

THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

November 2020

President's Message – Norma Austin

Come celebrate with us! Our Christmas party is on Thursday, December 17 at 7 PM on Zoom.



We will begin the evening by following along with Rosemarie to make our own beautiful Christmas bell at home. I've seen some very creative and artistic arrangements that members have made in years past. Afterwards, you might post your Christmas bell (or other Christmas crafts) to our Facebook group so we can all ooh and aah. Thank you, Rosemarie, for taking this on. I love your will-try and can-do attitude!



Next, we will open the meeting up so we can see each other and hear from each other. When there are over 50 people, Zoom does not allow for spontaneity. Otherwise, the jumble of household noises and the talking over each other would be overwhelming. We would simply have a wall of quizzical faces or this face. So, Jacquie and I will call on any member who wants to say something to the group. Do you have a memory of a particular Christmas? Perhaps a special gift, surprise, dinner disaster, etc. Share with us your ideas or plans on how to celebrate Christmas this year. Or just give a Christmas shout-out to all. We'd love to hear from you. If you would like to say a few words to our members, just type your name into the Zoom chat and Jacquie Morgan or I will call on you.



Looking forward to seeing everybody there!
We'll finish with a sing-along of "We Wish You A Merry Christmas!"



Don't worry if you've ever been told you can't carry a tune. I suppose you could limber up those vocal chords a bit beforehand. There are warm up exercises on-line that you might try. My favourite is lip bubbles!!!

you



Here is what I know to be true: when there are 50 voices singing all sorts of variations, I consider that to be harmonizing. I know others call that singing enthusiastically. So, come on, lets harmonize enthusiastically!



Come and join in the laughter with your favourite Christmas Cheer in hand!!
[The lyrics are below, with all the other party bits you will need]



LVGC MEETINGS
Non-Pandemic: **3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August)**
at
St. Stephen's Church
1360 E 24th Street
Pandemic: ZOOM
MEETINGS WILL START AT 7PM

SPEAKER
Dec 17
ZOOM HOLIDAY PARTY!
[DON'T FORGET YOUR CRAFT BITS]

Even though we have a Mailing Address:
Lynn Valley Garden Club
P.O. Box 16053
1199 Lynn Valley Road
North Vancouver, BC
V7J 3S9
To limit unnecessary trips, we are picking up the mail ad hoc

PLEASE USE ELECTRONIC ACCESS

Your emails are welcome!
<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| President | |
| Norma Austin | x |
| Vice President | |
| Jacque Morgan | x |
| Secretary | |
| Susan Huber | x |
| Treasurer | |
| Ginette Handfield | x |
| Membership | |
| Sue Callahan | x |
| Doreen Marbry | x |
| Members at Large | |
| Pat Holmes | x |
| Lori Herman | x |
| Suzanne Mazoret | x |
| Jackie Morris | x |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <i>Committees</i> | |
| Newsletter Editor | |
| Maria Issa | x |
| Julie Kehler | x |
| Jane Sherrott | x |
| Plant Table | |
| Norma Buckland | x |
| Hospitality | |
| Sharon Carabetta | x |
| Maggie Davis | x |
| Susan Nicholls | x |
| Daphne Page | x |
| Sunshine / Door Prizes | |
| Lorraine Robson | x |
| Website | |
| Aline Burlone | x |

Executive Meetings
By Zoom

Next Newsletter Deadline
Beginning of January

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: *Rosemarie Adams, Judith Brook, Sue Callahan, Margaret Campbell, Anna Marie D'Angelo, Linda Howe, Susan Huber, Rita Marshall*



Treasurer's Report - Ginette Handfield

Club assets as of 30 November 2020:

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| cash | \$ 195.35 |
| bank balance | <u>\$ 10,510.58</u> |
| total | \$ 10,705.93 |



Please note that I have reduced the amount of cash on hand as there continues to be very few cash transactions due to Covid-19. The reduction in the total at the end of November compared to the end of October is mainly due to the cost to renew the PO Box, and the North Shore Neighbourhood House cashing our donation cheque.

