



# THE LEAF

LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

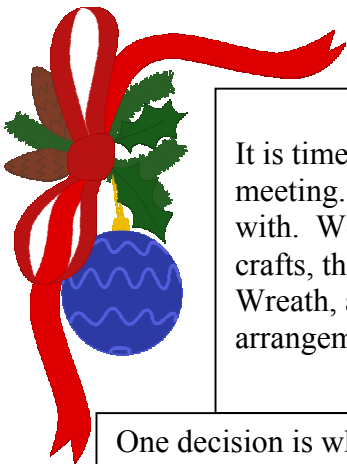
First established 1943

October 2015

At this time our President, Tara is a very busy lady. Her and her husband are moving into a basement suite for a few months, while their house is being renovated.

I think she deserve to miss doing her report for one month but we will expect her back in November.

All the best of luck with the moving and the renovations.



It is time to give some thought to our Christmas meeting. What ideas can you the members come up with. We have done over the years many different crafts, the favourite ones seems to be a Christmas Wreath, a Christmas bell or a lovely floral arrangement.

*What would you like to do?*

One decision is what craft to do, if we do one. Shall we do something altogether different? Maybe no craft, maybe some members can entertain us, singing some carols, a skit or -----.

Decisions, decisions, please help the executive to decide. Plans for the December meeting must be made at the executive meeting on November 5th. Love to hear from you. All ideas submitted will be considered.

**Irene Dudra**

Gardening requires lots of water — most of it in the form of perspiration.

~Lou Erickson

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

**October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Randy Shore**

**Garden Writer**

**Vancouver Sun**

**Tonight's speaker, will be giving his presentation at 7:15 pm,**

**The general part of the meeting will be held after the break.**

**November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Mike Nassichuk**

**Follow up on Bees**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Christmas Meeting**

### Mailing Address:

Lynn Valley Garden Club

P.O. Box 16053

1199 Lynn Valley Road

North Vancouver, BC

V7J 3S9

<http://www.lynnvalleygardclub.org>



## 2015 Executive

### President

Tara Findlay

### Vice President

Chris Pharo

### Secretary

Audrey Beugger

### Treasurer

Norma Buckland

### Membership

Rosemary Wagner

Frances Moorcroft

### Members at Large

Whitney McMillian

Doreen Dew

Yvonne Kabata

Tom Davis

### Newsletter Editor

Irene Dudra

### Committees

#### Plant Table

Judy Stringer

Irene Turner

#### Hospitality

Gloria Franco

Daphne Page

Janet Blue

#### Sunshine / Door Prizes

Maggie Davis

#### Website

Aline Burlone

#### Newsletter Deadline

November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

#### Next Executive Meeting

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 7:30pm

Home of Yvonne Kabata



*Physostegia virginiana*

### TEA TIME Gloria Franco Janet Blue and Daphne Page

Coffee, tea and goodies shall be served

Please bring your own mugs.

### SUNSHINE: Maggie Davis

*If you know of a member not well or has lost a loved one be sure to let Maggie know.*

### TREASURER:

Norma is away. Her report will be in the next Leaf.

**Norma Buckland**

### MEMBERS AT LARGE

#### **West Coast Seeds.**

Each year West Coast Seeds supports groups and organizations locally and worldwide by supplying seeds through their generous seed donations program. A variety of organizations benefit; including schools, food banks, gardens, charities, growing and education programs.

Our garden club has received a donation, worth about \$450.00 of vegetable seeds, given to us so we can raise money to help support the various charities we donate to. We will be asking members to volunteer to take on the task of growing these seeds.

The seeds will be made available to those members who are willing to grow vegetable starter plants for our next plant sale. An announcement of distribution to follow shortly.

**When you divide your plants up this fall remember the Plant sale next year is Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016, please mark your calendar.**

**Yvonne, Tom, Doreen and Whitney**

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership renewal forms will be e-mailed with the Leaf this month, and enclosed with the newsletters that are mailed out. Please fill out the forms and return to us as soon as possible. We want to hand over a complete listing for January, 2016, to the new Executive.

We are happy that Bonnie Noakes will be on the Membership team next year. We need another member to volunteer for Membership with her. It is a wonderful way to meet everyone and it is fun to be on the Executive.

Thank you

**Frances and Rosemary**

## Speaker's Corner

### Speaker: Ron Knight – 4 seasons in a rhododendron garden

Ron showed beautiful photos he'd taken of their garden on the Sunshine Coast since it began in 1995. They have 400-500 rhododendrons and around 2000 perennials. Since retirement, they've tried to cut down on the amount of work required to maintain the garden. Progressing from smallest to greatest time savers, his tips are below.

