



THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

May 2021

President's Message - Norma Austin



changing health guidelines. In fact, there has to consider that Penny reckons that we are thing is that the **plant sale is on.**

Veggie sales will happen at two Saturday, May 15, with another their homes the following assortment of plants. All protocols, and such, will be email. Check the website

As usual, our dear too, for the first time!), lovingly preparing

In addition, enthusiastic continued have

If sure to and the game of

In the face of a pandemic, our determined little garden club is going ahead with a plant sale, a SPECIAL plant sale. It's happening ... or about to happen (depending on when you are reading this message) ... our **plant sale is on.**

It seems like every time I pass on information about the sale and all the progress that the MALs have made, it has all changed. Plan A dropped right at the beginning. There was a lot of tinkering of Plan B, in response to been so many things at Plan E. The main

member's homes on seven members opening up weekend, to sell a wide information, addresses, safety given in this LEAF or sent out by too. I welcome calls or emails.

members have been growing seedlings (me potting up treasures from their gardens, and plants for the sale.

under the leadership of Maria Issa, with her 'partner-in-crime', Sue Callahan, our club has with in a series of 'Digs', big and small. Many people shown up to rescue plants to add to our sale.

you find that you now have time to help out at the sale, be let Penny know ahead of time. Otherwise, you are most welcome to come and shop, with friends and family in tow. Come enjoy the fact that you can see your fellow avid gardeners and play "Who is behind that mask?"

THE GREAT LVGC PLANT SALE ISSUE!!

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
Christine Allen: ROSES
May 20

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.lynnvalleygardeclub>

An old Italian gentleman lived alone in New Jersey. He wanted to plant his annual tomato garden, but it was very difficult work because the ground was so hard. His only son, Vincent, who used to help him, was in prison. The old man wrote a letter to his son and described his predicament: "Dear Vincent, I am feeling pretty sad because it looks like I won't be able to plant my tomato garden this year. I am just too old to be digging up a garden plot. I know if you were here, my troubles would be over. I know you would be happy to dig the plot for me, like in the old days. Love, Papa" A few days later, he received a letter from his son. "Dear Papa, Don't dig up that garden. That's where the bodies are buried. Love, Vinnie" At 4 AM the next morning, the FBI and the local police came and dug up the whole garden, without finding any bodies. They apologised to the old man and left. The next day, the old man received a letter from his son. "Dear Papa, Go ahead and plant the tomatoes now. This is the best I could do under the circumstances. Love Vinnie"

Executive 2021

President

Norma Austin x

Vice President

Jacque Morgan x

Secretary

Lorraine Robson x

Treasurer

Donna Wasylik x

Membership

Barb Downman x

Doreen Marbry x

Members at Large (MAL)

Lori Herman x

Penny LeCouteur x

Ann McKinnon x

Courtney Mitchell x

Committees

Newsletter Editor

Maria Issa x

Plant Table

Norma Buckland x

Hospitality

Sharon Carabetta x

Susan Nicholls x

Daphne Page x

Sunshine / Door Prizes

Susan Huber x

Website

Aline Burlone x

Executive Meetings

By Zoom, 1st Wednesday of each month, 7PM

Next Newsletter Deadline

Beginning of June

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, Sue Callahan, Barb Downman, Carol Ferryman, Linda Howe, Rosamond Hughes, Penny LeCouteur, Doreen Marbry, Rita Marshall, Diane Sekora, Bruce Tennant, Leah Younger



SPEAKER

CHRISTINE ALLEN

Christine Allen is a Life Member of the Master Gardener's Association of BC and a long-time volunteer at VanDusen Botanical Garden. She has written many articles for gardening publications in both Canada and the U.S. and is the author of several books including *Gardens of Vancouver* and *Roses for the Pacific Northwest*. Her most recent book is *A Year at Killara Farm*, a memoir of her garden and life on the Langley farm where she lived from 1992 to 2006.

Her topic for this talk will be: *Roses*



REPORTS

Vice President - Jacque Morgan

[Jacque is working on the June 17 speaker - people are elusive! - so please be prepared for an ultra-exciting "Mystery Speaker"!! ...or just a general chin-wag about how the plant sale went and what weird and wonderful things happened...]

Treasurer's Report - Donna Wasylik

Bank Balance as of April 16, 2021:	9,922.55
Cash on hand:	139.65
Total:	10,062.20

Membership Report - Doreen Marbry and Barb Downman

Please contact Doreen Marbry by phone if you have a change in your contact information from a year ago so we can update our records. If you would like to have your 2020 membership card, please call Doreen to arrange a time for pickup. We have 148 members.

The Membership Registration Form will appear in the September issue of The Leaf, so the registration process can be started early. To encourage members to complete their registrations early, Barb hinted that there might even be a prize draw from among the members who submit their forms early! [so watch this space!]

Website - Aline Burlone

Aline reported she has reorganized the speaker pages so members don't have to scroll through all the past speakers. She has also added a current year's past speaker page (or archive). Look for PLANT SALE info on the WEBSITE!!!

"Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine to the soul" - Luther Burbank



MALS Lori Herman, Penny LeCouteur, Ann McKinnon, Courtney Mitchell bring you

THE GREAT LVGC PLANT SALE !!!!! PART II

We had a very successful veggie (herb and fruit) sale this past Saturday so thanks to and kudos for all of those involved (site hosts, volunteers, growers and buyers!). I was a bit worried at one stage because it seemed a bit slow but then that was what we wanted and why we spread the plant over 2 Saturdays and 2 sites. The final tally is over \$1600 so that is great.

