



THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

September 2020

President's Message - Norma Austin



Can you believe it is September already? I hope you've all had a good summer. I don't do well in the heat, so I spend my summers lolling about in the shade, waiting for rain and cooler temperatures to put in all the plants still in their pots. Though, this year, there was not as much lolling around. I took a fancy to David Austin roses and bought three of them and put them in containers on my deck where the deer can't get to them. Roses are so much work. Roses in containers are ridiculously time-consuming. I know I sound like I'm complaining... and I am... but all those beautiful scented flowers are amazing! I usually look forward to September as a refresh or restart of all my regular activities. This year with the added uncertainty of coronavirus, it's a bit more complicated. For everybody.

I have heard from many members about how much they miss LVGC. We, the executive, miss all of you too. We've taken a breather this summer and are now coming together to make plans. We are not back to normal. We are adjusting and planning for a new normal and thinking of ways that we can evolve. Yes, in spite of the coronavirus, or maybe because of it, we are thinking afresh of how to proceed. There is much discussion on how things should be or could be. I feel fortunate to be part of a very dedicated team who is committed to the wellbeing of our club.

The news from St. Stephens is that the renovations to the hall, where we have our Thursday meetings, are about to start. I don't expect any news from them until next year. Also, we are still restricted by health regulations as to the size of gatherings, which remain at 50. In the meantime, here are a few ways that the executive has come up with to keep the club connected.

Our monthly meetings will be on ZOOM. Mark your (empty) calendars for Thursday, September 17 at 7PM (note the time change to 7PM). Jacquie Morgan, our VP, will be hosting the meeting. I'm having trouble with maintaining my ZOOM connection whenever I speak during a meeting (no wisecracks please 😊), but if I sit quietly with the rest of you, I should be fine. Our guest speakers Hayne Wai and Robert Wilmott will be giving a presentation about the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden. I've attended the run-though and I thoroughly enjoyed their talk and photos. Ginette Handfield will be sending out an email with the invitation to join this



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

SPEAKERS
Sep 17
HAYNE WAI & ROBERT WILMOTT DR. SUN YAT SEN CHINESE CLASSICAL GARDEN

Oct 15
TARA MATHEWS
North Vancouver: Removing invasive species and replacing with native species.

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>
lvgc.membership@gmail.com

Executive 2020

President

Norma Austin xx

Vice President

Jacquie Morgan xx

Secretary

Susan Huber xx

Treasurer

Ginette Handfield xx

Membership

Sue Callahan xx

Doreen Marbry xx

Members at Large

Pat Holmes xx

Lori Herman xx

Suzanne Mazoret xx

Jackie Morris xx

Committees

Newsletter Editor

Maria Issa xx

Julie Kehler xx

Jane Sherrott xx

Plant Table

Norma Buckland xx

Hospitality

Sharon Carabetta xx

Maggie Davis xx

Susan Nicholls xx

Daphne Page xx

Sunshine / Door Prizes

Lorraine Robson xx

Website

Aline Burlone xx

Executive Meetings

By Zoom

Next Newsletter Deadline

Beginning of September

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: Judith Brook, Sue

Callahan, Linda Howe, Susan Huber, Rita Marshall, Courtney Mitchell, Lorraine Robson, Diane Sekora, Jane Sherrott



meeting. Ginette will include some instructions on how to join. However, if you have never attended a ZOOM meeting, it would be a good idea to do some research (ZOOM tutorials online) or get help from friends or family members and download your free ZOOM account ahead of time.

Our new Facebook group now has 32 members. Lorraine Robson has done a tremendous job of overseeing it daily. This is one place where members can chat to each other about anything to do with gardening. There are no advertisements, no club business, or political commentaries. Although it's a far cry from face-to-face interactions at our monthly meetings, it's the best thing available at this time. Even when physical meetings resume, it will provide another way of keeping in touch with instant feedback.

Besides enjoying all the fun and interesting stuff that members submit to the LEAF, **you will need to pay closer attention to all of the Executive reports. These reports will not be presented at our ZOOM meetings. Instead, we will be relying on the LEAF to provide important information that you need.**

Looking forward to the AGM in November on ZOOM – we will be voting on the slate of nominees for vacated executive positions and committees for 2021-22. I am giving notice now because we **will not** be taking nominations from the floor. Instead, if you wish to stand for a position, please contact Sue Callahan or Rosemarie Adams by November 1st so your name can be included in the November newsletter. The polling of votes will be done on ZOOM so hopefully this will give Ginette (ZOOM Master) enough time to figure it all out. This is no small feat, so thank you, Ginette.

