



THE LEAF

LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

First established 1943

January 2015

Happy New Year! It seems hard to believe it is here already.

During the holiday season I was lucky enough to have two weeks at home, in Australian summer. I spent about 50 hours landscaping around Mum and Dad's new house. Having left a gorgeous, established garden she's started again with a bare paddock. A rather daunting task, but she'd begun with priorities; the driveway was lined with spectacular standard roses in full bloom even though the lawn was still to come. It was lovely being able to play in the soil during Canadian winter and very rewarding to help Mum create a new vision.

2015 looks like a great year for our club. We have a number of new executive and committee members brimming with enthusiasm and ideas. We're excited that these people have volunteered and very grateful for the wonderful contributions made by those stepping down.

We welcome Doreen Dew and Whitney McMillan to the executive as our two new Members At Large, and thank Jan Valair for all her effort over the last two years. We also welcome Maggie Davis as our new Sunshine person. She's taking over from Carol Ferryman who's been so lovely in this role in the last three years.

Marie Pringle is stepping down from the Plant Table. She's enthusiastically promoted what's on the table each month and encouraged people to peruse. This means we have a committee position open for someone to join Judy Stringer. If you're interested in volunteering, or would like to know more about the position, please speak to Judy or any of the executive. It's a great opportunity to meet and chat with other members of the club!

We'll be launching a new look website for the club in 2015. Aline Burlone has volunteered to be our new webmaster and development of our new website is well underway. We have a new host for our site and are using Wordpress which should make it much easier to maintain and give us more flexibility to add or remove detail for events like our plant sale. If you have suggestions for the site, I'm sure she'd be interested to hear. Our existing site is still visible and we'll swap directly to the new one once it's ready. An unexpected hiccup in the transition meant the existing site was not operational for a while in December and I'd like to thank Brian Didier and Chris Pharo for the many hours they spent getting it back up, and restoring so much of it. Many thanks to Brian for the time he's dedicated to the site over the years, I'm sure he's relieved to finally be fully freed of the responsibility!

Best wishes for a fabulous 2015!

LVGC meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at St. Clement's Church. 3400 Institute Road

Please note that meetings start promptly at 7:15 pm.

Meeting Schedule

January 15, 2015

Margaret Cadwaladr
"A day in Wisley Garden".

February 19, 2015

Mike Nassichuk.
Mason Bees

March 19, 2015

Courtney Fraitz
Urban Gardens

Mailing Address:

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<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>



2014 Executive

Newsletter Deadline
February 15th, 2015

Next Executive Meeting
February 5th, 2015 7:30pm

Sunshine: Maggie Davis -

We have a new Sunshine lady. It takes a short while to adjust to a new task so please if you know of a member not well or has lost a loved one be sure to let Maggie know.

For our draw each month new items are needed. If you wish to make a donation of an item please bring it to a meeting and give it to Maggie.

TEA TIME

Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips

Please bring your own mug

TREASURER: Norma Buckland

The bank balance as of December 31, 2014 was:	\$5,046.22
Petty cash	166.93
Total	\$ 5,213.15

MEMBERS AT LARGE

It's a little early to start thinking about the annual plant sale on May 9th 2015, so if you are not dormant we would like to give you a few important dates and things to do .

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Friday May 8th garden sale preparation
- Saturday May 9th GARDEN SALE
- Saturday June 13th. Members bus tour
- Saturday July 11th, members garden tour

THINGS TO DO

- Volunteer my garden for member's tour
- Think about what I would like to do at the garden sale
- Sharpen tools, rake leaves, order seeds
- Separate plants for plant sale

Yvonne, Whitney, Tom and Doreen

PLANT TABLE

"Please check out the Plant Table at our meetings".

Members bring in a variety of plants and gardening related items that need new homes. Prices are very low, and the monies received add a little extra revenue for the club.

One thing to remember ... if you bring something to the meeting for the Plant Table, please remember to check in after the meeting and see if what you brought has indeed found its new home. If your item is still there, you must take it home with you."

Judy Stringer

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Thank you to the members who have renewed membership for 2015. There are over 25 members who have not yet been in touch to pay their 2015 dues or to let us know they no longer wish to be members.

Please let us know before January 31st.

Speaker's Corner **Christmas Party**

Would you be able to forward my thanks to the club members who organized the Christmas social event

. It was a wonderful evening and I'm sure took planning and effort to make it work – my thanks to the person who obtained the “oasis” and soaked them, the person who obtained all the buckets, the person who pre-packaged all the Ziploc bags with the “hardware” for the pots, the people who brought extra holly and other greenery, the people who setup the tables and chairs, the people who organized the rentals and hot cider, the evening photographer who captured the works of art during production and to my fellow tablemates who laughed with me at my lopsided “bell” and offered their encouragement.

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Susan Huber



Photos thanks to Carol Ferryman



Photos - thanks to George Roberts

The following thanks to *Minters Garden* newsletter.

