland. Do google the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon's website.



I hope that anyone visiting Colorado or eastern Oregon has time to stop at some of the US Federal sites and local botanical gardens. There is always something new to see and learn.



*[Just did the math - HPSO \$11,000/2800 = \$3.92 donation per person. LVGC \$2700/150 = \$18 per person!! I think we compare extremely well! – ed]*



## Trip to Tumbler Ridge

- Koichi and Margaret Nakahara

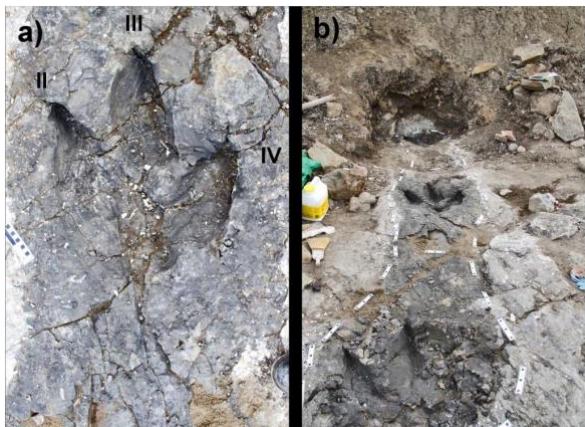


Figure 1 T-Rex footprint and trackway

Talking about geology and climate change... In 2001, two young boys out for a walk near Tumbler Ridge, discovered dinosaur tracks. These tracks were confirmed to be a significant find by their father's friend, a paleontologist.

One paleontologist soon became an army – as fossils have been and are found every day since.

Because the coal mines in Tumbler Ridge closed down (2000 – 2004), the residents began to leave the city and the highschool was soon vacant. Thus, the school became an ideal location to set up a museum for all the fossils that were discovered daily. Today, the Tumbler Ridge Global Geopark is a designated UNESCO site. One of the most significant finds – by the boys, Mark Turner and Daniel Helm – is the world's first Tyrannosaurid trackway that has led palaeontologists to re-evaluate the behaviour of the species. Prior to this there were

only sporadic single prints of Tyrannosaurs found. The presence of 3 sets of tracks running parallel has developed into the hypothesis that they were pack hunters.

There is also a fossilized crocodile head and skin. Since crocodiles cannot live in a climate below 5°C, it is assumed that Northern BC was once tropical. The gym of the school/museum is set up to display T-Rex footprints, tropical fern leaves, mammoth tusks, tracks of prehistoric shore birds, and prehistoric shellfish etc. Since the centre of North America was under water, numerous fish samples are also on display. The climate has changed drastically over the last few million years – as has the geography.

Noted on our trip was the shrinking size of the BC glaciers. Who knows what is in store for our future with global warming, the loss of our soil, depletion of our trees, and shrinking water resources?



Figure 2 Cycad, terrestrial plant

## *The Anonymous Art Show November 22 -Dec 18*

Cityscape Community ArtSpace

335 Lonsdale Avenue

336 OPENING RECEPTION AND SALE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 7 - 9:30PM

While not strictly “plants” – there are paintings of plants for those seeking to “plant” indoors.



## **MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM: REGISTRATION**

*- Helen Shim Boyle*

If you are a beginner, a long time gardener or anyone in between, this course will provide you with a solid grounding in the basics (~ which even experienced gardeners will learn from), the most up to date horticultural information, resource material, contacts and a large gardening/environmentally focused network. We have heard many students who have been gardening for years say that they wished that they had taken this course sooner as it would have saved them time, energy and money ... given them more creative or feasible gardening ideas/solutions ... very much shortened their learning curves ... and corrected or improved their long-standing horticultural practices. We are facing new challenges in gardening *ie* climate change, sustainability, smaller or no yards, food security and evolving ecologically sensitive ways to deal with pests and diseases: the Basic Training Program covers these issues and more.

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY TO SECURE A PLACE IN THE CLASS. Our website (see links!) provides all of the course, contact and registration information. We hope to see you in January.



*That glorious callicarpa (beautyberry) sits by Maggie and Tom Davis' front door.*



## **The Compost Bin**

*- Maria Issa*

### ***The BIG DIG, rhodos, and how IT ALL started and why it is Cheryl M's and Aline B's fault:***

For almost 2 years now, Cheryl M had been tantalizing me with a particularly big, beautiful, healthy rhodo. She didn't want it. I most certainly did: in the past, you have read about my rhodo rescues, so you are well aware of my addiction. For a while now – months! – I hadn't rescued a single thing... I was getting itchy. Cheryl came to the rescue: "It is time" she said, "if we get a few nice days, it would be good to get that rhodo moved." Yipppeeeee! We arranged a date and I appeared at Cheryl's house with my loppers – because that rhodo was enormous! – a good 12 feet. I spent one day lopping – and reducing the rhodo to a slimmer, lighter version of its former self. The next day was digging. I had horrid visions of monster, endless roots and mega-root-balls. But no, Cheryl's predecessor had planted the poor, long-suffering rhodo onto a black landscape plastic. The poor old thing fairly jumped out and into the trailer (manned by four strong young men), and ran up the hill to my house, and into the swimming-pool-sized hole my unsuspecting husband had been forced to dig. [He had the harder time of it!]. Gorgeous!