We are thinking about and discussing ways of running some sort of plant sale next year. As you probably know, the MALs, the VegiMates, and others ran a successful scaled-down virtual plant sale this year. Our club proved once again that we excel at group efforts. We are now exploring and working towards having the plant sale outdoors next spring, kinda like a Pop-up Nursery.

Now that you've read this far – are you ready for more good news 😊?

We all love this club so much, we all get a free year! What, you say? Look for the answer in this newsletter.

Keep well!



REPORTS

VP – Jacquie Morgan – SPEAKERS

September 17, 2020, Hayne Wai and Robert Wilmott will introduce the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden. This Ming Dynasty style classical Chinese garden opened in 1986 and was the first full Chinese garden ever built outside of China. Both Hayne and Bob are past board members and current docents of the Dr. S.Y.S. Garden. Their presentation will showcase the essential elements of a classical Chinese Garden and will walk us through the halls, courtyards and corridors with particular reference to the appropriate maintenance of plants, shrubs and trees to reflect a classical Ming Dynasty elegance.

Please join us for Hayne Wai and Bob Wilmott's presentation on the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden in Chinatown. Bob is a veteran Master Gardener and retired garden designer and Hayne is also a Master Gardener and is a past president of the Chinese Canadian Historical Society of B.C. During the last four years they have given many presentations to garden clubs in metro Vancouver as part of the Dr. S.Y.S. Garden outreach program <https://vancouverchinesegarden.com/>

October 15, 2020, Tara Mathews, CEO of Echo Ecological Habitat Conservation, Restoration and Management will talk about their work restoring areas of North Vancouver, removing invasive species and replanting with native plants.

Presentations will start at 7:00 pm (15 minutes earlier than usual!!) and will last approximately 45 min to one hour (including questions).

YOUR ZOOM LINK WILL COME BY SEPARATE EMAIL. [The audience will not be visible on the video – so you are safe and can dress in Covid comfort.]

Members who cannot view ZOOM presentations at home:

Members who have limited or no internet access could share a computer screen with a host who does – with social distancing in place. Members without computer access – as well as those willing to share!!! - are asked to send their names (to Maria/Newsletter) and we will try to match up computer-buddies.

Secretary – Susan Huber

LVGC received a letter from Lions Gate Hospital Foundation re: cyberattack and possible sharing of personal data from previous contributions. [If you think you have been affected, please safeguard your data – check your passwords].

Treasurer – Ginette Handfield

Bank Balance at the end of August	\$11,657.50
In Petty Cash	<u>\$297.65</u>
Total	\$11,955.15

The *net* proceeds from the 2020 “virtual” plant sale are \$ 1,249.30
[Please see Donations Committee report]



Membership – Sue Callahan and Doreen Marbry

- Current membership total is 147 members.
- At this time, we are not taking applications for new members.

The executive recommends that the 2020 LVGC membership fees be carried forward (extended) for 2021. We will be voting on this as part of the budget at our November AGM on ZOOM.

MALs – Jackie Morris, Pat Holmes, Lori Herman, Suzanne Mazoret



The MALs are working on reorganizing and updating the Plant Sale Binders for the next Plant Sale as we remain optimistic that a Plant Sale in some format can be held next May.

Fall is a good time to divide and pot up plants for the sale so they will be well-rooted and growing enthusiastically by spring.

Hospitality – Sharon Carabetta, Maggie Davis, Susan Nicholls, Daphne Page

[So how about a drive-through tea/coffee service, sort of like the pig poo pickup?... No, you say....?...well, we keep hoping...]

Website – Aline Burlone

As you may have noticed, and been delighted, Aline has been adding all sorts of interesting, exciting and entertaining material to the website. Visit <http://lynnvalleygardenclub.org> and be amazed.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER GOINGS-ON

LVGC Donations Committee

- Aline Burlone, Sue Callahan, Hiromi Matsui, Jackie Morris, Maria Issa

Although we were unable to have an in-person plant sale this year several members participated in a virtual sale still enabling the LVGC to contribute approximately 50% of the proceeds as donations. The Donations Committee met and recommends the following:

In order to make the most impact with our donations the following 2 organisations this year:

- \$100 to be given to the North Vancouver District Horticulture and Sustainable Living Society. The amount is to be distributed to the Public Library for books on the topic of horticulture and sustainable living.
- \$600 to be given to the North Shore Neighbourhood House to contribute to the installation of raised beds at Mountainside Secondary School [https://www.sd44.ca/school/mountainside/Pages/default.aspx#/=">https://www.sd44.ca/school/mountainside/Pages/default.aspx#/="](https://www.sd44.ca/school/mountainside/Pages/default.aspx#/=) to create a sharing garden which educates the students and staff about gardening as well as feeds residents of the North Shore.



