



THE LEAF

LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

June 2018

President's Message – Anna Marie D-Angelo

This will be our last general meeting before the summer break and also our final meeting at St. Clement's church. Last month, I shared with club members how the executive had unanimously voted to hold our meetings and plant sale at St. Stephen's hall, starting in September, as we have outgrown our current premises. We will be paying the same rent and our membership fees are not affected by the move. St. Stephen's is located on Mountain Highway and East 24th Street, a few blocks south of the mall. To access the parking lot, you turn into St. Stephen's Place (not 24th Street). The hall is at ground level and is next to the farthest parking lot section from Mountain Highway.

Leaving St. Clement's meant that we finally got around to seeing whether there really was a back wall to the club's cupboard, or it went on forever. I can verify that there is. About a half dozen members of the executive present and past found this out after we got together one evening a few weeks ago to clean up the jammed cupboard. Containers were tidied up, plant sale tarps and tablecloths were removed and are now stored in my attic, other things were removed for storage by individuals in the cleanup crew and things no longer in use were recycled or discarded. We found a gong, of all things, which I plan to use now to call meetings to order. I don't know how many spools of tape we found that we surely could have used at the plant sale. Those are now stored in the same container, ready if/when we need them. The cupboard is now ready to be easily emptied after the June meeting.

One thing to be aware of is that St. Stephen's men's washroom and kitchen are being renovated this summer. If that work is not completed before our September meeting, we will need to hold our September meeting at a different place. We will keep you posted as to our September meeting locale, should that happen.

Many thanks go to Rosemarie Adams, Diane Sekora and Doreen Marby for all the hard work they did for our successful bus tour on June 2. A full bus visited Free Spirit Nursery in Langley, and Thomas Hobbs and Brent Beattie's private garden at their peaceful, sprawling Langley acreage. We also took in, as in, bought a lot of plants at, Devon Greenhouses in Abbotsford. It was an enjoyable, long day that started cloudy but ended up sunny and hot with lots of plants heading home to show for it.

Don't forget the members' garden tour is set for Saturday, July 7. Be sure to sign up for this always interesting and enjoyable event.

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

June 21

JIM RAHE

Annie's Orchard: Apples and Pears

For fall speakers, watch this space in September.

Mailing Address:

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

<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>

- May LEAF photo credits to, Hiromi Matsui, Rita Marshall, Rosemarie Adams



2018 Executive

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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 for 2019 ?????

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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: Sept. 5, 7:30 PM
Chez Susan Huber

Next Newsletter Deadline
Sept 12, 2018

If you have material to delight
your fellow members - please
submit it *via* the time-honoured
routes or email to
[mailto:lynvalleygardenclubne
wsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lynvalleygardenclubnewsletter@gmail.com)

Thanks to all who contributed
to this edition: and to Bruce
Tennant for the photo below



SPEAKER

JIM RAHE --- Thursday, June 14, 2018 **Annie's Orchard: 35 years of Growing and Selling Apples and Pears in the Fraser Valley**

Jim Rahe is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biological Sciences at Simon Fraser University. Until his retirement in 2004, Jim taught mainly courses in plant biology and in the Department's Master of Pest Management program where he was the Department's specialist in orchard, farm and specialty crop pest management. The focus of his research specialization was biology of plant disease interactions. Jim was an active member of the [B.C. Professional Pest Management Association](#) (past President), the [Canadian Phytopathological Society](#), and the [Fraser Valley Farm Direct Marketing Association](#) (past President). He is knowledgeable about plant propagation and crop production methods, and pest management for a wide range of specialty crops. He and his wife Mary Ann live near Aldergrove, B.C., and own and operate [Annie's Orchard](#). Annie's is a small, high density orchard specializing in direct sales of more than 50 varieties of fresh apples and pears.

REPORTS

VP Report - Hiromi Matsui

Speakers are booked well into next year!! Thanks for all your ideas and submissions: they have been extremely helpful.

SOS - Searching for a LOST Rain Garden Book:

Did you pick it up with your handouts? It was on the table by the entrance along with the handout sheets. It was a white, coil-bound, 8 _ x 11 book belonging to Deborah Jones, the May Speaker.

She is really hoping to get it back as it was her only copy!

Please hunt!

