



# THE LEAF

LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

April 2018

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

I am not a morning person, so I was not awake when the soil guy from Richmond called at 8 AM to say that the dump truck with my three yards of garden mix had left their locale. About 20 minutes later, the dump truck roared into my cul-de-sac and tipped its seemingly puny load in a pile on my driveway. I scrambled to make sure it didn't bury my one and only driveway drain. Now I was awake. As I started to haul out the soil, I wondered if maybe I should have ordered six yards instead of three. About 30 wheelbarrows later and barely a dent in the pile, I changed my mind. Three yards were more than enough for now.

The Richmond supplier was recommended by a club member and before my purchase, I went to check out the huge No. 6 Road business in rural land. It was a sunny day and I was enchanted by a friendly horse from the neighbouring farm who came over to see me. There was also a small flock of chickens scurrying around near the henhouse, and I was startled by a "cock-a-doodle-doo" from a rooster, to boot. So delightful. But I digress. This garden mix was excellent as was the garden mix MAL Doreen Dew got through a North Van supplier for club members to scoop up for the garden sale potting. Not a lump was left of that load, which is great.

*Garden mix* is the correct description, not *top soil*. Actual top soil is illegal to sell and is unfortunately often lost during home constructions. What we purchase as "top soil" is a combo of manures and other organic matter that provides a rich soil amendment that holds water like real top soil. Some of the key things about a good garden mix is that it should be: **dark brown, not too gritty, clumps when squeezed and crumbles easily.**

The plant sale is less than a month away. Hope everyone is getting ready to help out! The MALs -- Rita Marshall, Daphne Page and Doreen Dew -- have been working hard, figuring out the logistics, attending to all the details and getting a great lineup of raffle prizes. Thanks in advance to everyone who has been dividing plants and getting seedlings going. We'll have a signup sheet for Friday and Saturday tasks, and signs and flyers available at our April meeting. Please be sure your pots are cleaned off of soil smudges, "prettied up", and labelled with the plant's name, at the very least.

I'll leave you with a recent musing from someone in North Van who obviously doesn't belong to our club. The sign at the Forbes Avenue print shop near Esplanade stated: "I wanted to grow my own food but couldn't find bacon seeds."



[Gardeners are like doctors . . . they both bury their mistakes]

## LVGC MEETINGS

3rd 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*

## SPEAKERS

April 19

**RALPH NEVILL**

Pruning trees and shrubs:  
getting started

May 17

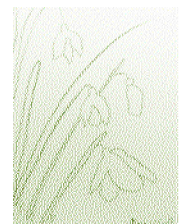
**DEBORAH JONES**

What is a rain garden... and  
Why should I care?

## Mailing Address:

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

<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>



**President**  
 Anna Marie D'Angelo  
**Vice President**  
 Hiromi Matsui  
**Secretary**  
 Jackie Morris  
**Treasurer**  
 Ginette Handfield  
**Membership**  
 Judy Sullivan  
 Susan Huber  
**Members at Large**  
 Rita Marshall  
 Daphne Page  
 Doreen Dew  
**MAL#4????**

## Committees

**Newsletter Editor**  
 Maria Issa  
**Plant Table**  
 Norma Buckland  
**Hospitality**  
 Carole Cobbett  
 Susan Nicholls  
 Maggie Davis  
**Sunshine / Door Prizes**  
 Shirley Lawson  
**Website**  
 Aline Burlone

*Executive Meetings*  
**1st Wednesday of the month**  
**Next Meeting: May 2 7:30 PM**  
*Chez HIROMI MATSUI*

*Next Newsletter Deadline*  
**May 9, 2018**

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

Thanks to all who contributed  
 to this edition: and to *Bruce*  
*Tennant* for the photo below  
 and *Rita Marshall* for the  
 artwork



## REPORTS

### VP Report - Hiromi Matsui

Based on members' input, speakers are booked until June 2017 with the fall well on its way to being organized. Check the website for 'sneak previews'!

Please don't forget to email your speaker evaluations to the VP or the Leaf. Your assessment of the speakers is valuable - as feedback both to the organizers and the speakers. If you need (chocolate) inducement to evaluate speakers, it can be done.