That rhodo knocked me "off the wagon". I was ripe for another one. The devil baited me again, in the guise of Aline and a photo proffered at the Exec meeting. "There's this nice little rhodo at the Moodyville development site," quoth Aline. "We had retrieved plants from there – there is no fence around it, so you are not really in the construction zone..." Since I was on a rhodo-roll and definitely feeling my oats, I went the next day to check it out. With my boots on, I wandered about the South side of the devastation and finally found two old, scrawny rhodos. Neither looked like Aline's photo, but hey, they were rhodos! After an unplanned interlude of plumbers and plugged toilets, I returned to Moodyville on Saturday, fully armed and trailing my husband/slave. We dug out the rhodos. The security guy asked what we were doing – so I told him I was saving the plants from the backhoe. He was OK with that. As it had started to rain, Peter went home with the rhodo-loot, while I foraged for small plants – found bergenias, irises, snapdragons,

sedum, yuccas, little anonymous groundcover thingies – which I dug out as the light faded. Then I decided to head home.

As I was driving East, the devil struck. What do I spy on the North side of the street – but Aline's little rhodo! Originally, I had taken it for a laurel – I hate laurels! – but as the devil had me fully snagged, I pulled over, pulled out the trusty shovel, climbed onto the rock wall and attacked. It, unlike Cheryl's rhodo, had mega-roots. Whaaaaat? It was just a little guy: where did these monster roots come from? I poked about in the foliage: there was a six-inch diameter trunk in the middle. It must have been a huge tree that was cut off at the base – but it refused to die. So I decided that the rescue was still on. I dug. I sweated. I cursed. I was covered in mud. I was concentrating.

"Hey!!! What are you doing???" filtered into my consciousness.

"Huh???" I replied, intelligently.

"What are you doing? This is private property! You can't be here."

"Oh s\*\*t." I said under my breath. "I'm trying to save this rhodo from the backhoe", I replied.

"This is private property! You can't be here"

"I'm trying to save this rhodo from the backhoe". This repeated several times. Impasse. The good-looking young man hopped up to the upper edge of the rock wall. He explained to me that he was the site supervisor, that he was liable if something happened and that "This is private property etc. etc. etc." So we went back to the broken record of repeating our personal truths.

He must have thought that this muddy, sweaty old lady was truly off her rocker because after a while, he smiled and had pity on me.

"You know, if you want so much to save it – let me and the boys get it out for you with the backhoe."

"Seriously?" I was taken aback.

"If you're saving plants," he continued, "There is an entire garden you can save. I live in that house over there until the project ends. That garden needs to be saved."

"Of course!" said my mouth before the brain kicked in, "The Lynn Valley Garden Club rescues plants. We'll rescue the plants and sell them at our Plant Sale. That way the proceeds will go back to the community." That must have struck a chord with him, as he showed me the garden [nice: there will be lots to rescue there! Big Dig #3]. We agreed that I should check out the whole development for everything that could be salvaged. So he gave me his phone number. If I were younger, I would have happily misunderstood.... We made a date, nonetheless.

More toilet/plumber issues caused me to move our date to Thursday – for which I invited along the Exec and others. This is how Ann, friend Laura, of Park & Tilford; Ginette, Daphne, Courtney and I ended up pre-checking the potentials on Thursday. Although my new friend Keven, was on holiday, Evan, the Superintendent was there – and amenable to our quest. And thus, we walked and browsed the entire property. FYI: It pays to have some expert gardeners along on a plant hunt: they see things that I wouldn't have. There is lots for the BIG DIG!

And that, my friends, is how you came to be roped into working this coming weekend!



## BUDGET - 2020

- *Ginette Handfield*

### Revenues:

**Plant Sale:** Until we have a longer track record of the revenues at our new location, for budgeting we used a lower amount than the 2019 actuals, but a higher amount than the 2018 actuals from our previous location.

### Expenses:

**Rent:** Although our rent at St. Stephen's remains unchanged, we are assuming that the expected renovation of the hall will force us to hold a couple of meetings at a higher cost location.

**Hospitality:** Includes refreshments at our general meetings and the members' garden tour. We are increasing the amount because of inflation and our larger membership.