Treasurer's Report - Ginette Handfield

The **Raffle** brought in \$424; The **Honey** 136.50 & growing as more has been ordered;
The **Plant Sale** itself generated \$4840.50
For a total **Revenue** of \$ 5401.00
The **Expenses** were \$ 713.36
NET we made \$4687.64 This is more than the \$4358 we made last year!

May: Petty cash	\$ 271.75
Bank Account	<u>14,724.86</u>
Total	14,996.61 - includes revenue; and we still have ~\$5000 in anticipated expenses.

Membership Report & Website - Judy Sullivan & Aline Burlone

The current membership stands at 115. A **membership application** link has been added to the LVGC website to connect potential members to the Membership Committee.
lvgc.membership@gmail.com

Hospitality - Carole Cobbett & Susan Nicholls & Maggie Davis

- Just the usual reminder to bring your coffee cup!!!

MAL Report - Maggie Davis, Rita Marshall, Daphne Page

[No report from the MALS as they are well-deservedly sitting on (or under?) their laurels* (*see more about laurels later*) after the incredibly successful Plant Sale. Rumour has it they are already pre-plotting next year's proceedings!!]

The Great LVGC Bus Tour!!!!

A crown of laurels* (*vide infra*) for the phenomenal organizers! We convened at St Clement's where stood an endlessly long yellow school bus. We stuffed ourselves in – there wasn't a spot left! – and noisier than a bunch of school kids (according to the driver) – we headed down the highway.



Our first stop was Free Spirit nursery (<http://www.freespiritnursery.ca>) - where we found some really cool and weird plants. They have a smart



way of selling them: a border shows the plants fully grown and across the path are the smaller potted versions to take home (for a fee). They also had interesting pots and decorations.

This is where ghosts and Punnet squares appeared (*vide infra*). One has to go there with a list and not diverge from it because a) the temptation just sucks one in and b) it can get expensive – the place is high-end in interest and in price. Some of us, who should remain nameless, filled our ikea-bag allotment in the first five minutes. As we headed to our second



stop, the bus looked like some sort of "Birnam Wood com[ing] to Dunsinane".

Stop two with lunch was at the Thomas Hobbs and Brent Beattie "estate": <https://www.thatbloomingarden.com/2015/07/a-visit-to-thomas-hobbs-garden/> 20 acres of hills-with-lawn-to-mow, a



river, a pond with orange *Euphorbium griffithii* (*fireglow*), some interesting plantings around a fabulous pool – and a deer-proofed garden of gorgeous, unusual irises in an unimaginable range of colours. We wandered about and had lunch *al fresco*, even a nap on the lawn. On the way out, I noted some beautiful yellow petal-stuffed roses called "Teasing Georgia" that are now officially on my "coveted" list. Reluctantly, we boarded the bus, but cheered right up as we neared stop #3.

Devan Greenhouses LTD, on Fraser Highway is the diametric opposite of Free Spirit. It isn't expensive (OK. let's admit it: it's surprisingly cheap!) - there is LOTS of everything spread over about an acre of greenhouses accessible to shoppers. No, the plants are not unusual, but they're good quality and survive well in the hands of the novice (*me!*). Although I did overhear someone say, "I won't buy anything there, it's ordinary", literally nobody – including the scoffer – came out empty-handed... We all over did it. This, of course, posed a problem as the bus was already full of Free Spirit. The ikea-bags were hauled out, re-Rubick-cubed, the (delicious!) treats stuffed down people, the drinks handed out so that more plants could go in. Plants were on seats between people, on top of people, in laps etc. The bus was a tropical jungle in motion and apparently Judy's pants got wet.

Right on schedule, in spite of some potentially heavy traffic, we arrived back happy and chatty and loaded with 'finds' and scurried off home to plant them.

Rosemarie, Diane, Doreen: kudos! Everything was organized to the minute and in minutest detail. We had fun, food, friends and phyto-phenomena! THANK YOU!

For those of you who missed the bus tour – DON'T next year!



Also NOT TO BE MISSED - the LVGC Members' Gardens Tour July 7:

There will be some special treats this year - people whose gardens we have been dying to see! The information will be forthcoming at the end of June, by email. If you don't use email - please tell Penny and/or Susan!