MAJOR REQUEST: please help move the chairs back, close to their cubby-hole, after the end of the meeting. It's simple - pile them by colour - maximum groups of 4! as more than that is impossible to lift even by brawny young men. Please feel free to take charge and put them away, as there isn't an "assigned person" whose responsibility this is.

### Secretary - Jackie Morris

Not much mail this month - but the Wild Bird Trust thanked LVGC for our donation and finally cashed its cheque, after many wild goose chases.

### Treasurer's Report - Ginette Handfield

Balance as of March 31/2018 Club Equity:

Cash: \$ 317.95  
 Bank: \$8962.81  
 Total = \$9280.76

### Membership Report - Judy Sullivan & Susan Huber

As of this Leaf, LVGC membership stands at 113: so we can squeeze in a few more! The contact information for membership enquiries is currently posted on the website and in the newsletter. People interested in becoming members are asked to email [lynnvalleygardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:lynnvalleygardenclub@gmail.com) for information.

### Hospitality - Kitty Castle & Carole Cobbett & Susan Nicholls

In case you were wondering, you may all rest assured, literally! We only serve DECAFFEINATED coffee and teas at club meetings (caffeinated beverages are only ever served on Plant Sale 'prep' day and on Plant Sale Day itself).

- There is now a thermal carafe full of hot water for you: you can water-down our teas, make your own from home, or just drink the hot water!
- Please keep using the blue and the green table-top garbage and recycling containers provided on our snack tables. The Church has a "garbage-in..... garbage-out" policy: they do NOT want us using their garbage and recycling facilities.
- Lastly, we ask that after getting your beverage and snacks, could you KINDLY MOVE AWAY to socialize. Our team needs the kitchen door area clear so we can quickly and safely replenish the hot beverages. Also, we'd like everyone to be able to get to the tables before the guest speaker begins.
- [This meeting I won't be around to collect your Foodbank offerings so please DOUBLE them in May - Maria]

### MAL Report - Rita Marshall, Daphne Page, Doreen Dew

\*\*\*\*\*LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE, SATURDAY MAY 12 TH, 2018\*\*\*\*\*

Hi everyone: with this spring(?) weather it's fun to be outside splitting plants and creating an inventory for the plant sale.

*Label your plant: common and Latin name*

*Clean your pots:*

*Mention the habitat: ie Sun, Part shade etc.*

*Growing habit: ground cover, shrub, etc. This is handy if the plant is quite small.*

The MALs will be circulating the **happy volunteer sign up sheet** for the plant sale at the April general meeting. We will also have the signs ready for members to sign out and display on lawns, giving us valuable advertising for the plant sale.

As well, we will have the leaflets ready for you to display in your cars or leave in public places to advertise the plant sale.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our general meeting before the plant sale. Please consider being part of this fun event. It's a great way to get to know more people in the club, learn something about plants, have fun and contribute to the club and the community.

We need volunteers from early Friday afternoon the 11th of May, till about 7:30 pm and the day of the plant sale, 8:30 am to around 2:00 pm (for the clean up). Don't worry about inexperience we have many seasoned members to help mentor new volunteers to the event that is the plant sale. Sign up times will be in two our shifts so we are flexible. *[Please see the prototype sign -up sheet at the end of this newsletter - ed]*

The day of the sale: To **Plant Sale Workers**, if you have a Lynn Valley Garden Club T shirt *[see how to get one - in Compost Bin]* please wear it, and wear your name-tag as well. This will help members of the public direct questions, inquiries *etc* to the right people.

All Members: Please **collect and bring "beer flats"**! The government liquor stores are a great source (and you can drink the contents!). Deposit these when you bring your plants to the Church on Friday, between 3:00 PM and 7:30 PM. This is when the pricing and sale set-up is done.