Plant that bloom in January

Galanthis nivalis
- common name snowdrop

Hamamelis 'Jelena'
common name Witch Hazel

Hamamelis mollis
common name Chinese Witch Hazel

Hamamelis Ruby Glow
common name Ruby Glow Witch Hazel

Hellebores orientalis
common name Lenten Rose

Jasminum nudiflorum
common name Winter Jasmine

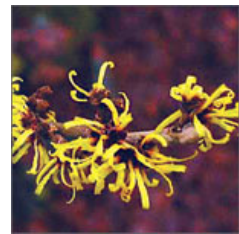
Galanthis nivalis



Hamamelis 'Jelena'



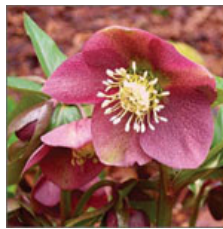
Hamamelis mollis



Hamamelis 'Ruby Glow'



Hellebores orientalis



Jasminum nudiflorum



Cors de Lint

will be coming to the Lynn Valley Garden Club Thursday, March 19th
with a truckload of his "Unique" soil amendment, prior to our meeting. He will be in the parking lot around 6.30 pm - cost is \$10 per bag – sold on first come first served basis, while supplies last.

The Product

UNIQUE is a micro-biologically active, organic soil amendment, which is produced under closely controlled conditions and marketed by DOWN TO EARTH Ltd.

The only ingredients used to produce UNIQUE are: pig manure and sawdust/shavings.

Nutrients

UNIQUE is an organic fertilizer. Its N:P:K(Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium) ratios are: 2:4:2. These values have to be multiplied by a factor 3 to make a fair comparison with chemical fertilizers. The value of an organic fertilizer like UNIQUE is far higher than a chemical fertilizer, since almost all of the fertilizer stays in the soil and will be taken up by the plant's root system. A large % of chemical fertilizers will drain from the soil to the ground water and can not be utilised by the plants. An added benefit of UNIQUE is the availability of many beneficial micro elements, like: Calcium, Iron, Sulfur, Phosphorus, Manganese and many others.

Application for vegetable gardens. Before seeding or planting one may mix the top soil (rotorvating) with a layer of about 1 inch of UNIQUE . After germination of the young plants top dressing, once /month should be done during the growing season. This practise will add sufficient nutrients to the soil to grow a variety of vegetables.

Spring Fertilizing

Some gardeners fertilize every spring, others not quite so often. Newly planted borders are usually good for a couple of years if the soil was prepared well initially. Older gardens often are re-invigorated by a spring feeding, and if you use a mulch of wood chips or bark it is a wise idea to fertilize your perennials every spring. When mulch begins to rot the bacteria responsible will rob the soil of available nitrogen.

There are boxes of fancy perennial food readily available in garden centers, and these are fine if your garden is relatively small. For larger borders it's a much better deal to buy large bags of all-purpose vegetable garden fertilizer. Look for something with a high middle number (e.g. 5-10-5, 10-15-10) to promote strong stems and lots of flowers. Do NOT be tempted to use lawn fertilizer on your perennials — it is too high in the first number, nitrogen. Also, don't ever use a "weed and feed" formulation on any part of your garden other than lawn grass.

Whatever product you choose, follow the manufacturer's rate carefully. Sprinkle fertilizer AROUND your perennials, not directly on top of the clumps. This will help to avoid burning the foliage

Heritage Perennials

Club History

Do you know how our club's newsletter got its' name?

A contest was held, members were asked to submit a name suggestion. It was Leah Younger's suggestion that won top billing.

Our club symbol – the watering can? Do you know who designed it? Ann Pentland. – using graphics from Corel Draw and "planted" up the watering can.

If you have some old history to tell please send it to Irene <lynnvalleygardenclubnewsletter@gmail.com>

Tips & Handy Hints –

Begonias:

- a To get a good start on bulbs, put them in a pot of soil, lightly covered and place them on the top of the fridge.
- b. Start begonias in the little plastic containers that strawberries come in from the market. The containers allow the root system to grow freely, and makes lifting the bulbs, in the fall, easy without causing any damage.
- c. The best plant food for hanging begonias is good old fish fertilizer.
- d. To treat begonias for mildew, dust with cinnamon spice.

Cactus

Place Christmas cactus outdoors in the shade during the summer to induce Christmas blooming.

Amaryllis

Let the leaves on your amaryllis bulb freeze back before it is stored for the rest period or the amaryllis will not bloom the next time. By freezing the leaves it signals the bulb to rest

Deer - three easy suggestions

- To discourage deer from eating your garden, rub a bar of deodorant soap (Irish Spring, one suggestion) on the rocks and trees surrounding the garden. Deer hate this smell.
- To repel deer save your old tea bags and coffee grounds, Scatter them around your plants, etc. Deer hate it and it is good for the soil.
- To keep deer out of your clematis, pin the absorbent pads from roasts, etc. to the vines.

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 11th - 15th

Northwest Flower & Garden Show

Washington Street Convention Center, 7th and Pike, Seattle, WA

<http://www.gardenshow.com/the-show>

Bert Garbuio has organized a trip to the Northwest Flower and Garden Show in Seattle on Wednesday, February 11th. Cost is \$95.00 and includes entry into the Show and Dinner. Bus leaves St. Helen's church at 7:00am. Be sure your name is on the list to secure a seat.

Wednesday, February 18th - 22nd

BC Home + Garden Show

BC Stadium Place <http://www.bchomeandgardenshow.com>

BC Council of Garden Clubs AGM

Saturday, March 14th

Firefighter's Banquet & Conference Centre, 6515 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby, BC

Early Bird Registration: \$35.00. Must be received by March 2, 2015, After March 2: Cost is \$40.00

Please see the Registration Form on the last page of our Bulletin.

Registration includes lunch and coffee break treats.

Speakers: Tom Bouman, Lynne White

Spring Sundays at Milner Gardens

Sundays, February 8th - March 29th, 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

, Admission: \$5.25 Adults; \$3.15 Students

250.752.6153, <https://www2.viu.ca/milnergardens>