Both organisations fit the criteria of our mission statement: "To impart knowledge and stimulate a love of gardening among members and within our community"

Nominating Committee – Sue Callahan and Rosemarie Adams

Your **Nominating Committee** has managed to twist the requisite number of rubber arms to provide you with a full slate for November's AGM. However, if you still wish to serve the club and you missed the draft – then please contact a member of the Nominating Committee [Rosemarie Adams XXXXXXXXX or Sue Callahan XXXXXXXXX] to have your name added to the list ASAP.

Lorraine Robson	- Secretary
Donna Wasyluk	- Treasurer
Barb Downman	- Membership
Penny Le Couteur	- MAL
Jane Sherrott	- MAL
Susan Huber	- Sunshine



At the November Zoom meeting, we won't have "nominations from the floor" because - well - we don't have a floor...

The LVGC facebook group is burgeoning! – Lorraine Robson

LVGC's online presence has a new shoot – we have sprouted a **facebook** group. Lorraine Robson is the techie guru behind it all – and there are now more than 30 participants! Our **facebook** group is VERY private – you don't need to worry about being bombarded by random people wanting to be your friend. It is accessible to current members only; not seen by the internet world, not even find-able if you don't know it exists. Here you can share information, pictures, tips, discoveries, websites; ask questions and get answers sooner than posting in the Leaf; or just chat and commune with kindred gardening spirits.

So far, our new LVGC Facebook Group has 32 members, and we're hoping more of you will join in the fun soon. Facebook is primarily a photo-sharing site, so members are sharing photos of their beautiful gardens and flowers. The sharing has extended to seeds, plants, and other items such as a *free composter*. (I don't think anyone has claimed that yet, so if you'd like it, join up soon!) We've also had a few members asking for help in identifying mystery plants or advice on propagating plants. If you have questions about insects or plant diseases, we may be able to help with that too. Some helpful tips on garden books and plants for sale have also been posted.

I have enjoyed "meeting" more members of our garden club online and have appreciated this additional way to stay in touch with each other during the pandemic. We're not using it for any "official" club business; it's more like the "Show and Tell" part of the meetings and the conversations we used to have during the coffee break when we were able to meet in person.

The photos and comments you post in our LVGC Facebook Group will be visible only to other members of our Group, but not to the wider public. Only current members of our club are eligible to join. It is a safe and pleasant place to hang out, so please grab your beverage of choice and join in!

If you do not have a **facebook** account yet, you will need to set one up. It's pretty easy to do, but if you're not sure how to do this, perhaps you know someone who could help you get started. Using **facebook** is a bit like driving a car: it sounds complicated when you try to explain it, but it's easy once you know how!

Instructions on How to Join LVGC Facebook Group:

1. You need to have a **facebook** account to start from. Once you have set one up (or had a member of the younger generation do it for you), send a "Friend request" to Lorraine Robson from your **facebook** account.

(Be sure to send it to the Lorraine Robson with the people with the same name as me but different "hidden," we need to be connected as **facebook** I receive your Friend request, I will "accept" it and Group. If you wish to "un-friend" me once you means that I'll see you in our club Group, but I



pink peonies as my photo; there are a few other photos. Because our club's **facebook** account is friends to be able to invite you to join the group. When send you an invitation to join the LVGC Facebook have joined, I won't be the least bit offended. That just won't see anything else you might post on your Timeline.)

2. Click on "Accept" to accept the invitation to join when you receive it. The invitation will arrive in your **facebook** Notifications which you'll find by clicking on the little image of the bell at the top right side of your computer screen or at the bottom of your phone's screen when you're in **facebook**.

(You should then be able to post photos, questions, and comments in the LVGC Facebook Group and see what others have posted.)

If you have questions, please send an email to lvgc.facebookinvites@gmail.com so we can try to help. The "Help" function of **facebook** is also very useful. Just click on the question mark and type in your question.

Looking forward to seeing more of you on **facebook** very soon!