#### **10 Ways to Reduce the Work by 50%**

- 10. No fertilizers on shrubs. - No fertilizer is used in Sino Himalayan garden at Van Dusen, they mulch instead. If you do fertilize, the best time to do so is around Easter and again Canada Day weekend, fertilizing in fall would promote growth too close to frost.
- 9. Sharpen tools regularly. Grinding stones are around \$80-120. Sharpen shovels (twice a year), pitchforks, rakes and bladed implements.
- 8. Simplify weeding by using newspaper and mulch. - 2-3 sheets thick, covered in mulch. It even knocks out things like creeping Jenny and lamium.
- 7. Don't deadhead. - It won't really affect blooming of established plants. Deadheading is still a good idea on new plants where you don't want energy going into seeds.
- 6. Perennials, not annuals. - Stick to perennials in beds. They just have some annuals in baskets.
- 5. Use a leaf blower. - Good for paths, even gravel. (Ron uses a Stihl B55)
- 4. Place shrubs to minimize pruning for size. - Read the tags when planting and keep in mind that the stated height is after 10 years; they'll keep growing after that
- 3. Replace many drippers with 1 sprinkler. - 15-25lb pressure covers 16' diameter. The time spent checking if drippers are clogged is greatly reduced when there are less of them.
- 2. Close steep and shade areas. - They'd removed plants in a steep area and left it as exposed rock. Deep shade was allowed to go back to nature.
- 1. Learn to love a mossy lawn. - You'll never have a perfect lawn in shade so embrace it!

### **North Vancouver District Public Library - 2015 LVGC Donation Purchases**

Krista Scanlon from North Vancouver District Public Library wrote to thank us for our \$200 donation and advise what had been purchased. The titles she chose for this year:

- The Carefree Garden: Letting Nature Play Her Part / Bill Terry
- Fine Foliage: Elegant Plant Combinations for Garden & Container / Karen Chapman
- The New Sunset Western Garden Book: the Ultimate Gardening Guide
- Northwest Gardener's Handbook: Oregon, Washington, Northern California, British Columbia: Your Complete Guide: Select, Plan, Plant, Maintain, Problem-Solve / Pat Munts & Susan Mulvihill
- The Plant Lover's Guide to Ferns / Richie Steffen & Sue Olsen
- Planting the Dry Shade Garden: the Best Plants for the Toughest Spot in Your Garden / Graham Rice
- Powerful Perennials / Nedra Secrist
- Small-Space Vegetable Gardens: Growing Great Edibles in Containers, Raised Beds, and Small Plots / Andrea Bellamy
- What Plant Where Encyclopedia

The titles have a special label that says ***"Donated by the Lynn Valley Garden Club 2015."***

The gardening collection is one of the most popular sections of the library.

## EXECUTIVES WANTED!

The following current executive members will be finishing their positions at the end of this year. We need volunteers for our new executive. It is a great opportunity to be more involved and interact with all of our members. The positions available are:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- 2 x Membership - *one position filled*
- 2 x Members At Large - *two positions filled*
- Newsletter Editor

## Thanks to the three members who have volunteered.

If you are interested in volunteering, or learning more about the positions, please contact any of the current executive.

### **Here are some fall dos and don'ts, plus tips to help your garden get a jump-start on spring**

As autumn leaves drift by your window, it may be tempting to look outside and think idle thoughts about nature taking care of itself. But like the rest of us, Mother Nature needs a good kick in the pants once in a while. Here are some fall dos and don'ts, plus tips to help your garden get a jump-start on spring.

[1] When available, pop 'Icicle' pansies into spots where summer annuals have been cleared out. They will bloom until December, then lie down for the winter. Cover them with evergreen cuttings until earliest spring, when they'll be ready to sprout new flower buds.

[2] Take a gamble and throw seeds of hardy annuals where you want them to bloom next year. Larkspur, poppies, cleome and cosmos will frequently take root from seeds sown in autumn and conditioned under winter snow.

[3] Plant bulbous Asiatic and Oriental lilies in late fall to ensure flower bud set. When planting is delayed until spring they may not get enough chilling and come up blind, with no flowers.

[4] Wait until the soil has frozen before [mulching](#) autumn-installed plants. After freeze-up, a thick mulch of leaves and evergreen cuttings will keep their root balls safe from the heaving action of frost.

[5] Lift big, fibrous clumps of summer phlox, hostas and Siberian irises and [divide](#) with a sharp spade or knife; tease apart fleshy roots of daylilies. Late-blooming perennials such as Michaelmas daisies and obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*), purchased in bloom, can go directly into garden beds. see, picture on Page 2.