FOR SPECIFIC INFO SEE "EVENTS" BELOW!!!!

If you wish to become a "Garden Tour Organizer Par Excellence" and wish to train this year, to do it *next year* - RUN to Susan or Penny.

***** Is there anyone interested in keeping LVGC historical records and liaising with the North Vancouver Archives???

OOOPS! and Iris - Rosemarie Adams

At the May club meeting I brought this plant for Bright Spots. It had been given to me by Bogna, and came with a label. It was not a plant or name I was familiar with, so I assumed it was what the label said. Wrong!

Ann Pentland immediately and correctly identified it as *Chiastophyllum oppositifolium* - thanks Ann!



Quite a few people were interested in this iris at last meeting. It's very pretty; the attached photo does not show how it blooms in sprays of flowers.



Some years ago, long time LVGC member **Ruth Kasher** (see later in this issue), was moving from her home and lovely garden into a care home. We received permission to try salvage some of her plants. Many plants were saved for our plant sale, and I was able to get a couple of Peonies. **This is the first time the white one shown has bloomed.**



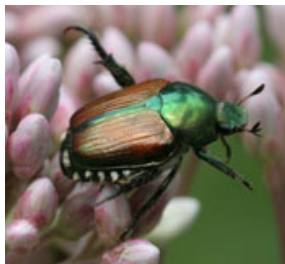
Norma Ferguson has two cement items, which perhaps, someone from the club could use?

The fountain is in good working order having rarely been used. The bridge is largely for decorative purposes.

>>They are both **heavy**.



JAPANESE BEETLE ALERT!!



Both Barb Downman and Doreen Marbry forwarded information from the Master Gardeners and Phoenix Perennials about the expansion of the Japanese Beetle's range and what Vancouver is doing about it. Here is the basty nastard.

Wanted Dead ~~Or Alive~~!

A coordinated response to eradicate Japanese beetle in Vancouver

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, City of Vancouver, and other industry and non-governmental stakeholders are working together to respond to the detection of Japanese beetle in the False Creek area of Vancouver in 2017.

This co-operative effort is required because Japanese beetle is an invasive, regulated pest that feeds on the roots of turf grass and above ground parts of more than 300 plant species including roses, fruit trees, grapevines, and other common landscape and food plants. If this pest spreads it could cause damage to lawns, landscapes, golf courses, gardens and parks, and harm BC's agricultural sector. It could also affect the beauty and health of Vancouver's ecosystem.

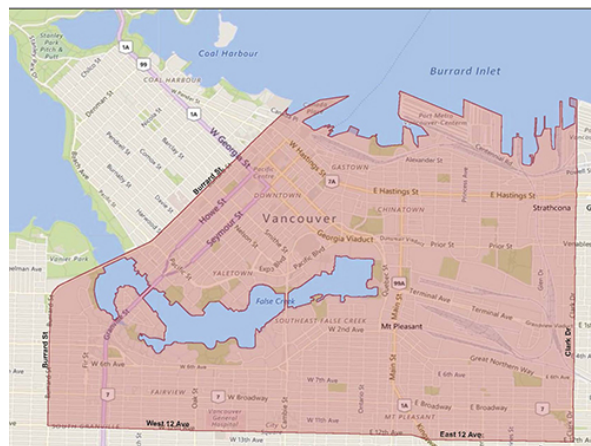
Movement controls

As part of the coordinated response to the detection of Japanese beetle, the CFIA has established a regulated area for Japanese beetle around the False Creek area of Vancouver.

The CFIA is restricting the movement of soil, rooted plants with soil and other plant material that is infested or likely to be infested with Japanese beetle out of the regulated area. These restrictions are intended to reduce the risk of human-assisted spread of the beetle.

Effective April 27, 2018 and until further notice, the movement of plant material and soil out of the regulated area is restricted. The movement of rooted plants and soil out of the regulated area is restricted all year round. The movement of above-ground plant parts out of the regulated area is restricted between June 15 and October 15, which is the flight period of the adult beetles.