Now for the coming Saturday we have 7 different sites (details below) and over 1600 plants - lots of hosta, hardy geraniums, irises, lady's mantle, astrantia, sedum, hellebore, day lilies and all sorts of other wonderful plants. This time I'm not going to suggest any particular timetable as we have the 7 sites so come whenever you want, bring your friends and neighbours with you or tell them they can come at any time. Bring your own bags or containers. We all have to wear a mask and sanitize our hands (available on site), social distance, and don't come if you don't feel well!!! Cash only (except for members who can write a cheque) and NO change will be given. **10 AM to 4 PM Saturday, May 22nd** at the seven sites. There will be approximately the same variety of plants at each site and you can, of course, visit as many sites as you want.

If any of you are on one of the Nextdoor Neighbourhood email sites, (I'm on the Nextdoor Cleveland site) please post a message something like this:

"Lynn Valley Garden Club Plant Sale (perennials and other). Lots of plants, great prices! Cash only - no change given. Please wear a mask and keep social distance. Saturday May 22nd from 10 AM to 4 PM. Further information and site addresses see our website at <http://lynnvalleygardenclub.org/lvgc-2021-plant-sale/>"

Tell your friends and neighbours about this event. Plants are from the gardens of North Shore gardeners - plants that grow well in our neighbourhood! We have over 1600 plants so we need plenty of customers. If anything changes (there is a possibility we might reduce to 6 sites) you will get an email and the information will also be on the website.

If you have plants that you are donating, you will hear later where to take them.

If you have questions either email one of the MALs or phone or contact me, Penny, by email or phone.

From Ann: To all you wonderful people who are donating plants to our **GENERAL PLANT SALE this coming weekend:** when you get your instructions - please drop off your donations to your designated site [check your email from Lori] on **Friday between noon and 6 PM.** There is somewhat of a balance of the numbers and types of plants across the sites so you will need to go to one site only with all your plants. Please check and re-check your email as to where you should go.

PLEASE READ THE SAFETY PROTOCOLS - it is the gift you give to your nearest dearest to keep each other healthy.



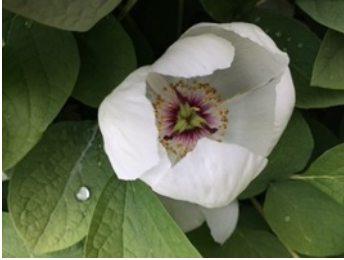
The Covid-19 Safety Plan for the Lynn Valley Garden Club¹
A copy will be present at each site

- 1. The rules for farmers' markets and garden centres will be followed.**
- 2. Attendees should be Lynn Valley Garden Club members and their friends, family and neighbours.**
- 3. Attendees and volunteers must be healthy. If feeling sick, they must not attend.**
- 4. Each person must wear a mask even though the sale is outside.**
- 5. Volunteers will limit the number of people who may be in the market area at any one time. This number will vary among sites. Area calculations will be made to determine the appropriate number of attendees allowing for 5 square meters of unencumbered space per person.**
- 6. Attendees must stay a minimum of 2 m apart both in the lineup and in the market area. Plant groupings must be arranged to facilitate appropriate distancing of attendees.**
- 7. Signs will indicate the entry point and exit point. One way only.**
- 8. Hand sanitizer must be available at each site. The cash box must be sanitized every 30 minutes.**
- 9. The CASH BOX will be near the exit area. NO CHANGE WILL BE AVAILABLE. Members *only* may pay by cash or check. Non-members must pay by cash. If a check is returned (NSF, *etc*) to the club treasurer, the member will be charged the bank fee.**
- 10. BRING YOUR OWN BOXES OR FLATS and carry your purchases to your vehicle (*ie* no Sherpas).**
- 11. There are no washroom facilities or seating areas available at the sites.**

¹ This is important not only for the health but also for the legal protection of hosts and attendees

BRIGHT SPOTS

From Barb Downman



Left: the subtle beauty of a species peony (unknown cultivar). The blossoms are followed by attractive seed pods.



The second and third photos – *Geum* ‘Totally Tangerine’ and *Geum* ‘Mai Tai’. These are new hybrid *Geum* with much longer bloom times than



traditional *Geum*. In my garden last year, ‘Totally Tangerine’ bloomed from May until frost. It stayed evergreen during the winter, was unbothered by pests and only required a very small amount of early spring cleaning. I highly recommend it. ‘Mai Tai’ is new to me this year so I don’t yet know how

well it will perform. The soft warm colours of both of these cultivars mix easily with other plants.



Left: *Cerinthe* (also known as Honeywort) outside the West Vancouver Memorial Library two weeks ago. The combination of *Cerinthe* and *Euphorbia* was eye catching. *Cerinthe* is a tender perennial, so I suspect this particular plant overwintered in this warm West Vancouver stairwell location. In cooler gardens it would be considered an annual (although if it likes your garden, you may get self-seeding similar to borage which is a plant relative).

Cerinthe is a favorite of florists and garden designers, but it is rarely offered for sale at garden centres in the lower mainland. Luckily it is very easy to grow from seed and the large seeds can be directly sowed in spring (similar to nasturtiums). It is a favorite of bees and hummingbirds so it is worth giving it a try. West Coast Seeds has it in their catalogue this spring.



From Rosemarie Adams

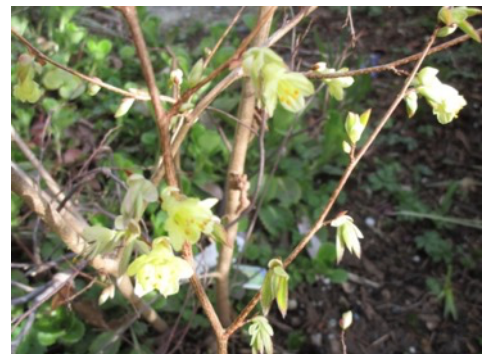
There are so many beautiful plants coming into bloom this time of year – it is hard to pick what to show. I have



had various types of *Viburnum* flowering in my garden since December, but the one in the first photo doesn’t bloom until April, and is my favourite, it has the most amazing perfume.