Reminder concerning the (postponed) Great LVGC Bus Tour

To our Members: We were so disappointed that we had to cancel our bus tour! Please know that your \$20 payment to hold your seat is in good hands and will be refunded at some point when we figure out how. Hopefully we will be able to continue with our bus trip next year. (These funds are kept separate from the Club's general ledger.)



-- Doreen, Diane and Rosemarie - your Bus Trip Committee."



Food Bank &/or Harvest Project - Maria Issa

In case you are missing the exercise of lugging those "non-perishables" to LVGC meetings: ... both the **Food Bank and the Harvest Project** need our help more than ever! Things are NOT AT ALL back to normal: many people have lost their jobs and those jobs are not coming back. There is serious food insecurity. Please, please send them money through the "CANADA HELPS" website (look in September links). You even get an instant tax receipt.

"My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece" - Claude Monet

[The artist's garden at Giverny]

A thought: There are probably many artists and painters among us. How about sending images of your *painted* flowers and plants and gardens to share in the *Leaf*?





Tom's Tomatoes

As (rotten) luck would have it, Tom's tomatoes got some weird blight so his harvest this year was not a patch on his past successes elegized by the bard. [In Celtic cultures, a *bard* was a professional story-teller, verse-maker, music composer, oral historian and genealogist, employed by a patron (such as a monarch or noble) to commemorate one or more of the patron's ancestors and to praise the patron's own activities.] However, as Tom participated in the Virtual Plant Sale, scions of his tomatoes ended up in other gardens where they THRIVED - out-pacing anybody else's seedlings - even the commercially-bought ones. Both Sue Callahan and Maria have spectacular "Tom's tomatoes." So, two conclusions: 1. Tom must do something magic to his seedlings and we need to find out his secret. 2. "Location, location, location" - as the real estate agents would say.



Ann's Rescue Project:

Ann Pentland and a number of LVGC members have been pruning up a storm at Mary Richardson's garden. Mary's Mom was Pat Richardson, a long-time member of LVGC. Pat had a beautiful garden with a wonderful collection of roses that was often on the Members' Gardens Tour. She also had a lot to do with the garden at Molly Nye House. As caring for her parents took precedence over gardening, the last 10 years took their toll on Mary's garden and it was woefully overgrown. Mary was very keen to re-establish her Mom's garden but needed some help. So Ann's LVGC army turned up to help restore the garden. Here's a picture of Kathy battling the bamboo forest that will need to be dug up by a machine.



NOTE TO SELF: *avoid a mega gardening mistake and DO NOT plant bamboo anywhere except in a sealed pot. Go dig out that patch you-know-where **right now!***

Update from Ann - hot off the press email:

Well... we have finally gotten all the bamboo roots OUT!!! 4 days of excavator work, child labour (teen boys who could earn a few bucks before school) & 3 TONS of roots 😄. So now I'm back to pruning roses 🙌🙌. If you are interested, there are still plenty of weeds (in the garden beds this time, not pathways, etc) to be pulled. I will be there on Wednesday & Thursday this week (weather permitting - not in the rain) if you'd like to join me. You'll see a big difference there 😊.

Bruce's "Christmas":

Bruce's message came around, that a young man associated with a "Circle of Care" home was in need of some gardening tools. A new house opened in Lynn Valley to provide supportive housing for five men living with mental illness. It is a joint project of the Canadian Mental Health Society, VCH Health Connections Clinic and the North Shore Alliance Church. The men have moved in and have begun their new life, a life with stable, supportive housing. One of the new residents worked as a gardener before a significant back injury. The day after he moved in, he began working on the long-neglected garden of this rental house. Raking up mouldy leaves with a shovel was a challenge, to say the least. But he did it! He then began to try to repair the tumble-down compost box. He started dreaming of creating a vegetable patch. Bruce is a member of the Highlands United that contributed to this wonderful project through Shelter to Home, so he sent out his "any spare tools?" list. Within less than 48 hours, LVGC and some of Bruce's friends found every last item on the gardening tools wanted list. We heard back from the young man and apparently, "it was just like Christmas!". Nicely done, LVGC.



The Hostas with the Mostest:

As you know, there are quite a few hosta-aficionados in the club. I have seen enormous, interesting, or just plain weird hostas in some people's gardens. Send in your pictures - with size reference - and an imaginative title - and we will do something with them. **Get those pictures now - before the last slugs get them.** Definitely the photos will be in the Leaf and on the website - and if the pictures warrant, maybe a few prizes can be had... Who knows? Suggestions welcome!