Membership Report - Doreen Marbry and Sue Callahan (outgoing)

Happy Holidays to all of our members, we trust that you are all healthy and doing well.

In case you weren't able to get to the zoom AGM, we wanted to let you know that the motion to carry forward (extend) the fees from 2020 to 2021 was approved so, you do not need to send any money, or forms into us, unless you have changed your contact information from a year ago. We have been in contact with GardenWorks & Maple Leaf Garden and they will honour your 2020 membership cards for 2021 discounts (we sent an email to the Garden works on Marine Drive in North Vancouver to confirm this). If you didn't pick up your 2020 membership card please contact Doreen to arrange a time when you can pick it up.

Please welcome the new member of the Membership team, Barb Downman. As always, if you need to get a hold of membership, you can phone one of us or you can send an email to lvgc.membership@gmail.com

List of Speakers 2021 - Jacque Morgan

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| January 21, 2021 | Grant Van Harmelen, Steamworks: | Garden Water Features |
| February 18, 2021 | Linda Gilkeson: | Where have all the insects gone? |
| March 18, 2021 | James Casey, Birds Canada: | Bringing birds into your Garden |
| April 15, 2021 | Earthwise Society: | Their work and projects |
| May 20, 2021 | Christine Allen: | The Chosen Few |



THE HOLIDAY (zoom) PARTY! or the ZOOM HOLIDAY PARTY! Anyway...

THE PARTY!! (via zoom)

Things for me to consider:

1. YES, my zoom link will come by separate email. *Note to self: keep an eye out for it...*
2. WHERE did I put that list of materials for the craft we will do together? It must be here somewhere.... I'm sure "someone" will put it in the Leaf again.
3. Line up my craft gear, and scissors and pruners and maybe a plastic tablecloth for the kitchen table.
4. Dig out that ugly Christmas sweater (finally a chance to wear it!)
5. Prep my (fortified!!) eggnog or hot (rum!!) toddy or other festive feasting fare, solid or liquid...
6. Find reading glasses to read lyrics of "We wish you a Merry Christmas!"
7. Roll up comfy chair - it's going to be a long night!
8. Fire up the confuser in front of the holiday decorations so I can impress LVGC

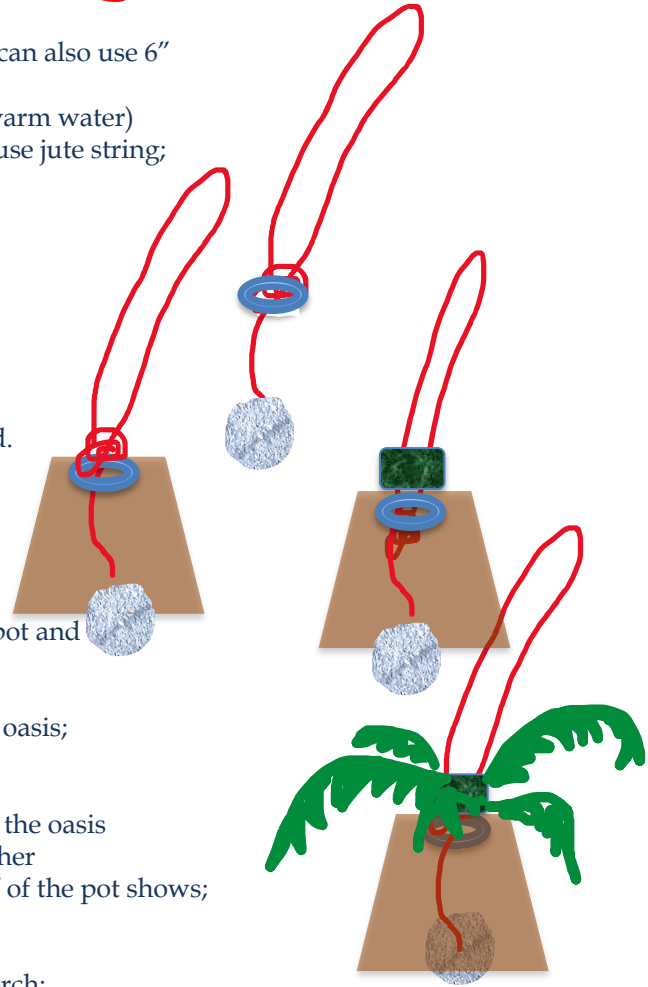
Instructions for Christmas Bell – Rosemarie Adams