Viburnum ‘Korean spice’

Corylopsis pauciflora (Buttercup winter hazel)





Quite a few of our members have *Iris Japonica fimbriata* [previous page]. The blue version is also very pretty.



Pteridophyllum racemosum, a lovely woodland plant, looks like a fern, but is actually in the poppy



Cypripedium Slipper) is a small, orchid.

perennial (with the un-name of 'navelwort'!)



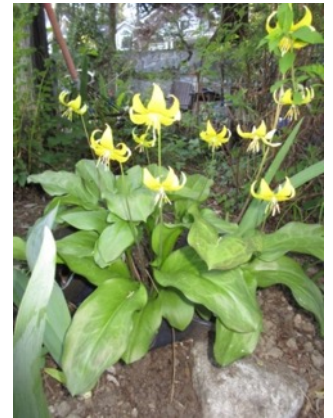
Erythronium "Pagoda" (Dog-tooth violet) is great in shady gardens.

Omphalodes cappadocica "Starry Eyes" is a clump-forming creeping charming common



family. [left]

formosanum (Formosan Lady's hardy



From Bruce Tennant

A few years ago, a kind garden club member, whose name I cannot remember for the life of me, gave me a blue gentian plant. I would like to thank her and let her know that the plant is very happy as you can see from the attached photograph.

On a DARK NOTE, I have noted an infestation of wireworms and am wondering if they came from that free soil we all picked up. They seem to love my new lettuce plants. :-[[[In her newsletter Linda Gilkeson mentions them:

Wireworms: They are narrow golden brown or yellowish-tan larvae with a very tough skin. Check the photos at http://www.lindagilkeson.ca/root_feeders.html#83 so you can distinguish them from other soil-dwelling creatures, such as millipedes and centipedes. If you see something the same size and shape as a wireworm, but it is creamy white instead of the distinctly brownish colour shown in the photos, it is a predator of wireworms called a stiletto fly (be sure to spare their lives!). Wireworms bore into root crops, tubers of flowers, and also into big seeds, such as corn. Before planting a bed, comb through the surface couple of inches soil and pick out the wireworms (they are easy to see). Then use chunks of potato to lure more wireworms out of the soil. Cut a spud into 1 to 2 inch cubes, skewer each on a small stick and then bury the potato chunk an inch or two deep, leaving the skewer sticking up so you can find the trap again. After a couple of days, pull up the traps and deal with any wireworms that have burrowed into the potato. You can keep re-using the traps for quite a while. To break the cycle of wireworms in the garden (it takes 4 years for them to mature from egg to adult), weed the garden well, right now, so there are no grasses and other weeds present because that is where the beetle will shortly start to lay eggs that will become the next crop of wireworms. This is also why it is not a good idea to use fall rye cover crops (which are turned under in the spring) for a vegetable garden because that attracts more click beetles to lay eggs the become another 4 years of wireworms.



CAMAS FIELDS FOREVER – Barb Downman

I grew up on Vancouver Island exploring the Garry Oak ecosystem with its rocky outcrops, oak trees and wildflower



Camas quamash blooming in "home" to North Vancouver.

fields (camas, *dodecatheon* and *erythronium*). That environment still feels like "home" to me. I thought I'd share a few photos my sister (Deb Guedes) sent from Victoria so we can all dream of a post-Covid visit to Victoria during the spring bloom. Good places to view camas in bloom include Uplands Park in Oak Bay and Playfair Park in Saanich. Playfair Park is a real hidden treasure that features a large grove of mature rhododendrons and azaleas, a restored Garry Oak meadow and a 300-



foot perennial border. It is a must during any spring visit to Victoria. The third photo is of my garden. I'm always trying to bring a wee bit of



[and now: stolen from Wikipedia - ed]

Camassia is a genus of plants in the asparagus family native to North America. Common names include camas, quamash, Indian hyacinth, camash, and wild hyacinth. They grow in the wild in great numbers in moist meadows. They are perennial plants with basal linear leaves measuring 8 to 32 inches (20 to 81 cm) in length, which emerge early in the spring. They grow to a height of 12 to 50 inches (30 to 127 cm), with a multi-flowered stem rising above the main plant in summer. The six-petaled flowers vary in color from pale lilac or white to deep purple or blue-violet. Camas can appear to color entire meadows when in flower.



Dodecatheon is a 'section' (below *genus* but above *species*) of herbaceous flowering plants in the family *Primulaceae*. *Primula* species in this section were formerly considered in a separate genus, *Dodecatheon*. The species have basal clumps of leaves and nodding flowers that are produced at the top of tall stems rising from where the leaves join the crown. The genus is largely confined to North America and part of northeastern Siberia. Common names include shooting star, American cowslip, mosquito bills, mad violets, and sailor caps. A few species are grown in gardens for their showy and unique flower display. The stamens are thrust out with the sepals bent back. The flowers are pollinated by bees, which grab hold of the petals, and gather pollen by vibrating the flowers by buzzing their wings (buzz pollination). The vibration releases pollen from the anthers.



Erythronium, the fawn lily, trout lily, dog's-tooth violet or adder's tongue, is a genus of Eurasian and North American plants in the lily family, most closely related to tulips. The name derives from Ancient Greek ἐρυθρός (*eruthrós*) "red" in Greek, referring to the red flowers of *E. dens-canis*.