There is a lot more information on the CFIA website so please go there directly: http://www.inspection.gc.ca/DAM/DAM-plants-vegetaux/STAGING/images-images/japanese_beetle_vancouver_publicMap_1525815540487_eng.jpg



This brings us to other nasty invasives: **LAURELS**

Laurels, actually Daphne/spurge laurels – are nasty invasive bushes, as are their relatives, the English laurels, the trees that seed positively everywhere, though they do have attractive shiny leaves, - <https://bcinvasives.ca/news-events/media/articles/weed-of-the-week-daphne-spurge-laurel> <https://bcinvasives.ca/resources/photo-gallery/english-laurel> Please look them up - as well their evil associates - on the BC Invasives website.

So, I wondered why the ancients used laurel leaves to crown their heroes. Were they nuts? Well, it turns out they weren't nuts – I was. *That* laurel wreath, the one for the “laureates”, was actually a BAY leaf crown. I should have figured that out from the French “feuille de laurier” used in Boeuf Bourguignon. Much better – as bay leaves smell nice. So here's the real info.



According to Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laurel_wreath) - a laurel wreath is a symbol of victory and honor. It is a circular wreath made of interlocking branches and leaves of the bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*), an aromatic broadleaf evergreen, or later from spineless butcher's broom (*Ruscus hypoglossum*) or cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*). In Greek mythology, Apollo is represented wearing a laurel wreath on his head. In ancient Greece wreaths were awarded to victors, both in athletic competitions, including the ancient

Olympics, made of wild olive-tree known as "kotinos" (____), and in poetic meets; in Rome they were symbols of martial victory, crowning a successful commander during his triumph. Whereas ancient laurel wreaths are most often depicted as a horseshoe shape, modern versions are usually complete rings.

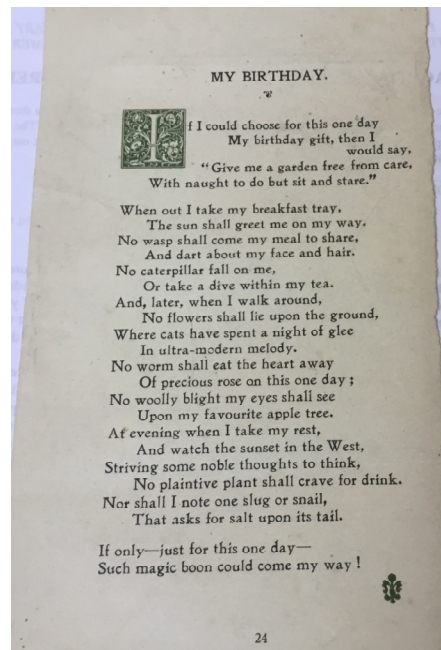
In common modern idiomatic usage it refers to a victory. The expression "resting on one's laurels" refers to someone relying entirely on long-past successes for continued fame or recognition, where to "look to one's laurels" means to be careful of losing rank to competition.



A Garage Sale Gardening Find

– Carole Cobbett

My daughter found a book in a give-away box at a garage sale – an old British storybook. Among its leaves was a bookmark – a page torn from an even older book:



Flowers seem intended for a solace of ordinary humanity . . . John Ruskin

Good-bye St Clement's!



Ghosts, Mendel and Punnet Squares – Kitty Castle & Maria Issa

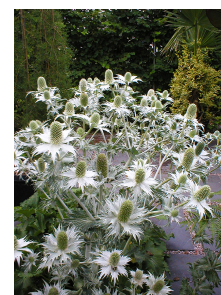
The ghost happened during the Great LVGC Bus Tour, at Free Spirit. [hmmmm?]

--“That,” said Kitty, pointing at a strange looking plant, “is Miss Willmott’s ghost”.

--“Huh?” quoth I, intelligently.

--“Oh yes, there was quite a story” added Rosemarie.

It turns out, that a certain Miss Willmott, who, according to Wikipedia, was rich, a “spinster of the parish”, renowned, and a great gardener on two continents, liked this particular weird plant. She liked it so much, that she attempted to foist the sea-holly upon all her friends and acquaintances. After a while, they politely refused. She then surreptitiously sprinkled the seeds in any garden that she visited and they appeared, as would a ghost, seemingly out of nowhere. Miss Willmott’s gardening prowess and her association with the Royal Horticultural Society can be perused through the following link: <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/the-essay-miss-willmotts-ghost-1117862.html> It’s a good read. We then talked about how some plants just seem easy to propagate: just sprinkle and they grow.