## **SPEAKER**

*Ralph Nevill --- Thursday, April 19, 2018  
"Pruning Trees and Shrubs: Getting Started"*

**Ralph Nevill** is an arbourist with the District of North Vancouver where he is responsible for enforcing the District's Tree Bylaw and Tree Policy for all trees on District property. As well, he is responsible for the supervision of the District's field crew and contractors and the District's Noxious Weed program. His education includes a B.Sc. in Plant Science (Horticulture) from UBC, a Masters in Pest Management from Simon Fraser University and a PhD in Plant Pathology from Virginia Tech.



## **Growth Medium\***

[Good News and Bad News]

### **The Bad News:**

Sadly, the potting-up soil, recently at Doreen's domicile, is no more. As The Pres says, "not even a lump left". While if you were hoping for a last-minute planting spree, this is definitely not your year - you may want to ask around the club to see whether anyone has "leftovers". It was super good stuff and it went faaaaaaast. ...and it works: see Tom's tomatoes as proof.

### **The Good News:**

Happily there is more of this type of news.

1. POTS/1 - if you need any, please contact Cari Weinberg (Judy Sullivan will have her coordinates as she was a member in the past) as she has pots of all kinds to give away.

POTS/2 - an assortment will be available at the April meeting - please see Doreen Dew - and relieve her of as many as possible so she doesn't have to transport the huge bag.

2. PIG POO: an incredible 192 bags were pre-ordered!!! The lovely stuff **\*\*you ordered\*\*** will await you before the start of the April meeting, so plan to come early!! Please don't forget to bring your CASH for small amounts or CHEQUE for large amounts.... And a means to haul it away home. *[note to self - put a tarp down in the trunk of the car; pack dolly].*



**PPP (Pig Poo Pickup!!!) April 19 before the meeting!!**  
**Bring \$\$**

## *How much organic material should I add to my garden?*

*- found by Lorraine Robson*

Here is a link to an article/fact sheet from the Washington State University Extension about how much organic matter to add to home gardens. With the "pig poo" arriving soon, people may find it interesting and useful. [check your LEAF email for a hot link that you can click directly - ed] <http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/FS123E/FS123E.pdf>

**Summary:** "High rates of organic soil amendments improve soils that are depleted in organic matter, but do not benefit soils that already have adequate organic matter. Gardeners should use smaller amounts of amendments and grow cover crops in annual gardens that already have enough organic matter. Established landscapes and turf seldom need organic amendments."



## *Members' Garden Tour*

The Exec are looking for volunteer gardens for the members' garden tour: we want your unique gardens – not Butchart! We would rather like to see 'works in progress', 'under development' and 'evolution in action': we would dearly love variety.

What would you get out of it – besides a thousand feet trampling your petunias? Well, lots of questions that you don't necessarily have to answer; lots of answers that you don't necessarily have to implement, but especially a LOT of appreciation for all the work you have been doing. As I can't even get my family to look at my garden – a little outside admiration is always welcome.

If there is a dearth of volunteers – the Exec has created a short-list of people whose gardens they would like to see – so be prepared to be arm-twisted!



## *The Famous LVGC Bus Tour...*

*Organized by Rosemarie Adams*

*This is your reminder to sign up!*

There will be a sign up sheet at the April meeting. Please see Diane Sekora and Doreen Marbry.

We will visit several private gardens and nurseries in the Fraser Valley, details are still to be determined.

The cost is currently estimated at \$20 per person – but fuel surcharges may shift that to \$25. Don't be surprised.

The bus will leave at **8.30 AM promptly** and return approximately 4.30 PM – could be later, depending on traffic or any delays encountered during the day.

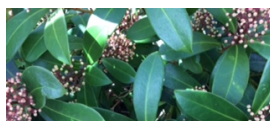
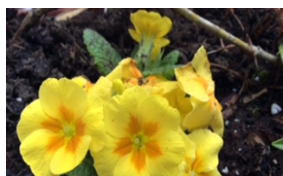
Please remember to bring your lunch, a drink, wear comfortable shoes, and dress for variable weather. You may need sunscreen or bug spray.

Full itinerary and details of gardens to be visited will be handed to you when you board the bus.


Initially the trip is for members only. Please sign up and pay promptly to confirm your seat. Payment is due by no later than our May general meeting. After that date, any seat reservations not paid for, will be given to people on the wait-list or to non-members.