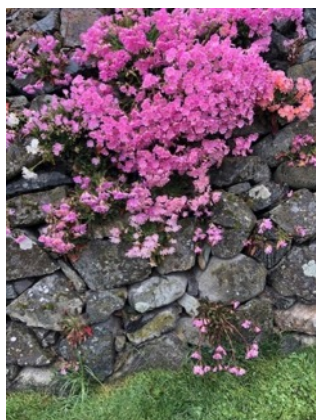


"Many eyes go through the meadow, but few see the flowers in it." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Lewisia AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN VICTORIA - Rosemarie Adams



First week in April (before the travel ban) we were visiting our daughters in Victoria and saw this lovely wall of *Lewisia* in the gardens at Government House. There were lots of other lovely flowers there, it really is a nice place to visit. My daughter walks her dog there every day, and May 3 she took these photos of the *Lewisia*, now in full bloom.



[...which brings us to "Rock Gardens" a section re-typed from a magnificent book you have to read: "GREEN THOUGHTS – a Writer in the Garden" by Eleanor Perényi and published in the Modern Library, New York's gardening series. The introduction by Michael Pollan describes it as "tart, smart and beautifully written". I concur. Herewith. – ed]

ROCK GARDENS – Eleanor Perényi

Any garden employing rocks as a prominent feature can properly be called a rock garden, whether it is a full-scale replica of a landscape or a miniature, and wither way it has a long history. Miniature landscapes were constructed in the peristyles of Roman houses, and Pliny mentions a portion of his Tuscan garden laid out 'in imitation of the negligent beauties of rural nature.' Both had dwarf trees, though whether rocks were included to imitate mountains isn't clear. Very likely they were, because such toy landscapes existed and were called *topia* – a word that also applied to a type of trompe l'oeil fresco or bas-relief depicting rugged shorelines and hills that was used to being the illusion of a view into courtyards and colonnades. (Confusingly, *topia* was a Greek word – the frescoes having been a Hellenistic invention – later latinized to apply to the gardener who did topiary work: the *topiarius*. Research hasn't revealed to me what the connection was). The Romans, at any rate, employed rocks for landscaping in various ways.

Aside from grottoes and nymphaeums, it is believed that they designed whole gardens in imitation of wild scenery -forerunners of the style not seen again until the eighteenth century. These have vanished, but the rocky little valley called the Vale of Tempe at Hadrian's villa near Tivoli is known to have been laid out in the manner of the *ars topiaria*, the artificial landscape.



Hadrian's Villa – Pavilion of Tempe



Bomarzo

All these, however, pale beside what must have been antiquity's rock garden to end all rock gardens. This was the villa of one Faustinius near Monte Circeo on the Tyrrhenian coast, and it is wonderfully described by Georgina Masson in *Italian Gardens*. From the remains that have been found – fragments of monster, men in terror-struck attitudes, the prow of a ship – it is deduced that Faustinius' idea was nothing less than to carve a scene or scenes from the Ulysses legend (a frequent subject of the *topia* frescoes) out of the living rock of the coastline where they were believed to have

occurred. The site is incompletely excavated but pools and outcroppings were transformed into a mythical seascape that was either pure magic or pure nightmare – like the monster-filled glen at Bomarzo, it was

probably a bit of both. A certain freakishness and horror are the hallmarks of rockwork, an art full of pitfalls.

Grottoes and boulder-strewn cascades came to France and England as part of the cult of the picturesque modeled

after Vergilian landscapes, like Hubert Robert's view of the gorge at Tivoli. Some of these, as would say, 'worked'. Many more didn't. The grotto at the entrance of the famous Désert de Retz near Paris – an ominous cave guarded by satyrs carrying torches – must have been hideous; and the Doric temple set under a crown of jagged teeth at the Folie Saint James almost as bad. Worse was to come. In England, the idea of copying an Alpine setting was introduced about 1830. Gibbon, remember, had studiously ignored the Alps near Geneva during his residence there: no classical associations. But by 1830, English travelers were converging on that centerpiece of the picturesque, the Mère de Glace at Chamonix [*I skied that one – ed*] and soon after we find a rockpile to represent it at Hoole House, near Cheshire. The type thrived, waxing in vulgarity, until the end of the century, the climax being reached at Friar Park in the Thames valley. Seven thousand tons of stone



Friar Park

were hauled in to make a 'Matterhorn,' complete with model of chamois, and beehives in the form of Swiss chalets.

Such concepts began to lose their attraction with the advent of a serious interest in alpine plants, first promulgated by William Robinson, and later by Reginald Farrer, whose book *The English Rock-Garden* became a classic on both sides of the Atlantic and is still worth reading. Farrer, whose prose is high Edwardian, couldn't abide what he called 'dig's graves' and 'devil's lapfuls'. He was a botanist of genius, and his care was for the plants – tiny, jewel-like rarities that are the only excuse for this type of garden. Your true alpinist has nothing to do with banalities like alyssum. He seeks the two-inch primrose, *P. Bilekii*, found only in the Brenner Alps, and would make the voyage to the



Himalayas for a really fine specimen of *Spathoglottis ixoides*, a high-altitude orchid. I respect all this scholarship, and the little plants are exquisite. I only wish I had seen an artificial setting worthy of them, one that didn't have something of the devils' lapful about it. Arrange it how you will (and I understand the trend is now toward fewer and smaller rocks, raised beds rather than moraine), the world of miniatures is at odds with the garden as a whole. One's sense of proportion is disturbed without being charmed into credulity – the contrary of what happens with Japanese miniature landscapes, where the eye is fooled into judging size and distance to be greater than they are. The focus of the rock garden is on teeniness, and the effect is the more disconcerting when, as I often see it, the arrangement is packed against the wall of a building.