Then, as Kitty was holding a dark red, almost maroon *astrantia*, the conversation shifted to their propagation and the problem that if one has white and red astrantias, the next year they turn pink. To maintain whites white, and reds red, they have to be dead-headed as soon as the flowers fade, or they cross-pollinate. This was the advice of Free Spirit’s owner. In 20:20 hindsight, this makes eminent sense as we were all brought up on Gregor Mendel, the Father of

Modern Genetics, and his peas. He showed that the F1 (*first filial*) generation is an even mixing of the two traits, Red (R) and white (w); while the F2 (the grand kids) re-sort the traits so that some are like each parent, and some are like the original grand-parents. The proportions of how this happens can be explained by a Punnet square (named after, of course, a Mr. Reginald C. Punnet!). “The **Punnett square** is a **square** diagram that is used to predict the outcome of a

F1	R	R
w	Rw	Rw
w	Rw	Rw

particular cross or breeding experiment. The diagram is used by biologists to determine the probability of an offspring having a particular genotype.” Parental genotypes are aligned along the top and the left; the offspring are the combinations.

F2	R	w
R	RR	Rw
w	Rw	ww

Members Past and Present Judith Brook

Originally, Rosemarie Adams interviewed **Ruth Kasher (1922-2010)** in November of 2007. Ruth joined LVGC in 1991, but had started gardening over 50 years earlier. She reminisced that “a neighbour had lots of colourful dahlias and gave me some. I also remember that my mother grew vegetables when I was a child, but I don’t recall gardening with her.” While Ruth didn’t have a of having lots of different kinds of plants liked Garden Centres like Dykhof interesting speakers and information other root vegetables rotting, they tested potassium. Speaking of potassium, 30 under the Lions Gate Bridge where there potash. We used to scoop up the spills gardening reference books were the *Sunset* series, but she didn’t read gardening magazines. She offers these words of wisdom: “Don’t get too anxious about your plants and flowers. Wait and see - some plants don’t grow as fast as others. Have patience!”



favourite gardening style as such, she loved the idea – she liked them all, didn’t have any favourites. She because she found that over the years they had some desks there. “Some years ago I had onion sets and my soil at Dykhof and found that it was lacking in years or more ago I used to go to the beach area were lots of trains going back and forth carrying and take the potash home.” Ruth’s favourite

Judith recalls visiting Ruth’s lovely garden during a Members’ Gardens Tour some years ago and Bernie Robb recalls Ruth offering her plants to LVGC, to dig up and sell at the annual Plant Sale, when Ruth moved from her house to a care home.

Vanessa Tancock joined LVGC in May 2017 and talked about gardening with Judith Brook. Vanessa has always gardened and became particularly interested while living in England from 1992 to 2012 as her husband was a great gardener. Since her husband passed away five years ago, Vanessa has tried to replicate each plant from England, here in North Vancouver and this provides many happy memories. In England, they had a huge bay tree, which is now represented by an eight-inch specimen here in North Vancouver. Because she is replicating her English garden, Vanessa already knows about the plants and their likes/dislikes though the soil in England was heavy and here it is quite different. Still, her favourite gardening style is a classical English garden such as *Great Dixter Garden*

(<https://www.greatdixter.co.uk>) by Christopher Lloyd. In his view, colours do not clash in nature, so Vanessa has flowers of all colours. She does not appreciate gardens that are too manicured or too regimented. Instead, Vanessa likes the idea from Great Dixter of “controlled chaos”. Vanessa’s garden supports hummingbirds and she chooses plants that attract them, such as honeysuckle and flowers with red colours.

Because her current style of gardening is the “controlled chaos” approach, Vanessa’s garden has lots of different colours. She has replaced portions of the lawn with fescue and clover, to deal with the dreaded lawn chafer beetles. She had a few patches where the lawn was brown and she scattered fescue and clover – this has resulted in some colour differentiation between the new planting and the existing grass. Vanessa likes *Choisya*, lovely yellow-green and evergreen, with white flowers, one of her most favourites. She also likes *Hellebores* and has many of these, dotted around, mostly coloured mauve-brown or white or pink. Her *Hostas* are also doing well.