Supplies:

1 Terracotta flower pot (with hole in bottom) – 8” size is good, but you can also use 6”
(You can also use plastic flower pot, but terracotta does look better)
Half or third block of Oasis florist foam; (you need to pre-soak this in warm water)
Approximately 48” cord or strong ribbon – red looks nice – or you can use jute string;
Small gold or silver bell or ball – approx 1”
Washer (larger than hole in flower pot)
Ribbon, bows (optional)
Greenery – cedar, fir, ivy, berries, holly

1. Pre-soak the Oasis in warm water
2. Make an 18” loop in the cord (using 36” of the cord) and tie a knot where the loop meets the remaining 10-12” length of cord.
3. Thread the washer down to the bottom of the loop and tie firmly in place. Tie the gold bell or ball on bottom of remaining length of cord.
4. Thread the double loop of cord upwards through the upside-down pot and through the center of the block of oasis which sits on top of the pot – you may need a piece of wire coat hanger as a needle to do this, or push the cord or ribbon into a straw and push the straw through the oasis; The washer will keep the lower 8” of cord hanging inside the pot;
5. Poke sprigs of greenery into the oasis in layers around the pot, so all the oasis is covered. Put sprigs of berries or flowers around the top. You can either cover the whole flower pot, or just use shorter sprigs so the bottom half of the pot shows; Add bows or decorations if you wish.



Looks best hanging above eye level, and best hung under an eave or porch;
Occasional lightly mist the oasis and greenery with water to keep it fresh for months.



Lyrics - We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



So bring it right here!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!



Oh, bring us some figgy pudding
Oh, bring us some figgy pudding
Oh, bring us some figgy pudding
And bring it right here!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



We all like our figgy pudding
We all like our figgy pudding
We all like our figgy pudding
With all its good cheer.
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year!
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some



More Holiday Delights



Rosemarie writes: I saw this little Mr. Ginger lurking in the produce section at Save-on-Foods, so I brought him home. I told him I had been good this year, (I didn't get out enough to be naughty!) and I hope he will stay around until December 25th, but he says his kind wrinkle up at an early age. He looks healthy enough, so we'll see!

Another quick Christmas craft: make a **Pomander!** - Hang them on the tree or anywhere - they look lovely and make your house smell wonderful. Yes, those are cloves! And if you don't have them hang around too long, cook them up in some hot, mulled wine. Ingredients. 1 orange, 10 whole cloves - or cut a pomander in half and toss it in - 1 cup /240 ml orange juice, ½ cup/100gr sugar, ½ cup cranberries fresh or frozen, optional, 1-2 cinnamon sticks, 1 bottle/750 ml dry



red wine (I use Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, but any full to medium bodied red wine will do.

Bright Spots - Rosemarie Adams



What on earth is going on? I have an Easter lily (*Lilium longiflorum*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera*) in bloom in my garden, and it's almost mid-December. I also have a winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*) in bloom, which always blooms this time of year. There are lots of berries on my *Cotoneaster* tree and it often brings in flocks of birds to feast on the berries.



I am looking forward to spring - and seeing daffodils, snowdrops and hellebores come into bloom.



Gardening adds years to your life and life to your years



Defense Against Giant Hornets - Judith Brook

[Honey bees use animal poo to repel giant hornet attacks | Environment | The Guardian](#)

Apparently, the bees plaster poo pellets onto their nests. This shocked the scientists as bees are notoriously clean and hygienic. Well, this is a strange defence - if giant hornets become an issue in our gardens, I guess we can plaster ourselves.... This will keep everything and everybody away! [If you have any leftover bags of that pig poo perfection....here is another use for it!]