It may be that Europeans simply don't understand the principles of the rock garden, as Orientals undoubtedly do. Ostensibly the objective is the same – to reproduce a wild landscape within a small space. But the analogies are superficial. European rockeries, especially those of earlier centuries, were representation of the *somewhere else* of romantic fancy – the Alps, Italy, even the Orient – and therefore at odds with their surroundings in a way that the Chinese and Japanese rock garden is not. These match their backgrounds to a degree not easily grasped by someone who hadn't been there. Those carved peaks wreathed in cloud, rising from inland seas, actually exist, and in the garden are merely repeated or suggested on a smaller scale. The Western version is thus an escape from the world as it is, the Eastern accepts and celebrates it.

In the Taoist philosophy that underlies the Chinese garden (and here I quote Osvald Sirén, the great authority on the subject), the earth is a living organism built out of the same elements of which man is made. The artist's task, whether he works with ink and brush or with living materials, is to employ those in such a way as to invest his creation with an expression of life, whether symbolically or literally. It follows that stones and water should have a significance we don't

begin to attach to them. Stones especially. As Sirén points out, water is common in the pleasure gardens of many civilizations. Hollowed and furrowed blocks of stone (the most prized being limestone modeled by water) assembled in the form of mountains occur only in China, or in gardens under Chinese influence: "The garden rocks are the expression



of a very old cultural tradition, deeply ingrained interest in the beauty and significance of the mineral kingdom which has been directed not only toward the 'mountains' of the gardens, but also towards the smaller picturesquely formed stones that are used as ornaments in dwelling-rooms or on desks – not to speak of the popular inkstones of the most costly specimens of jade, rock crystal, or other semi-precious minerals that the Chinese have collected as eagerly as works of art."

Given these profound differences in outlook, it isn't surprising that perhaps the least successful form of rock garden in the Western world should be our imitations of the Chinese and Japanese. These have been in vogue at intervals ever since the Japanese reports of Chinese gardens first reached Europe, nearly always in garbled form. Sir William Chambers, who made the famous Chinese garden at Kew and may or may not have actually visited China, conceived of the Chinese landscape as a litter of pagodas, 'impending rocks in gloomy valleys', raging torrents and heaven knows what other absurdities. Better acquaintance with the real thing produced better results, but the correct use of the Oriental idiom continued to elude European gardeners. (At one time, between 1880 and about 1907, Japanese water gardens were all the rage in England. A well-known one in Scotland, jammed with Japanese features, was made by a Miss Ella Christie, who with true Victorian grit had traveled all over the East, even into Tibet, but returned more enamoured of the Japanese style than any other.) There is the story of the Japanese diplomat who on being shown an allegedly perfect copy of a

Japanese garden hissed politely "Wonderful! Wonderful! We have nothing like it in our country!"

With the advent of modern architecture, times have changed a little. 'Oriental' gardens no longer contain lanterns, bridges and heaps of boulders. In keeping with a severer attitude toward architecture as a whole, the Japanese sand garden is now the thing to have. The inspiration for these is, of course, the celebrated stretch of raked sand punctuated by 15 stones and enclosed by a low wall that belongs to the Ryōanji temple near Kyoto. No garden can have had the same impact within living memory, and it isn't hard to see why. In the words of Arthur Wexler, whose book, *The Architecture in Japan* (1955), was the first call to attention to it, the Ryōanji's 'field of empty space remains a tangible sign of Zen Buddhist speculation; austere, deliberate, and perhaps bitter', which puts it perfectly in tune with modern sensibilities – and probably accounts for the failure of earlier generations to notice it. It wouldn't have appealed to the nineteenth-century fans of *japonaiserie*, who opted for Japanese prettiness. Every age makes its own borrowings from Oriental culture, which isn't to say that it always profits from them.



The Ryōanji has been exactly copied at least once – by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, who built a replica in 1964. How many times has it been inaccurately replicated or alluded to would be impossible to say, but surely it would run into the dozens. I disapprove of all of them. Even with a Japanese artisan to construct it, with sand and stones brought from Japan, the Japanese sand garden (and there are many others besides the Ryōanji which have been copied) remains alien in every respect. You can't, for instance, set foot in it. It is a picture to be looked at, and a very beautiful one, but still outside our experience. What do those stones mean to us? Why are there fifteen and not nine? There are answers to all these questions but they are not our answers. Still less does American gravel set with a few boulders constitute a meditation on the meaning of Zen.

It will be seen that I have nothing useful to propose to the rock gardener, whose art I do not care for except in the Oriental context I don't think belongs here. If I were to have a rock garden, nature would have to give it to me – as well as it might if I lived a mile or so inland where the characteristic New England landscape of heaved-up ledges, abrupt little cliffs and a multitude of boulder hillsides begins. But a curious thought occurs to me: nowhere in this neighbourhood have I seen such a natural rock garden put to use by its owner. Why is this? Probably it means that rock gardens, too, are falling victims to the labour shortage, and if so, I won't be sorry.

"Zen could be said to be the biggest joke that has ever been played in the spiritual realm. But it is a practical joke, very practical."
Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche

FUNGAL DISEASE ON JUNIPERS – Rosemarie Adams



Found this nasty looking orange coloured jelly like substance on some branches of a juniper I am training for Bonsai. Last year I had noticed a hardened growth on some parts of the tree, and this orange jelly was now covering those growths.

Turns out it is a fungal disease called cedar-apple rust (*Gymnosporangium*). The orange balls are the fruiting body of the

fungus. First year of infection the fungus forms a brownish-green swelling 1-2 inches in diameter on the juniper branch. The following Spring, during warm rainy weather, the ball sends out jelly-like orange projections that produce spores that spread the disease. Seems this is not a serious problem on junipers, but can spread to apple trees, making the fruit seriously disfigured.