Vanessa’s favourite garden centre is Maple Leaf here in North Vancouver, and her choice gardening reference book, among the many brought with her from England, is ‘Gardening Made Easy’ by Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall; which is very detailed.

Vanessa offers these words of wisdom: “Relax and enjoy it, don’t get too hung up on things.” Vanessa likes to enjoy her view into her garden, which brings peace and enjoyment and she finds that each day’s view is different.

--- To see a world in a grain of sand and heaven in a wild flower/ Hold infinity in the palm of your hand and eternity in an hour.

William Blake

--- And forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair.

Khalil Gibran

--- Love is the flower of life, and blossoms unexpectedly and without law, and must be plucked where it is found, and enjoyed for the brief hour of its duration.

D.H. Lawrence

EVENTS

First – The most important event: THE LVGC MEMBERS’ GARDENS TOUR – JULY 7

Hold the date: Saturday July 7th is this annual, much anticipated event. This year we have a great line-up of gardens for you to enjoy. Here is your chance to see **Rosemarie Adams’** garden – the garden that produces so many wonderful specimens for the “Bright Spots” at each meeting. **Ann Pentland** takes growing vegetables to a new level. She readily admits that her vegetable garden has expanded onto the boulevard and the lane easement but she invites people (not just garden club members) to wander through at any time to experience and enjoy. **Peter and Inga Steinebach’s** garden is a joy to visit any time. It is a peaceful oasis with many different plants and unusual “ornaments” peeking out from under the lush growth. **Bogna Ross** said that the garden club could come and see all the mistakes she has made with her garden. Well, if Bogna’s garden with its mix of beautiful trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables is the result of mistakes obviously the rest of us should be making more mistakes! We will finish the tour at **Sue Callahan’s** garden where the abundant flowers attract bees, birds and butterflies. This garden will also be our lunch stop. Bring your own sandwiches. The club will supply fruit, goodies, cold drinks and tea/coffee.

We will meet at about 9:30 am on Saturday morning on Institute Road outside of St. Clement’s although we ask you not to park in their parking lot. Car-pooling will be organized then, although you are very welcome to figure out your own car pool before this. The brochure with map, addresses and garden descriptions will be emailed to all members about a week before the tour. (Make sure you remember to print it off and bring it with you!) Plan to join us on this last LVGC event before we break for the summer. We should also mention that we have a back up garden (thank you, **Doreen Dew**) waiting in the wings just in case one of the other gardens is not available!

Email or phone us if you have any questions.

Your organizers - **Penny Le Couteur and Susan Huber**

From Julie Rudd:


Here's a link to an exhibition at the *Beaty Biodiversity Museum at UBC*. It consists of works inspired by UBC research into how trees communicate. I haven't seen it myself but hope to before it closes in November!

<http://beatymuseum.ubc.ca/whats-on/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/woven-woods/>

And the artist's description of her works:

<http://www.lroyart.com/gallery.php?cat=28>

From Joyce Page:

If you have room in the next newsletter, *Silver*  *Harbour*, the North Vancouver's Senior Activity Centre, has *tulip and daffodil bulbs* donated to them and they sell them to make money to go towards the centre for courses etc. Much of the money made is to keep food costs down, class prices down and the building going.

"*Flower Bulbs for Sale*: The City of North Vancouver has, once again, made a generous donation of repurposed daffodil and tulip bulbs as a fundraiser for Silver Harbour. These bulbs usually result in very big, showy flowers in the spring as they are very good quality bulbs that have been put into the City plantings. They are 6 for \$1.00 and can be purchased at our front desk. Shop now for the best selection." I would add - *Bring something to put them in* although bags can be gotten from the front desk. [I went a little crazy with these last year.... They are a great deal!! - m]



From Penny Noble, Heritage Vancouver Society

Dear Garden Clubs,

If you have a way of getting information out to your members, they may like to know about our tour coming up! It is well worth travelling from out of town and making a weekend of it!