God made rainy days, so gardeners could get the housework done.



Compulsive Gardening Disorder, by Alex Pankhurst – found by Rosemarie Adams

Found and adapted from an old edition of The Hardy Plant Journal

Many a Lynn Valley Garden Club member suffers from **Compulsive Gardening Disorder (CGD)**. Symptoms are likely to present themselves in adulthood, but may be traceable back to childhood, especially if one or both of the parents are affected. There is often a family history of this condition. CGD is an incurable disease of the brain, and sufferers and their families must learn to live with the symptoms. These include:

Erosion of Willpower. Resolutions such as “I’m not buying any more plants” can be discounted. Patients will often ask friends to bring back plant purchases made on joint visits in order to hide their relapse from husband or wife. No one is fooled.

Dislike of large Lawns. These cause a serious itch in the fingers which improves when the grass area has been reduced in favour of more flowerbeds. Indeed, with age, sufferers often find comfort can only be achieved by doing away with grass altogether.

Self-deception. Patients will deny their obsession, maintaining (and possibly believing) that they’re merely indulging in a hobby.

Inability to pass a nursery with the word “unusual” in its blandishments. Or any kind of plant sale.

Unwillingness to go away for any length of time. This can be particularly tiresome for partners to come to terms with.

An unattractive antipathy to wildlife such as moles, voles, rabbits and deer. And families learn not to mention the word “slugs”.

Loss of space-estimating skills, leading to repeated pacing of the garden, pot in hand, despairingly seeking site for a new plant they’ve just grown eight of.

Anxiety attacks caused by prolonged periods of wet, drought and cold.

Selective memory loss. The ability to have Latin names such as *Ophiopogon planiscapus ‘Nigrescens’* tripping off the tongue when they cannot remember where they left the car keys.

Obstinate attachment to shabby and shapeless garments. Families learn that giving presents of smarter, more fashionable clothes to be worn while gardening is doomed to failure. Those afflicted by CGD seem not to care how they appear to others.

Pleasure in the company of fellow sufferers on the grounds that “they understand”. Unlike alcoholics, who can turn their lives around once they admit they’re in the grip of the condition, there seems no desire for a cure from CGD. It’s best to allow sufferers to join the Lynn Valley Garden



Club where they will benefit from the company of those similarly afflicted.

Recent research and researchers have confirmed and validated emergent new symptoms of CGD:

Plant envy. This was documented by Dr. LeCouteur and described as an inability to go past any nice garden without wondering what an identified or unidentified plant is and wanting

one and adding it to an ever-growing mental list. Apparently, this is particularly pernicious in the presence of hostas-with-names. A related symptom has also been known to appear at LVGC Bright Spots. Luckily, at least pre-COVID, the symptoms could be alleviated by regular applications of the Plant Table.

Itchy palms in need of shovel, whenever a soon-to-be demolished piece of real estate hoves into view. Dr. Issa has noted that a large number of patients tend to aggregate at these sites and demonstrate repetitive digging behaviours. A related, though less lethal version of this symptom is:

Horticultural advice given to people who do not want it, didn’t ask for it, but by virtue of having acquired a new property-with-garden, find themselves on the receiving end of torrents of suggestions. This has been known to afflict recently-moved-to-apartment dwellers as well. A more serious and chronic version of this is multiple offers of help, or wanting to take over others’ gardens.

Container transference. This is an inflicting of plants, onto friends and acquaintances who do not have gardens, do not want gardens, or who live in apartments. Plants in pots and containers are foisted upon them, in spite of their protestations.

Irrepressible weeding is a related symptom that manifests itself both at home and elsewhere. This is totally subconscious and often requires active restraint: the hand reaches out and plucks an inoffensive weed from a public planting pot, a friend’s garden, a plant for sale at Safeway, *etc.* This can be treated to a level of temporary remission by utter exhaustion from weeding in the home garden plot. Recurrences are regular.