Interestingly, the disease can't spread from juniper to juniper or from apple to apple. It can only alternate between the two. One way to break the cycle is to make certain that apples and junipers are planted far apart, although in urban and suburban settings, this may not be practical or possible, because you can't control what your neighbours plant. Another control is to remove the brownish-green balls from your juniper during their first year, before they develop their orange spore. This was too late for me, as the growths were already there, but I scraped all the orange spores off and also removed some of the growth below. Have to keep close watch next year.



WORLD NAKED GARDENING DAY

[just so you know I'm not the only one going on about it...]

From Rosamond Hughes

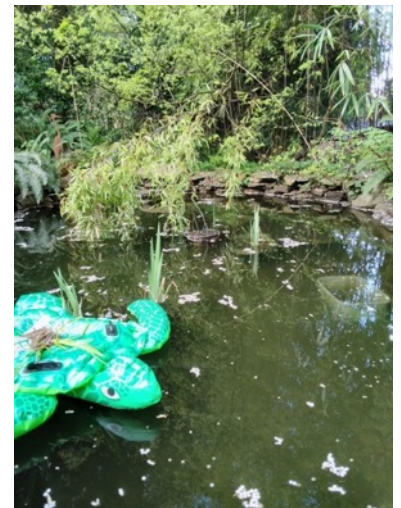
On May 1 -- the threshold to the Celtic festival of summer -- imaginative gardeners know that we can throw off outer coverings and dive under the water with pond tabs to nourish aquatic plants, being protected from prying eyes in neighbouring windows by wee green folk... *[so presumably you are under the turtle? - ed]*



From Barb Downman

In the immortal words of Randy Newman (as made famous by Joe Cocker) *You Can Leave Your Hat On.* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4b04jq7NB1s>) *[You have to listen to this version!!!]* The picture on the left was posted it on the LVGC Facebook page. I was joined on Facebook by Andrew Massil wearing his tool belt.

[For those of us who have been too lazy or too Luddite to get on the LVGC Facebook - We are missing out!!! But you can contact Lorraine Robson for instructions! – there is always next year... and as Ann McKinnon stated while sorting through thousands of plants for The Great LVGC Plant Sale “one should always live a little dangerously.”]



FROM THE ROOT CELLAR in Victoria "farm fresh and dirt cheap" shopping.

[sent in by Rosemarie Adams] "Last Saturday was World Naked Gardening Day. Did you show some skin? You might read that and laugh, but I was raised by areal-life-naked-gardener. You can laugh now, but if you're cringing, I'm not sure we can be friends.

We lived rurally, a few miles up a mountain in a tiny, tiny town in the Kootenays. Where I couldn't (wouldn't) bring a friend home after school if it wasn't pre-arranged, because my mom might be out there, naked gardening. Sorry, 'getting her Vitamin D', I mean....

Even if it was pre-arranged for me to bring home a guest, it was a bit of a crap-shoot, because she may have lost track of time pruning the raspberries (NAKED, in case your imagination isn't with me yet), and failed to throw on her sarong before the school bus lumbered up. There was a parting in the trees where I could glimpse our large garden before the bus came to a stop. If my eye caught mom's flesh amongst the pole beans, I would be sure to talk VERY loudly as I walked up the long winding driveway, whilst simultaneously preparing how I would explain her, if she didn't hear our approach and cover up in time...

'Sorry, my mom's crazy' was just a lie, bodies are beautiful and values the energy of running. So what's a girl to do? I chose the easy year-old girl. I chose better friends. Friends My mom may have been naked far more than I values into plain sight at a young age. Integrity never any question about not following your sometimes as I learned.

Fluencies in empathy, in gratitude, in lessons I learned with my hands in the soil earthworms, companion planted, turned the bear; along with a strong dose of humility.

My mom is also an artist, yes, occasionally a naked-artist. I grew up with a work of her art on the back of my bedroom door that said 'I love and appreciate my body just the way it is.' In beautiful script, in case you've ever wondered where I picked that up, along with my appreciation for where our food comes from, and who grew it (I just prefer to keep my clothes ON). While I was still learning how to choose the people in my life, I would sometimes hang clothes over this work of art, rather than have to explain it.

As an adult, one of the best compliments I've ever received is 'wow, your life is full of such amazing people.' I don't willfully curate my friends, or my work family, but I find myself surrounded by people who lift me up, who bring the sunshine, and who 'get me' and where I came from, even if it makes them a bit uncomfortable, being human after all.

I find myself so grateful during this past year of pandemic for this calibre of companionship in my life. When we can't seek adventure or distraction, and are forced to appreciate what and who are nearest to us; I feel completely satisfied. And I wonder if this would be the case, if my mom wasn't naked so much.

So it may have taken me 42 years, but Thank You Momma. Happy Mothers' Day. You are a masterpiece."



and was cruel. But 'sorry my mom thinks our the sun', was certain to send my peers way out of this scary, scary situation for a 12-who are still dear to me today.

preferred, but her nakedness forced my was the fibre of my childhood. There was heart. Not that I didn't get it wrong

following your instincts: These were the beside my naked mother as we relocated compost, and rescued the occasional deer or

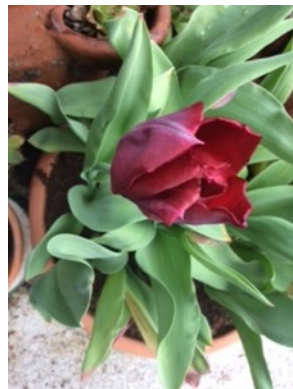


Almost forgot!!