If you cannot attend the April meeting but wish to go on the trip, please contact either Diane or Doreen and they will add your name to the list.

This has proved to be a fun event in past years – a great opportunity to mix and mingle with your LVGC friends and neighbours – get on board !





Date of interview:	April 2007, by Rosemarie Adams
Name:	<b>MAURICE JONES</b>
Joined LVGC:	1999
First started gardening:	"Pretty well when I joined the Club. Was busy working before that, so not a lot of time to garden."
Favourite Style of Garden:	Vegetable
Current Style of Garden:	Mainly vegetables in the summer, but also have gladioli, some roses and rhodos
Favourite Garden Centre:	Maple Leaf Garden Centre and Dykhof Nurseries & Florist
Favourite Shrub/Flower:	Gladioli and Azaleas
Favourite Gardening Reference Book:	"Rarely use books, prefer gardening magazines."
Favourite Gardening Magazine	Canadian Gardener
Words of Wisdom:	Gardening is hard work! Read the instructions that come with seeds and plants <i>carefully</i> .
	<p>Notes from Judith Brook</p> <p>Maurice was an honorary life member of the Lynn Valley Garden Club and passed away in April, 2017.</p> <p>Maurice was a source of inspiration to many -- his tomatoes were legendary at our club's plant sales.</p> <p>Some of Maurice's many contributions to the club include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>January 1999, joined LVGC</li> <li>2000-2001, served as Treasurer</li> <li>2003, served as Member-at-Large</li> <li>2008-2009, served as President</li> <li>2011, LVGC made Maurice an honorary life member</li> </ul>



## LVGC History

- Maria Issa

We hope to run Profiles - of members old and new! Judith Brook has volunteered to interview members. So if you are someone who joined recently - we welcome you and would like to know about you and your gardening interests, or issues that LVGC can help you with. If you are a long-time member - we may think we know you - but you may surprise us! If you know of past members who are no longer active, or members who were part of LVGC's recent or early history, please pass along this information as it would be of interest to have their profiles as well: we have so much history - let's make sure we keep it.

Similarly, when Ginette Handfield was showing some of us around the Archives (across the street from St Clement's) the Archivist knew about LVGC and said that we are very much a part of North Vancouver's history, and they hope that we can contribute to the LVGC Fonds (yes, there is one already!!). Apparently, there is very little material there and they would like more: notices of Plant Sales, and yes, hard copies of the Leaf, our triumphs and exploits - anything that we feel would benefit "posterity".

If there is someone out there with archivist experience or expertise - who would like to take up this challenge - please let the Exec know!



## Earth Day - April 22

Earth Day aims to educate and activate the environmental movement worldwide. The Earth day movement now works with over 50,000 partners in nearly 195 countries to build raise awareness of world environmental issues.

More than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world. The focus this year is reducing plastic pollution around the world.  
 #EarthDay2018 #EndPlasticPollution #lessplastic #plasticless

## Climate change threatens rare British orchid that tricks bees into mating

-Submitted by Judith Brook

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/apr/05/climate-change-threatens-rare-british-orchid-that-tricks-bees-into-mating>  
BY Patrick Barkham @patrick\_barkham Thu 5 Apr 2018 22.00 BST

### Researchers find that warmer temperatures are upsetting the seasonal relationship between the early spider orchid and pollinating bees

It is one of the most cunning and elaborate reproductive deceptions: the early spider orchid (*Ophrys sphegodes*) wafts a floral bouquet into the air that mimics the irresistible scent of a virgin female solitary mining bee, tricking gullible male bees into attempting intercourse with several flowers, thereby ensuring the plant's pollination.

But the sexual success of this rare and declining orchid in Britain is imperiled by climate change, researchers have found.

The orchid's ruse only works if a female mining bee, *Andrena nigroaenea*, has not emerged from hibernation, because as soon as this happens, the orchid cannot compete with the alluring scent of the real thing – and the plant is ignored by the male bees. While warmer springs cause the early spider orchid to flower earlier in May, climate warming is also causing female bees to emerge from hibernation even earlier – confounding the orchid's attempts to dupe the male bees.