Flower-pot hoarding. This is an unfortunate side-effect of “Erosion of willpower” and “inability to pass a nursery”. It occurs post “loss of space estimating skills”. Plant pots of all shapes and sizes are stored in in the hope of having just the right ones for potting up for the LVGC Plant Sale, but sometimes also for bouts of “Container transference”; and during recurrences of “Itchy palms”. In acute cases, the pot piles fall over.



Lessons learned in popular South Korean bonsai garden - By Anna Marie D'Angelo

[Published in the Province, Dec 13!]



On Jeju, an island off the southern tip of the South Korean peninsula is an amazing garden called Spirited Garden dedicated to bonsai. No less than 2,000 bonsai and garden trees are on display in a 10-acre green space, perfect for tranquil strolling.

There are three things that a visitor immediately learns from Spirited Garden. Bonsai originated in China--not Japan--hundreds of years ago, then went to Korea and then to Japan. Bonsai is called bunjae in Korea. Lastly, trees are not tortured in bonsai despite what lay people think.



I first encountered the garden's delightful creator and main laborer, Bum-young Sung, chasing down a couple of fluttering ticket receipts that garden visitors had carelessly dropped on an otherwise spotless curvy path. The spry 80-year-old who refers to himself as a farmer was dressed in loose fitting Garot work clothes worn on Jeju.

Sung doesn't speak much English but it didn't take long before it was clear that he enjoys meeting visitors. Just don't ask him to choose his favorite bonsai.

"I am asked this often and I respond that it is like choosing your favorite child," smiles Sung as an employee interprets and we shared a cup of pu'er tea in a second-story small café. The café has a sweeping view of the garden.



Sung's garden is his life's passion. He first started working on in 1969 by clearing thistles on what was considered wasteland. He had fallen in love with Jeju Island and was driven by the desire to revive Korea's disappearing bonsai culture and embrace the

peacefulness that nature brings. Before starting the garden, he lived near Seoul and survived hardships related to the Korean War. It was not until 1992 that the garden opened to the public and pre-pandemic welcomed 200,000 visitors a year. Koreans made up 60% of visitors with the rest being from Europe, Asia and North America.



Bonsai can be defined as the art of training and growing dwarf trees and shrubs in containers over years of work. Although the trees are diminutive, it is no small task to spend decades in caring for bonsai. Sung clearly has the knack.

All the bonsai in Spirited Garden are native Korean trees with the oldest being a 600-year-old yew. There are also land pines, sea pines, quince, hornbeams and common camellias. Most of the bonsai are more than 100 years old.

Bordering the garden is a tall basalt wall with stones that came from Jeju, a volcanic island. Sung envisioned and built layer upon layer of the wall mainly on his own to protect the potted trees from strong winds and storms. There are also a waterfall, two teeming koi ponds, stone bridges and black lava sculptures, found on Jeju.

As far as torturing a tree to make bonsai (wires are used to shape growth), garden signage that Sung wrote notes that a bonsai would not survive, look healthy and beautiful if it were tortured. Concerning the monetary value of contorted little trees that are hundreds of years old, the signage says that the cost of living art cannot be reflected in an amount.

Friendly garden staff say that the best way to view the beauty of a bonsai is stoop and look up the small trees to take in their graceful shape by looking inside the plant.

Sung said, "All the descriptions along the pathways represent what I have learned from the silent plants that I have taken care of for over the past half century. I hope that visitors not only enjoy the view of trees but also get some lessons from nature by reading those descriptions."

Jeju Island is a favored domestic vacation destination for South Koreans and contains many natural attractions related to its volcanic



Lockdown Gardening in Britain leads to Archeological Discoveries

Found by Linda Howe in the New York Times – article by Jenny Gross

The finds this year, including a cache of gold coins from the reign of Henry VIII, come as Britain considers expanding the law to protect a broader range of artifacts from its centuries-old history.

Gardeners in Hampshire, a county in southeast England, were weeding their yard in April when they found 63 gold coins and one silver coin from King Henry VIII's reign in the 16th century, with four of the coins inscribed with the initials of the king's wives Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn and Jane Seymour.