**Plant sale:** Includes the booking of St. Stephen's, soil, flyers, signs, etc. The amount is reduced from 2019 as some of the expenditures in 2019 were one-time expenditures including those required for new and updated signs because we changed locations.

**Speakers:** Provides a stipend for our speakers. We are increasing the amount to insure we can get top-notch speakers.

**Sunshine and Door Prizes:** Includes door prizes, cards for members, and small thank you gifts for exiting executive and committee members. The amount is increased for general inflation and the large number of executive and committee members completing their duty at the end of 2019.

**Donations:** Assumes 50% of net plant sale proceeds will be given to non-profit organizations. The exact amount will be reviewed with the membership after the results of the plant sale are known.

**Field Trips:** This is the contribution of the Club towards the costs of our field trip(s). The amount is increased to provide better options for the trip(s). It is understood that at that level of contribution, there will not be any limitations on the number of spaces available on the trip(s).

**BCCGC:** Includes the cost of liability insurance covering the club's activities; and attendance for two members at both the spring and fall general meetings of the BC Council of Garden Clubs. The amount is slightly increased as the insurance cost will increase due to our larger membership.

### **Net:**

The proposed budget has a shortfall of \$1,665 for 2020. This is mainly due to the increase for the field trip(s) and lower budgeted net proceeds from the plant sale. The shortfall will reduce our reserve from \$9,096 forecast at the end of 2019 to \$7,432 at the end 2020. At this reserve level, the Club could continue to operate for not quite two years without a Plant Sale.

	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	2019 YE forecast	2020 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>				
Membership	2,325	2,400	2,850	2,850
Guests	315	250	90	90
Plant Sale	5,338	5,000	8,256	6,500
Plant Table	228	120	120	120
Total Revenue	8,737	7,770	11,316	9,560
<b>Expenses</b>				
Rent	922	800	800	1,000
Office	196	200	200	200
Misc	20	30	30	30
Hospitality	432	500	535	700
Plant Sale	650	1,000	1,205	1,075
Speakers	1,200	1,800	1,800	2,250
Sunshine & Door Prizes	555	500	400	750
Donations	2,800	2,000	3,500	2,700
Newsletters & Postage	319	340	240	250
Christmas Party	257	400	400	400
Field Trip	92	300	300	1,300
BCCGC	418	510	450	500
Bank Charges	60	70	50	70
Anniversary Celebration		1,000	1,000	
Total Expenses	8,452	9,450	10,910	11,225
Net	285	-1,680	406	-1,665
Plant Sale net	4,688	4,000	7,051	5,425
Reserve at year-end	\$ 8,690	\$ 7,010	\$ 9,096	\$ 7,432

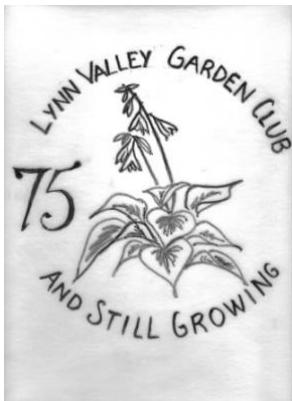
Note: The 2019 Year End forecast was prepared at the end of August 2019.



A haze on the far horizon,  
The infinite tender sky,  
The ripe rich tints of the cornfields,  
And the wild geese sailing high;  
And ever on upland and lowland,  
The charm of the goldenrod –  
Some of us call it autumn,  
And others call it God.  
-W. H. Carruth

in R. E Biles, The Book of Garden Magic,  
Cincinnati, 1935.

*This book was from the PLANT TABLE.  
It is full of gems and you'll be seeing  
some in future Leafs.*



# Lynn Valley Garden Club

## 2020 Registration Form

(Jan 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2020)

- Annual membership Fee is \$20 per person or \$35 per couple.
- Renewals must be received by December 31, 2019. After this deadline, new members will be accepted from the waiting list.
- If paying by cheque, make payable to 'Lynn Valley Garden Club'.
- Postdated cheques (December 31, 2019) will be accepted. Cheques will not be cashed until after January 1, 2020
- Complete the form and attach payment. Either bring form & payment to the next meeting or mail form & payment to:  
Lynn Valley Garden Club, P.O. Box 16053,  
1199 Lynn Valley Rd., North Vancouver, BC. V7J 3S9

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ [to receive the newsletter ]

Would you consider helping with a committee  
or taking an executive position in the future? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your phone number included  
on the membership phone list? \*\*\* Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a suggestion for a speaker or a topic? \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by Cheque #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONS??? Email: [lvgc.membership@gmail.com](mailto:lvgc.membership@gmail.com)

\*\*\* All LVGC email addresses & phone #'s are private information and only to be used as directed by the executive. Membership fee includes digital newsletter (not printed).