[6] Plant [garlic](#) in October, in a sunny spot with lots of manure dug in. Set individual cloves eight centimetres deep and 15 centimetres apart, and mulch with five to eight centimetres of leaves. Hard-neck Rocambole garlics such as 'Music' are the hardiest strains, and, when planted in October, can be harvested in July, just as the first cherry tomatoes turn red.

[7] Autumn is a good time for planting evergreen trees and shrubs. The evergreens' root systems pump water all winter, so be sure to water them well before the ground freezes. And don't hesitate to purchase deciduous flowering shrubs at discounted prices. Even after a summer in containers, they'll adapt and make strong root growth in cool autumn soil.

## Tips to help your garden get a jump-start on spring.

Autumn is the only time to move clematis or honeysuckle vine to prevent shock to growth: both vines begin extending leaves and shoots while frost is still in the spring ground. If the vines are large, cut them back by half, and they'll leap forward next spring.

Use generous amounts of anti-transpirant sprays (available at garden centres) on needle evergreens and broadleaf evergreens, such as euonymus, Japanese pieris and rhododendrons. The waxy coating helps to preserve tissue moisture and prevent winter windburn and sunscald. And lavish it on your Christmas tree to help keep it fresh through the holidays.

Root vegetables such as [carrots](#) and [parsnips](#) are sweeter after hard frost and can be harvested all winter. Remove top foliage from the plants and cover them with a 15-centimetre-thick mulch of leaves or straw (available from garden centres) spread to similar thickness. Throw an old piece of carpeting on top and let it snow. Lift the coverings to dig out veggies as needed.

Tender hybrid teas, floribunda and grandiflora roses need hilling up about 25 centimetres above their crowns with fresh soil or triple mix. A simple trick that reaps armloads of rose blooms is to tie the flexible new canes of climbing roses in a horizontal arc along fences or trellises. This will trigger the breaking and blooming of many more buds next summer.

As for garden hygiene, pick up or rake diseased leaves from under roses (blackspot) and crabapples (scab) and dispose of them in the garbage, not the compost pile. Left on the soil all winter, they'll reinoculate the plants with disease spores the following spring.

Squirrels "read" the disturbed soil and marks you leave when planting their favourite tulips and crocuses. Outwit them by concentrating spring [bulb plantings](#) in large groups and disguising your marks by flooding the soil surface with water. Then cover them with five centimetres of leaves topped with some shrubby branches.

Remove the debris of summer annuals, then be honest with yourself: will you really go out in early spring to remove remaining perennials? Clean up as much as possible now, leaving strategic clumps for attractive winter display and food for birds. Sedums, hostas, astilbes and ornamental grasses are beautiful in snow.

Unless you really are Snow White, try not to create a garden of little winter dwarfs all wrapped up in burlap coats. Tightly wrapped burlap does plants more harm than good by potentially holding ice against their tissues.



## Coming Events

### Saturday , October 17 & Sunday, October 18

UBC Botanical Garden Apple Festival 11 am to 4 pm

UBC Botanical Garden 6804 SW Marine Drive at 16th Ave, Vancouver

A family event for all ages, the UBC Botanical

Garden Apple Festival celebrates one of BC's favourite fruits with tastings, demonstrations, activities & sales of tasty apples & apple trees.

Admission \$4 (cash) includes free garden entry. Children 12 and under free.

Please leave dogs at home. [applefestival.ca](http://applefestival.ca) 604-822-4529

### Saturday, October 24

BC Council of Garden Clubs Fall Meeting

Firefighters Banquet & Conference Centre, 6515 Bonsor Ave, Burnaby

### Saturday, October 24th, 2015 –

Darts Hill Garden Park Fall Open House

Be sure to join us for the final Open House at the garden this year. In the fall, visitors can enjoy the magnificent changing leaf colours of a variety of maples, the *Nyssa sylvatica*, *Enkianthus perulatus*, as well as late flowering asters and other blooms. Birds love the variety of berries available in so many shades of purple, bright red, yellow and orange.

11am to 3pm Guide tours at 11:30 am, Master Gardeners

16th Avenue at 170th Street, South Surrey

Admission by donation [www.dartshill.ca](http://www.dartshill.ca)

### Saturday, November 7 & Sunday, November 8

Pt. Grey Chrysanthemum Association Late Chrysanthemum Show

Saturday - Noon to 4 pm Sunday - 10 am to 4 pm

GardenWorks Mandeville 4746 SE Marine Drive, Burnaby