The archaeological find was one of more than 47,000 in England and Wales that were reported this year, amid an increase in backyard gardening during coronavirus lockdowns, the British Museum said on Wednesday.

In another discovery, in Milton Keynes, a town northwest of London, gardeners found 50 solid gold South African Krugerrand coins that were minted in the 1970s during apartheid. Read the rest of the article here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/09/world/europe/uk-treasure-lockdown-gardening.html?referringSource=articleShare>



Another BIG DIG after the holidays

– Maria Issa

The article above provides an excellent segue to mention a BIG DIG coming up in the New Year. While our discoveries are more in the Botany, not the Archeology Department, “thar is gold in thar thar hills” because a “Man Who Found Hidden Treasure in the Rocky Mountains Is Revealed” was also in that NYT. “Jack Stuef, 32, a medical student from Michigan, located a stash of gold nuggets, gemstones and pre-Columbian artifacts that had been hidden by the art dealer Forrest Fenn as part of a treasure hunt.” So you can live in hope. [Probably Hope, BC]. For details of what’s to be dug, look in the Compost Bin. This is here just so you can make a mental note and do some preliminary winter limbering, pre-digging exercises.



Why it’s so Wonderful to have LVGC Speakers by Zoom

Imagine my delight when I received this email from Margaret and Roger Campbell:



“We were enthusiastic viewers of the LVGC Zoom meeting [...]and listened with interest to Joanne Melville’s descriptions of the gardens at Hycroft as they are today. We had particular interest because my mother-in-law, Mary Campbell, was the first Chair of the Garden Committee after the University Women’s Club purchased Hycroft, and my (then teen-aged) husband was recruited by his mother to do a lot of the clearing and weeding as they got started. We have her first report to their AGM (not dated, but probably about 1961) telling of their struggles to reclaim the gardens. I am sure Joanne would be interested in reading this report – maybe even adding it to the Hycroft archives.”

Needless to say, the connection to Joanne Melville was made, but the story continues: “...we went for a drive to Hycroft today, just to see if the gardeners were actually working despite the temperatures. And three of them were! Best of all, one of them turned out to be Cathy, who is apparently the archivist for the University Women’s Club and she was so..o..o excited to receive the report. She knew all about Mary Campbell and her early work in the garden, and was very happy to meet my husband and hear about his teenage exploits in digging up the weeds way back when. So it was a worthwhile trip!”

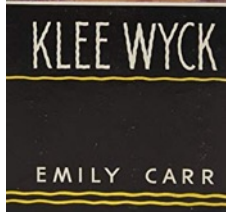


ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER GOINGS-ON

Food Bank &/or Harvest Project – Maria Issa

Please don't forget: it is a time for giving – and your gifts are needed by so many ... locally the Food Bank and the Harvest Project need anything and everything that you can share. This is the moment for you Holiday Giving! While I know you've heard this all before - The North Shore is one of the most affluent areas in Canada – need I say more? Use "CANADA HELPS". You even get an instant tax receipt.

A chance to do some good in the community – Judith Brook



The *Klee Wyck* property in West Vancouver: you may know of this property in West Van; the buildings were not maintained by the District and they are slated for demolition. The West Van Council has stated that, "staff be directed to consult with the community to *determine the level of interest for community gardens and a heritage plant staging area* at the Klee Wyck Site. Please see Agenda link below for West Vancouver council.

Could you please support the idea of community gardens at the site and also heritage plant staging area by writing to District of West Vancouver mayor and council at this email ID: mayorandcouncil@westvancouver.ca [20dec07-Agenda-Web.pdf \(westvancouver.ca\)](#); To read the results of the Council meeting, look here: <https://ca.news.yahoo.com/west-vancouver-historic-klee-wyck-180418026.html>

[*Klee Wyck* (1941) is a memoir by Canadian artist Emily Carr. Through short sketches, the artist tells of her experiences among First Nations people and cultures on British Columbia's west coast. The book won the 1941 Governor General's Award and occupies an important place in Canadian literature.]