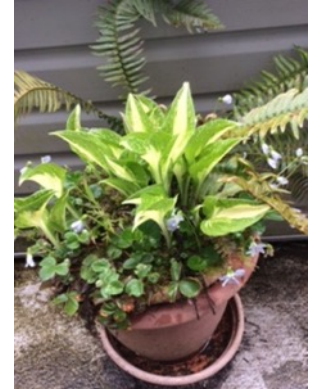
- to remind you about the Food Bank or The Harvest Project. I know that with the Plant Sale, your neurons are fully



occupied: that is venerable age, so I would like to your "memory remember to cans to 'Bla-bla's' box for the Go. Do it. Now.



good, as at our "use it or lose it" suggest that as exercises" you take a bunch of where they have a Harvest Project. Remember!!



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER GOINGS-ON

The MALs would like to remind you that you only have a few days left to throw some extra plants into pots and make them look like they have been there since February. HURRY.

... and Maria would like to let you know that THERE ARE NO MORE POTS at her house... so if you are counting on them for the above last-minute pottings-up, you're out of luck. They are ALL FULL. Please, please start gathering more pots because we might need them for any future digs.

An Assortment of Sites to Visit Virtually

From Diane Sekora

You have to click on Diane's banana video in the links file: it is full of brilliant ideas on how to germinate, grow, keep bug free and display plants. Some of the containers may have even upped the ante on Wayne Smith's super creative ideas. See the downloaded video in the links file. *[If it doesn't open email me - m]*



Invasive Species Council of BC News:

There is a great YOUTH PHOTO CONTEST in there for someone's sprog or grand-sprog.
<https://bcinvasives.ca/news/>

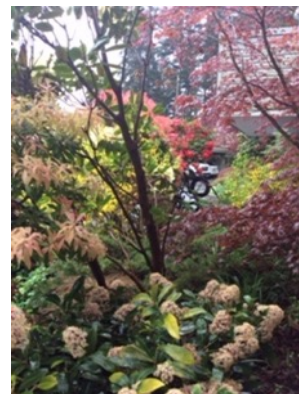
From Barb Downman

Did you know? You can read electronic versions of two of the best British gardening magazines through the North Vancouver Public Library (along with loads of other magazines and newspapers from around the world). Current and back issues of *BBC Gardeners World* and *Gardens Illustrated* can be accessed by registering with the Library's subscription to PressReader (NVD library staff would be happy to help you with the set-up process). You can read using a variety of devices including a computer desktop, ipad or mobile phone.



While our growing conditions and wildlife are not the same as those in Britain, both magazines are rich sources of useful and transferable gardening information. *BBC Gardeners World* has loads of step-by-step how to information with a good amount of coverage on growing edibles, propagation and garden design. Of course, they also have a column written by Monty Don. *Gardens Illustrated* tends to feature rather grand drool-worthy designer gardens but it also has good in-depth plant profiles. Both are well worth a browse and the price is right (free).

Note: If you live in North Vancouver City or District of West Vancouver you'll need to access PressReader through your "home" municipal library due to licensing restrictions.



From Linda Howe

All sorts of interesting lectures and workshops - free on line - presented by *Garden Gate & Horticulture*

http://aimmedia-8195114.hs-sites.com/grow-better-learn-tips-tricks-from-13-garden-pros-1?ecid=ACsprvtSIxBGJyWs9y4wgoY2M95NMIHGAG5j1AfDF_lxy1A5UGTf10PCZJdVwilr5gCRCDnGqT1U&utm_campaign=htm%20-%20ip&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=125387998&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--iMPdfnQajmFL7dIfSriNgF_2B7EJ_C1v-698yopbvB5l-PQ1qm7lK8-76YqKZDo1a2rnizxOe7y0kgRxcHjtti_YhHw&utm_content=125387998&utm_source=hs_email

Innovative ways to recycle your coffee grounds: An environment-friendly fertilizer; Toss them on plant roots; An organic pest control; Eliminate smells. https://roastercentral.ca/blogs/roaster-central-blog/innovative-ways-to-recycle-your-used-coffee-grounds?mc_cid=f71584ab3a&mc_eid=22a2dec4f4
[THIS IS GREAT!!!! I'm doing it - ed]

Interesting way to keep tree peony blooms:
https://www.gardengatemagazine.com/newsletter/2021/05/13/save-your-peony-blooms-for-later/?utm_medium=email&_hsmi=126759261&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--OLBkmcbvDRTL2dECBGAgZrFfEufEw_mztrXAwuGli1PODga2fNdp-upvDn4wQMG0uesBnK1Cf274FWv12Gycn1OrLiA&utm_content=126759261&utm_source=hs_email

From Leah Younger via Doreen Marbry

Native Plant Sale

May 29, Saturday 10 - 2pm

Loutet Farm Market

1400 Rufus Ave.

North Vancouver

Sponsored by The World Wildlife Fund, Go Wild School Project and The Waldorf School
[and check out Doreen's tree peony!!!] >>>>



From Lorraine Robson

UBC Botanical gardens Newsletter:

https://botanicalgarden.ubc.ca/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=UBC%20Botanical%20Garden&utm_campaign=Garden%20enews%20-%20May%202021%2004%2029

Gabbing about Gardening - schedule:

Monday, May 17: ARRAN STEPHENS will be "Gabbing About the Soul of Gardening" with his live zoom video tour of his family garden. Arran is the co-founder of Nature's Path Organic Foods. He is also an avid and skilled organic gardener and compost guru who feeds his extended family year-round from his remarkably fertile organic garden in Vancouver.

MAY 17, 2021 03:30 PM VANCOUVER

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/88279329560...](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88279329560...)