FREE Plant Stand

If you are one of those who has way too just sort of pile up, Bonnie Noakes has a like it – please contact Bonnie Noakes – or the First come, first served.

Baskets by Donation to LVGC

If you need some wire bases for hanging baskets –Judith Brook has just what you need. Please contact her, make a donation to LVGC and you can collect them straight from Judith.



many house plants and they solution for you! If you would Leaf.



“I perhaps owe having become a painter to flowers” – Claude Monet



Plantertainment & Plinformation

Walking Onions – Courtney Mitchell

Allium x proliferum aka Egyptian onions, walking onions or topsetting onions



Out of curiosity, I picked up a small plant labeled “walking onion” at the 2019 plant sale. It was delegated to an out-of-the-way place in our garden and then was forgotten and ignored. It grew despite neglect, and by the end of last summer, little onion bulbils had appeared on the tops of stalks. I left some bulbils attached and planted a few of them in the same area. They actually grew and multiplied as I imagined they might. One day, Maria Issa was snooping in our “garden on the rock”, noticed them, was fascinated, and requested a story about them for The Leaf.



According to my sources of information, the walking onion is a cross between the common onion and the *Welsh onion*. They are a native of India or Pakistan (which to me, makes them geographically challenged). The little bulbils (bulbils) form where there would normally be flowers; when they are of sufficient size,

the bulblets will fall over and take root. As this process continues, the onions may “walk” across your garden. Walking onions can grow in zones 3-10 and they prefer full sun and well-drained soil. While mine are growing in partial shade and in poor soil, they are spreading nicely. I have harvested a few bulblets and cooked them successfully. Their flavour is like shallots.

<https://wimastergardener.org/article/egyptian-walking-onions/>

So, of course this brings up Welsh onions. What on earth is a Welsh *onion*? I thought those were leeks? Live and learn. *Allium fistulosum*, the Welsh onion, also commonly called bunching onion, long green onion, Japanese species of perennial plant, often considered to be a kind of Onion is a long-standing perennial that will bring you a season. The tops are available throughout the winter, while back in the summer, leaving delightful little bulbils that can be bulbing onions. Use the tops, the stalks or the bulbils. If you leave the bulbils in the ground (or replant the rooting section of the bulb after harvest), these onions will produce for years on end.



<https://www.growseed.co.uk/herbs/welsh-onion.html>

...and the moral of these stories is that if you walk like an Egyptian, then you are from India or Pakistan, but if you are Welsh, then you are originally from Siberia: multihorticulturalism or hortimulticulturalism.

Roasted radishes with garlic and caraway – suggested by Rita Marshall [oh yummm!]

<https://food52.com/recipes/82426-darra-goldstein-roasted-radishes-with-garlic-and-caraway-recipe>

Garden Talks in West Vancouver – Jane Sherrott

West Vancouver Memorial Library is continuing their popular gardening talks this fall with Zoom presentations with Dan Hinkley, Gwen Odermat, Carolyn Herriot, Sharon Hanna and three owners of special North Shore Gardens. While we missed this one - Sharon Hanna: Your Garden in 2020: What Worked and What Didn't? Saturday, September 12 at 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Keep an eye on this website for more later.

<https://westvanlibrary.ca/events-programs/list/>

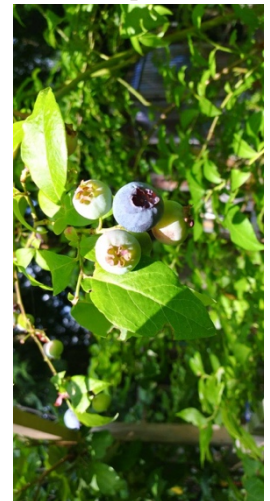


UBC - Future of Food – Judith Brook

UBC Farm's Centre for Sustainable Food Systems is seeing strong interest from the community in its biweekly webinars [Future of Food Global Dialogue Series](#), focusing on building resilient food systems during COVID-19 and beyond. The past events show a link for watching the recording – so you can go back and watch what you missed. The upcoming events are shown also.