The Anonymous Art Show – Rita Marshall

This is not directly plant-related, but since we featured some of Patricia Lefroy's lovely plant paintings last month – and a lot of people commented on them, (where are YOURS that you were going to send to the *Leaf*?) – this might be your chance to get some nice "indoor plants that don't need any care" – the painted kind. **Some of Rita's paintings are among the offerings!** [I bought a lovely painting...-ed]

You can buy on-line until Dec19! <https://event.auctria.com/9b6903d2-6b54-4c28-97f1-742716d0e080/>



The Victoria Master Gardeners

Your Garden Club members might be eager to spend a day with gardeners and gardening experts talking about - gardening!

On January 30th, the Victoria Master Gardeners' "Roots, Shoots & Leaves" conference promises an opportunity for learning, connecting virtually with other gardeners, a wrap-up cocktail hour, a little (or a lot!) of post-holiday shopping and a silent auction showcasing talented BC artists' work and products.

Delegates can stay for the whole day or come and go as they please. Five speaker presentations will inform, inspire and get us revved up for the new gardening season.

After the conference, presentations will be available for delegates to enjoy, and enjoy again, at their convenience for 30 days. Zoom training will be provided.

Almost 10% of today's 252 delegates heard about Mixing It Up from their Garden Club. You're one of our top ways of getting the news out -- Thank You!

Your Members can find full conference details at mixingitup.org, (<http://mgabc.org/content/15-mixing-it-biennial-conference>) and register with Karelo (<https://www.karelo.com/register.php?BID=641&BT=10&Ev=19263>)

The Day:

Saturday, January 30, Zoom Opens 8:30; Presentations 9 to 4, Zoom Closes 4:30ish

The Speakers:

Richie Steffen, Executive Director of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden in Seattle, manager of the Great Plant Picks website, and a very popular speaker, will present Plant Picks For Our Changing Planet. Richie will use his extensive knowledge of local and exotic flora to introduce the audience to plants that will perform well in our changing environment and provide year-round interest. Sponsored by Russell Nursery

Dr. Linda Gilkeson, entomologist, writer, teacher and garden consultant, will present Addressing Climate Change from the Roots Up. Linda is always updating her knowledge base, and she will share her latest findings on adapting gardening practices to the changing climate. These findings will range from designing resilient food and landscape gardens to using gardening methods to capture carbon and help curb global warming. Sponsored by Peninsula Co-op

Ron Carter, an ISA certified arborist and instructor, will present Trees Now and Forever. Ron will introduce us to iconic trees in our area and discuss the importance of

protecting our tree canopy - the green infrastructure of our urban environment. He will address the issues and challenges trees present to the home gardener and offer advice on selecting trees for long term success.

Bianca Bodley, owner and principal designer of landscape design and build business Biophilia Design Collective, will present Beautiful Gardens for Intimate Spaces, which will introduce Gardeners to materials, methods and plant picks for small garden design.

Dr. Drew Zwart, Plant Pathologist & Physiologist, will present If Leaves Could Talk: Want to know what's best for your plants? Listen to their Leaves. Drew has been on the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory staff for 15 years, with responsibilities including the diagnosis and protection of landscape plants from disease, insect and abiotic problems. Drew completed his Ph.D. in Plant Physiology at the University of Washington's Center for Urban Horticulture. He will talk about inspecting leaves to identify healthy plants and diagnose those with problems. Sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts.

And, as always, we welcome your event news to distribute & post - please just send to outandabout@msvmga.org

You Know you're A Master Gardener When:

10. You rejoice in rain...even after 10 straight days of it.
9. You have pride in how bad your hands look.
8. You have a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter.
7. You can give away plants easily, but compost is another thing.
6. Soil test results actually mean something.
5. IPM rules! [FYI - *Integrated Pest Management - ed*]
4. You'd rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothes store.
3. You look for gardens open to the public whenever you go on vacation.
2. Your non-gardening spouse is actually getting involved with your garden endeavors...digging ponds, building bird houses, watering, pruning, turning compost piles, planting...
1. And you are a definitely a Master Gardener when you are surrounded by terrific people who share your passion!