MEETING ID: 882 7932 9560

PASSCODE: 938863

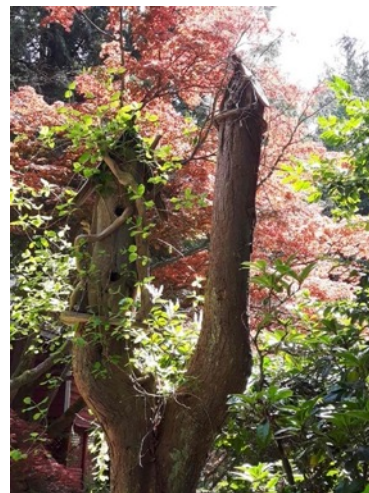
Monday, May 24: MICHAEL ABLEMAN is "Gabbing about Growing Good Grub." This world-renowned, award-winning, best-selling author and photographer of numerous books about growing food and "street-farming" will share his vision of the future of gardening & farming and present a riveting photographic slide show featuring his multi-faceted life's work.

MAY 24, 2021 03:30 PM VANCOUVER

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87223861352...](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87223861352...)

MEETING ID: 872 2386 1352

PASSCODE: 507051



Monday, May 31: Dr. Lee Gass is "Gabbing About Art in the Garden". After 35 years as an award-winning UBC professor and hummingbird researcher, Lee became a full-time stone and wood sculptor on North Quadra Island. Lee will tell delightful stories and deliver a visual feast of the symbiotic glory of art and gardens.

MAY 31, 2021 03:30 PM VANCOUVER

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/89376365840...](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89376365840...)

MEETING ID: 893 7636 5840

"Plant a garden in which strange plants grow and mysteries bloom" – Ken Kesey

THE COMPOST BIN - Maria Issa

It is really all Aline's fault. She is "the one with the eye" who roams Moodyville's lanes and by-ways and *sees* things. She *sees* plants in need of rescue: apparently Moodyville is North America's most demolished area. This came from Glenn, Aline's newest source.

The way it went was that as Aline set out for her daily walk, always changing her route, she was eyeing gardens in the throes of yet another demolition. In one such garden, she spied a lovely Japanese maple. She stopped. She looked closer. "Yup, not too small, but not too big, may be suitable for another dig!" So, she chatted up Glenn whose 'destruction' company was in charge of the site. Glenn was delighted that someone might be interested in rescuing the tree.

Then, aware of my weird addictions, Aline emailed me. I was desperately busy, but the siren song of digging in someone else's garden was dragging me like Scylla and Charybdis. I hopped into my freshly cleaned car (sometimes I wonder why I bother?) and headed for the given coordinates. Yup: NICE maple, yup: Glenn was happy to let me have it. I had a quick wee look around and saw some other yummy things as well - so I figured I should call in reinforcements. Sue Callahan, my partner-in-crime, can out-dig the best of them, so I promptly sent her a note. Within minutes, came a resounding "YES!" Great: it's always more fun when there are at least two of us. Besides, by now, we have a system. I also sent a note to Ginette Handfield as she is always on the lookout for ferns to stabilize a ravine behind her house: there was a monster fern just waiting for her. We agreed to dig the next afternoon.

I had an appointment across town, so after, I changed into my "gardening sartorials" in the parkade, then at ticket-worthy speeds, headed to Hendry street. Checked in with Glenn and made sure he was alright with me digging up other stuff, not just the maple - and got down to work. Within minutes of presenting my second-best view to the street - a car drew up: Ginette! With a big grin, she made her way over and brought some HUGE pots, "Look what I found on the street-corner!". They were a lucky find as we ended up needing every one of them. Just as we had loosened the maple, Sue arrived with her hoard of pots. We all dug and pulled and extracted the maple. Those IKEA bags are a god-send and large root-balls just fit in nicely and the handles are sturdy. Then we eyed the monster fern. Ginette tried to find the roots and did some serious pruning. Sue, who also has "the eye", found some other rescuables: another fern and a baby camellia. She disappeared under the bushes and set to. Lots of rustling and the odd rude word was heard. In the meanwhile, I found some bearded irises, *Crocsmiun lucifer* and some anonymous flowers (I hope - not weeds?) which will have to bloom before I can identify them. Then, just as a few droplets of rain started falling, under a huge conifer, I found some mystery bulbs. Lots of them. Got those out as well. It was definitely raining by then. Then we found a very full compost bin that we emptied as "It could be useful for someone!" By this time, it was well and truly pouring.

We hauled our load of plants and pots to the cars and Glenn graciously opened the fence right next to them. That is when he told us that he had talked to his bosses and they agreed that on any site that they demolish on the North Shore, the Lynn Valley Garden Club can rescue the plants. We thanked him profusely. I gave him my number.

He headed home and we tried to fit the muddy compost bin into Ginette's car. The rain came down. We were wet and bedraggled. Sue had managed to stuff her car full of full pots and with a damp but happy smile, headed off into the downpour. Finally, we managed to shove the muddy composter into Ginette's clean car - and she too, drippingly departed. My car was full with the maple, but there were more pots than I could fit. Had to call in the cavalry: my poor, unsuspecting husband - alias support, rescuer, wrangler-of-root-balls, and transporter. We loaded his car too - by this time I was soaked to the skin - and up the hill we went. For this rescue, he got to be the size-reference for the maple tree.

Everything got potted and planted. A few days later Barb Downman showed up: "Oh those mystery bulbs," she said, "I think those are *Galanthus elwesii*, the giant snowdrop". That made me pretty happy, as I remembered that someone in the garden club had been looking for just those. Pure serendipity.

So the next plan is that after this weekend, I will head down to Glenn's construction site with a six-pack and thank him for the plants and reinforce our mutually beneficial connections.

There will be a SILENT AUCTION for the lovely maple (husband not included). You will have to show up at Site 1 and add your bid and email to the auction page. [HINT, HINT] There might even be other surprise items you could bid on. You could even place a bid for someone else. Imagine their surprise...!