This year's tour features the secret garden of Arthur Erickson! Along with 14 other delightful gardens of every size and type sure to appeal to all tastes and interests! Including several plant collectors' gardens, a spectacular Japanese garden and gardens with outdoor entertaining areas, ponds, water features and more! (see below)

Heritage Vancouver Garden Tour Jun 23 and 24; 10AM to 4PM both days; **Tickets: \$ 35.00** online or at a variety of retailers listed at: www.heritagevancouver.org

Online tickets end Jun 12, in-person tickets can be purchase anytime including day of the tour while they last

- A self-guided tour of enchanting private gardens on Vancouver's Westside
- Fundraiser for Heritage Vancouver Society



The Point Roberts Garden Club announces that the **15th Point Roberts Garden Tour** will take place on **Sunday, July 15, 2018**. The tour, which is self-guided, will take place between 10 AM and 4 PM. A map and entry to the gardens are part of the ticket package, and the tour includes a stop for afternoon tea and live music from 1pm to 4pm at the Point Roberts Community Center on Gulf Road.

This year, there will be eight unique gardens to visit. From a beach side garden oasis to a hillside gem to a garden which offers a range of Chilean plants to a study in structure, color and contrast, the gardens reflect the devotion and unique vision of each owner. An award-winning jewelry designer has applied her talents in creating a series of "garden rooms" nestled in a forest setting. A quilter has used a quilter's eye and a geometric approach to the plantings and paths. A 4.5-acre property uses over 100 camellias and rhododendrons and 150 year-old Japanese maples as separation from the barns and turnout areas for their Peruvian Paso horses.

Ticket prices are C\$20 or US\$15 per person and will be available July 1 at **Nielson's Home Building Center and Auntie Pam's Country Store in Point Roberts, Harris Nurseryland and the Blue Door Interiors in Ladner, BC and Flowers Beautiful in Tsawwassen, BC**. Visitors are reminded that a **passport or enhanced driver's license** is required to cross the border.

Tickets will also be available the day of the tour up to 2 PM at the corner of Tyee Drive and McKenzie Way, about a block after crossing the border. No tickets will be sold after 2 PM in order to give visitors enough time to tour the gardens. Ticket packages include a map of Point Roberts clearly marked with the locations of the gardens on the tour, the afternoon tea and restaurants for those who wish to have lunch.

More information is available on the Point Roberts Garden Club's website:

www.pointrobertsgardenclub.org and on its Facebook page.

Directions:

Point Roberts, WA, is a peninsula located due South of Tsawwassen, B.C. From Highway 99, turn West onto Highway 17, and then left onto 56th Street and follow the road until it ends at the border. From the Island Ferries, take Highway 17 East, turn right on 56th Street and continue to the border.



The “Compost Bin”

- by Maria Issa

This is Part 2 of last month’s Rhodo Rescue. Here, I think it’s necessary to state that the “Rescue” part of the rescue, was orchestrated by Hiromi. My garden was/is merely the landing spot. It was Hiromi’s heroic and relentless negotiations with (not amenable) owners, dour developers, scary security guards – that saved the 3 big rhodos’ bacon. Bad analogy, but you get what I mean. Like water washing stone, Hiromi slowly, gently, politely, peaceably wore down the resistance: then she pounced!

--“The backhoe is coming tomorrow! Get ready!” came Hiromi’s phone call. I promptly chatted up all males within hailing distance as I had seen the girth of those bushes. To continue with food analogies, the trunks were dinner plate diameters, the branches, a Big Mac. These puppies were going to be heavy.

--“Well, they yanked them out... but sure broke off a lot of roots!” came Hiromi’s call the next day. Luckily our friend happened to be over, with both a trailer and an 18-year old son in tow; plus I had one poor, unsuspecting husband – and we were good to go. We raced out to Deep Cove and came nose-to-branch with the monsters. They were indeed, BIG – the biggest so far! While I won’t reproduce the language employed during, the huge rhodos were struggled onto the trailer and driven up to St. Mary’s.

Then came the 24-hour dig. I’m sure the neighbours are convinced that a serial killer was getting rid of evidence, as I dug enormous holes. With much grunting, the rhodos were stuck in the holes – whether they had roots or not. The one with the most roots promptly perked up and started flowering. The middle roots rhodo took a few days and the rootless wonder – is a wonder, as it seems to be putting out new shoots. My fingers are crossed – and I water them daily with (don’t laugh!) rooting hormone – which may or may not work – but I figure I have to stack the deck. I’ll let you know by the fall.