Bee Viruses – Judith Brook

Even the poor bees have their own pandemic? “Could bees, like tigers, be afflicted by COVID-19 in particular? Apparently not. In order to replicate, viruses need to use the resources of the host's cells, by first attaching to a site on the cell called a receptor. The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 uses a receptor which is found in cells in the respiratory and gastrointestinal tract of mammals. Bees are insects, in the phylum Arthropoda, and thus lack these receptors. However, it is interesting to note that Tobacco ringspot virus is a plant virus which can infect and replicate in the western domesticated honey bee. Little else is known about which plants and bees share similar viruses, serve as hosts to the same viruses, or serve as vectors of plant viruses.” Read the rest of this very interesting article here: <https://www.seeds.ca/d/?t=62906e4300004124-a615996>



New Instrument for Plant Stress Measurement – Maria Issa

Sometimes I wonder how I get onto these weird websites – but this group turned out to be interesting. I've always been fond of research instrumentation – the more complicated the machine – the better I liked it. So now that I don't get to play with lab toys, I like to hear about them. This company makes instruments to measure plant attributes. I actually listen to their webinars and imagine all the cool things one could do with their toys. The previous one mapped growing roots by computer. This one piqued my interest because during all the smoke, I bet that plants are stressed too. Wonder what the magic gadgets could tell us? Watch some of their videos to find out. Although they are a commercial enterprise, I'm recommending this in the full knowledge that nobody will ever buy anything from them anyway... <https://cid-inc.com/plant-science-tools/leaf-spectroscopy/ci-710-miniature-leaf-spectrometer/>

How a Fruit in Your Garden Gets Its Shiny Blue Color – Linda Howe

A little biochemistry for you in this very interesting article: Scientists had noticed that pigments related to those in blueberries exist in viburnum fruit and assumed that this must be the source of their odd hue. Blue fruit, after all, is rare. But researchers [reported last week in Current Biology](#) that viburnum's blue is actually created by layers of molecules arranged under the surface of the skin, a form of what scientists call structural color. By means still unknown, the plant's cells create thin slabs of fat arranged in a stack, like the flakes of puff pastry, and their peculiar gleam is the result. – read the NYTimes article here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/11/science/blue-fruits-viburnum.html>

“But for one's health as you say, it is very necessary to work in the garden and see the flowers growing.”

- Vincent Van Gogh



Japanese Beetle Outreach - via Susan Huber

“My name is Marley Lightfoot, and I am writing you regarding the Japanese beetle outreach and eradication program for 2020. As you may have heard, it is a regulated pest in Canada and since its introduction to BC in 2017 it has posed a threat to our ecosystem, agriculture, and horticulture industries. The outreach this year looks very different given the circumstances presented by Covid-19. We’re looking for more virtual ways to reach the public and inform on best practices and identification methods for the Japanese beetle. Gardeners in BC are of particular interest due to the host species the Japanese beetle prefers to feed on. We’re now in the flight season for the beetle, so getting the word out there is becoming increasingly important.

If you haven’t already, I would also recommend subscribing to the Invasive Species Council of BC eNewsletter (<https://bcinvasives.ca/news-events/isc-e-newsletter>) to receive monthly updates on our efforts and programs regarding invasive species. At the bottom of this webpage you can input select updates you're most interested in receiving including topics like your information and Japanese beetle and horticulture.”



Hemlock Looper Moths - via Diane Sekora

Quite a few people are noticing many moths 'sticking' to our homes and bushes. I discussed this Doreen Marbry and she had already googled North Shore Invasion of Moths. The decimation of hemlock, Douglas firs and cedars on the North Shore is happening especially in the 3 Metro watersheds (Capilano, Seymour and Coquitlam). Outbreaks of the species, known for decimating hemlock and other types of trees, are a natural phenomenon but may increase in frequency in future because of climate change, experts say. “It’s what we call cyclic, so every 10 to 20 years, you get an outbreak. The populations grow and they kind of get out of hand when all the conditions are right – warm summers, warm winters, droughts stress the trees – and then they start breeding and have a huge party,” said forest pathologist Richard Hamelin.



<https://vancouver.sun.com/news/north-shore-hit-with-another-outbreak-of-western-hemlock-looper-moth>

YWCA Rooftop Garden

Our Rooftop Food Garden is a model of sustainable development in the heart of Vancouver, yielding more than **1,500 pounds of produce each year!** The fresh fruits and veggies are then used to prepare nutritious meals for YWCA single moms and their kids. Every morsel goes directly into home-made meals served at the YWCA Crabtree Corner Community Centre in the Downtown East side and to YWCA child care centres.