Phenology is the study of how plant and animal life cycles are influenced by seasonal variations in climate. Similar phenological mismatches have been observed in other ecological relationships, such as great tit chicks no longer hatching soon enough to coincide with peak supplies of their crucial caterpillar food. They could potentially imperil the reproductive success of many species, including the pollination of plants and crops.

Studying 356 years of central England temperature records, as well as specimens of early spider orchids and *Andrena nigroaenea* from herbariums and museums from Victorian times, researchers from the University of Sussex, the University of East Anglia, Kew and the University of Kent were able to calculate when warm

spring conditions caused the female bees to emerge earlier than the orchid.

Their study, published in the Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society, found that the orchid's trick was always a delicate balancing act – even between 1659 and 1710, the peak flying date for the female bee preceded the orchid's peak flowering in 40% of the years – but it has become even more inefficient.

Mean spring temperature increased from 7.68C to 8.64C over the 356-year study period, and between 1961 and 2014 the female bee's emergence preceded the orchid's peak flowering in 80% of the years.

The researchers found the female bee beat the orchid flower in 26 of the 28 years to 2014. Although one pollinated early spider orchid can produce 10,000 tiny seeds, failure to flower before the female bee emerges makes pollination almost impossible, and each orchid is very short-lived.

Michael Hutchings, lead author and emeritus professor of ecology at the University of Sussex, first noticed the changes in flowering times during 32 years studying the rare orchids on the South Downs. The orchid's range in Britain has drastically shrunk and Hutchings warned that it could become extinct in this country, with climate change also damaging populations of other less specialist plants and animals.

"For years I've been speaking at conferences and writing papers saying if we get the habitat management right everything is going to be fine but then the climate warming actually stops the plant producing the seeds," he said.

"Ecologists have been saying for a long time that if phenologies are changed by changing climate this might disrupt important interactions in communities of species. This study provides the strongest evidence we have that something nasty is happening. There are probably lots of other undocumented cases where similar detrimental effects on species are occurring."



APRIL is the cruellest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.  
Winter kept us warm, covering  
Earth in forgetful snow, feeding  
A little life with dried tubers.

TS Eliot – *The Waste Land* (for Ezra Pound)

## EVENTS

From Rosemarie Adams:

### **UBC Botanical Gardens - Plant Sale**

Peonies, Poppies & Pelargoniums Courtyard Sale  
UBC Botanical Gardens

**Saturday May 12, 11 AM - 3 PM**

<http://botanicalgarden.ubc.ca/news-events/events-activities/peonies-poppies-pelargoniums-courtyard-sale/>

Spice up your garden this spring with peonies, poppies and pelargoniums grown by Friends of the Garden volunteers and botanical garden staff. Several varieties of poppies including the stunning Blue Himalayan Meconopsis, a special assortment of pelargoniums, Itoh, tree and shrub peonies will all be ready to take home. Beautiful living sedum arrangements and wreaths will be available and the Shop in the Garden's Garden Centre is bursting at the seams with everything you need to make this your most successful garden season yet. Bring your gardening questions to on-site Master Gardeners and Hortline experts.

6804 SW Marine Drive @16<sup>th</sup> Avenue

604-822-4529



From Jackie Morris

### **London Heritage Farm**

is pleased to invite you to join us at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Plant Sale  
**Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM**

6511 Dyke Road

Richmond, B.C. V7E 3R3

Our London Heritage Farm Tearoom is also open - make sure you book your Afternoon Tea online at  
[www.londonheritagefarm.ca](http://www.londonheritagefarm.ca).



Susan Huber writes:

I am forwarding information from the **Point Roberts Garden Club** about their **garden tour in July 2018**. I emailed them and asked for information on how tickets are being sold, and this is their response:

"Tickets will go on sale in late June or early July. I shall add this email to our notification list & you will get an announcement once tickets go on sale. If you are unable to buy advance tickets from one of our vendors, simply email us & we will set aside some will-call tickets that you will be able to pick up at our Day-Of ticket table the morning of the Tour."