FREE Organic Gardening - Courses - Found by Linda Howe

FREE Organic Gardening Course!

Take your sustainable gardening skills to the next level with our FREE Online, On-Demand Garden Organic Course. What you get:

- Proven tips and advice from 6 experienced instructors
- Recorded Q&A discussion with instructors
- Printable tips & instructions
- Quizzes to test your organic gardening knowledge

PLUS! Drawings for Book Giveaways Every Week Through January 30, 2021! Classes Available Now!

https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/freegardeningcourses/gardenorganic/?utm_campaign=htm%20-%20ip&utm_medium=email&_hsmt=102707094&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-iNKXgVh6wH6ho5zcLs-mn2t0-6F4pag6OR-oiVD9Xk9xQW4aJFjVueCsqmpsWAg3-3YG9KHW0JGLs-vVtz0a4QkJeEw&utm_content=102707094&utm_source=hs_email

THE COMPOST BIN

- Maria Issa

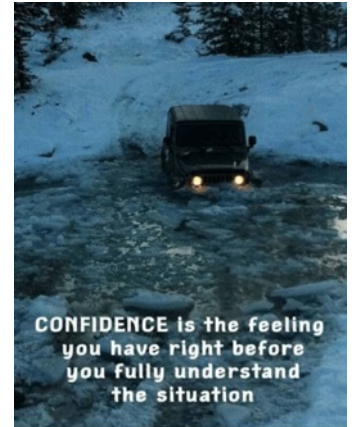
So just as I was reflecting on my personal symptoms of CGD, an email appeared to feed my addiction. A wonderful person contacted LVGC, saying that she has sold her house and is hoping that LVGC could possibly rescue her plants. She said she will be taking some of her plants to the new place, but most of them will be trashed as her house will be demolished to make way for a duplex.

“YIPPEE!!!” was the first thought I had before facing the fact there I have less than zero room in my garden, and plants from last year’s virtual Plant Sale are still piled up blocking the cat door. The cat does not appreciate this.

“Wonder if my Partners-in-Crime are up for this?” was my second thought. That one was fleeting, as I’m sure they would be. Whyever not?

“Better convince the MALs we have to have a physical Plant Sale” was my third thought. “No problem, they’re a creative lot. They will figure it out.” I reassured myself.

Feeling better already, and probably the glass of wine helped, I decided to contact the wonderful person and ask if I could go by and scope out the garden. This brought to mind a poster that was stuck on the -80°C freezer in our lab. So off I went to gather some intelligence.



Sedum of all shapes and sizes; I have never heathers/ericas are not huge, but healthy. though grasses never look good by the they might. (I’m hoping for buyers with are pretty tall! The banana plants (or plant?) are also considerable in their trees - though I’m hoping those will be very attached to them: they are nicely

It is an unusual garden in that it is a succulent, hot weather garden: a total North Shore.

Methinks this dig will have to be systematic - not cherry-picking - and can take up to 3 days with socially distanced “strip mining”. If we can pot up this lot, in its own soil, it could populate the entire Plant Sale. (OK, OK, of course minus the veggies!!)



So watch this space for updates and mark your calendars: dig days will be in February, as the garden’s owner is departing at the end of that month... By that time, it will be almost safe to dig out the thousand of little green guys.

Ergo: time to assess your CGD symptoms, and for those of you not wanting to dig: I’m making an early request for developing a bad case of “flower pot hoarding”.

“Compost is best aged a little like a fine wine. I mean, would you prefer to drink a nice 97, or something that was made last Thursday?”

**Happy Holidays from me to you.
This year, we will do what’s right.
I will think of you over the holidays: may they be merry and bright!**



is not a blade of grass, or even a weed: there is weeds. They have been squeezed out. There is seen so much *lithodora*, or so thick. The The grasses are sizable clumps and even Plant Sale date, these are hefty enough that imagination). OK - definitely “sizable” as some maybe something with leaves like a banana proportions. There are a couple of lovely small chosen to move with the owner - as I could get shaped.

predominantly anomaly on the