The Indigenous plant garden is led by Lori Snyder, who is a Métis herbalist and educator. This medicinal garden includes salal, huckleberries, yarrow, pearly everlasting and tobacco plants. Now that it is established, plants can be harvested and used for educational workshops, cultural connections and ceremonies. [Donate now: they need \$59K to keep going]. <https://ywcavan.org/blog>



“How right it is to love flowers and the greenery of pines and ivy and hawthorn hedges; they have been with us from the very beginning.” -

Vincent Van Gogh



Farmer Friday - Wayne Smith



I'm having fun drying my produce in the shop skylight. It gets very hot in there - up to 150°F. It takes about three days to dry tomato slices on parchment paper. I made tasty fruit leather from bananas and apple purée too. I rolled it up in cellophane and stored it in the freezer. Even dried the banana skins for fertilizer for next year's tomatoes plants! The skins have most of the nutrients except nitrogen and calcium.

I stepped out to my front yard and welcomed the passerby folks to my flower/cucumber stand. Even showed off some of my fruit drying skills. Could become a regular thing....



THE COMPOST BIN [Leafy Thoughts]

- Maria Issa

I've been doing the Leaf for quite a while - I'm on my third LVGC President. Somehow Aline with the website, and me with the Leaf, we seem to just be here forever. Some of you would probably like to see the back of me and when the work piles up, so would I.

At meetings I nag, I plead - *and Lo and Behold!!* - people ante up and send in all sorts of incredible stuff to include in the Leaf. Very, very many of you have sent wonderful material and (unless I lose it in the mess) I usually publish every last bit. Why? Because I strongly believe that this is YOUR club, YOUR newsletter, the articles are submitted by YOU and YOUR friends, and we are a community that enjoys each other's company in print. WE share - not only our pots and plants but our knowledge and our joy in finding stuff others might enjoy as well. We are not all of us superb gardeners, some of us are novices - but there is room for learners and experts and everything in between - and we honour all stages of expertise.

As you know, I have way too many Hungarian sayings - and among them is this one: "a good priest learns till his dying day". In other words, there is always something new to know - and we can never predict the source. So that is the foundation of my simple "editorial policy": *you send - I print*.

If there are gaps and blank spaces in the Leaf (where the slugs ate it?) - I fill with whatever entertaining nonsense I can find. Or pictures. Or jokes. But those are just fillers. I don't see the Leaf as a magazine that appears based on the editor's choice of material and with a stable of by-lines moving unidirectionally: editor to reader, without feedback. In my mind, The Leaf is a collaboration between the readers and the collator(s): WE - together.

Having said that, if you would like to see changes toward a more erudite or editor-directed publication or have a different, innovative vision, I'm more than willing to change course, or place the entire Leaf in your capable hands. Talk to your Executive.

In the meanwhile - until I find a suitable victim to pass this to - I have some requests. My bandwidth these days is not what it used to be. I have a lot of other commitments. Therefore, to help me - or whoever takes over - please make your submissions "editor friendly".

1. **Articles written by you:** love 'em! doc or docx format; please send pictures separately (more about those later).
2. **Articles you found:** due to our respect for copyright, The Leaf will publish YOUR SYNOPSIS or COMMENTARY and the link; along with the source reference. I will not excerpt them as I don't have the time - but you can! So please say why you think it is interesting/important/entertaining; where it fits into people's gardening lives - and a few key points that sing to your heart. Basically, sell it to your readers.
3. **Please don't send scans or photos of textual material:** I have to retype them all and it's torture, especially if the image is upside down or sideways. I don't have the time or want the crick in my neck.
4. **Photos:** please label/annotate with name of plant or person (FIRST NAME ONLY of person) - or "mystery plant" - and PLEASE make them small files. 500KB max. Those 10 meg photos drive me insane as I have to down-sample each one; then they are still too big - and if they are, the final Leaf will be rejected by your email inbox as "too big". In this one case, unlike the Tom/Bruce veggie competition, bigger is NOT better.
5. **Announcements:** posters from other organizations - maybe just please send the info without the graphics? They are super-hard to squish into our format.
6. **Cartoons:** I admit that for cartoons and jokes, I'm willing to bend the odd copyright (*mea culpa*) - I'm just too tempted... but if you can supply the source, all the better. Same for photos from the internet - if they say "don't copy" - then please don't. Otherwise....

Thanks for your understanding and help. And I await with bated breath your future brilliant submissions with perfect compliance! ...and I'll be here - until someone better comes along.