The Point Roberts (WA) Garden Club holds its acclaimed garden tour every other year. This year is number XV! If appropriate, we would love to invite you and your members to visit the **eight** unique properties on this year's tour and would appreciate your sharing the details with your members.

### **Point Roberts Garden Tour XV**

**July 15, 2018**

**10 AM to 4 PM**

**C\$20 per person**

This self-guided tour of eight wonderful gardens includes a map and a stop for afternoon tea with music.

Note: enhanced driver's license or passport required to cross the border.

More info: [info@pointrobertsgardenclub.org](mailto:info@pointrobertsgardenclub.org)



Earth laughs in flowers . . .

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



## Gardening is an Elegant Occupation

...and LVGC is not short on sartorial splendour. Our gardening garb is what makes us who we are as Shakespeare established in *Hamlet*, in the famous speech we had to memorize in English class “Polonius’ advice to Laertes”:

“Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,  
But not express'd in fancy; rich, not gaudy;  
**For the apparel oft proclaims the man,”**

and that is also true of gardeners. This is also the speech where Polonius goes on about “neither a borrower, nor lender be” .... But we can forget that bit. So - your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to identify the elegant LVGC supermodels in the pictures above. We will even tell you who they are – but who’s who, which is which? Your choices are: your President, Secretary, Treasurer and Leaf Editor. Answers at the meeting.

## The “Compost Bin”

- Maria Issa

While we are on the topic of attractive gardening attire....

### LVGC T-shirts:

Rita Marshall tracked down our past supplier of elegant, green, logo-ed LVGC club T-shirts: **The Dog’s Ear** <http://www.dogsear.com/store-ambleside.htm> in West Vancouver – they \*should\* have the LVGC logo (watering can holding flowers along with LVGC name in gold) which can be embroidered onto a T-shirt or golf shirt. To have a T-shirt made up costs \$40.00 dollars = (\$16.00 for the T + approx. \$20.00) for the embroidered logo to be applied to the said T-shirt.

### Gardening gloves:

As a few meetings ago, we had a discussion on the miseries of awful garden gloves, Sue Callahan passed us this link to a **Botanus** video (remember, Pam and Elke gave the talk last October) <http://www.botanus.com/garden-club/episode-151-160/episode-158-watson-perfect-10-gloves> (Episode 158). They wax poetic over gloves from Watson, a BC glove-maker, which are are a “perfect 10”... and which is what they are called. FYI: Amazon charges \$29 for a pair. This April is Watson’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday so that made them sufficiently interesting to look up, and on their website there are gloves galore. We can be proud of this BC outfit – they really do have wonderful stuff. <http://www.watsonsgloves.com/wg-products/products-main-listing/?cat=new-items>

### World Naked Gardening Day, May 5:

Weather notwithstanding, this is an important international event – and should be strongly supported by LVGC members. Please document your participation and submit the photographic evidence for publication in the May LEAF. Appropriate attire is essential and pictures thereof will be much anticipated. <http://www.wngd.org>

### NEWSFLASH!!!

From Bruce Tennant: **The Veggimates need more 4-inch pots for our veggies for the Plant Sale.** If anyone has any, please some bring them to the meeting on Thursday!!!!!!!!!!!!

### Gardening and art:

Rita Marshall recommends this book if you wish to use your garden as your (painting) muse. “The Watercolor Artist’s Flower Handbook: Leading Floral Artists Show How to Capture the Beauty of Flowers, 2005 by Patricia Seligman. \$16 at Amazon. [NY Times bestseller!]



**LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB**

# **Spring Plant Sale**

**Saturday, May 12th, 2018**  
**10:00 am – 1:00 pm**



**St. Clement's Anglican Church**  
**3400 Institute Road**  
**North Vancouver, B.C.**

- **West Coast Seeds vegetables and herbs**
- **1000s of plants from members' gardens**
- **Perennials for sun, shade, and drought-tolerance**
- **Master Gardeners available to answer your questions**
- **Proceeds to local charitable gardening projects**

**No entry fee, CASH ONLY**

[www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org)

[www.facebook.com/LynnValleyGardenClub](https://www.facebook.com/LynnValleyGardenClub)