



THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

June 2022

President's Message – Lorraine Robson

Congratulations to everyone who had a hand in producing our highly successful Plant Sale in May! Our very capable MALs organized every detail from advertising to volunteers. Thank you to Ann McKinnon, Penny LeCouteur, Courtney Mitchell, Marilyn Bullock, and Brenda Reid for being so thorough and working so well together! That our plant sale ran so smoothly is due largely to your careful preparation and planning. You did a wonderful job!

Thank you, too, to our generous site hosts without whom we couldn't have done it! Kathy Stubbs, Linda Schell, Maria Issa, Judy Lashley, Carol Ferryman, and Sharon Carabetta went the extra mile to provide us with beautiful settings for the sale and to make volunteers and customers feel welcome in their gardens. Indeed, both Maria and Carol dug out extra plants from their gardens when the plant requested by a customer wasn't available (in Carol's case because I had just bought the last pot of *Disporum smithii* while she was around back showing the customer how it looked in her garden); that's truly going above and beyond! Kathy also gave extra by reorganizing all the remaining plants in her front garden which served as the site of the Sunday half-price sale. Thank you to Jackie Morris for helping to coordinate the veggie growers and to Jennifer Sydenham for serving as our banker, making multiple pick-ups and deposits throughout the day.

Thank you to all the volunteers who priced plants on set up day and/or worked a shift at the sale helping customers and selling plants. Thank you to all the members who carefully divided plants from your gardens or lovingly grew plants from seed for the sale. Thank you to everyone who participated in a rescue dig and brought those plants to the sale and to everyone who fostered plants at lower elevations for members who live higher up the slopes. Our club is what it is because so many of you participated. Thank you to the kind and generous people who donated some beautiful hand-made items to the Silent Auction! Your contributions are very much appreciated.

Thanks also to Aline Burlone for monitoring and updating our website regularly with Plant Sale news and to Audrey Beugger for taking photographs of the action. It takes many helping hands to make an event like our Plant Sale successful and we are blessed to have so many of you pitching in. Thank you all!

In a spring that has been remarkable for the number of cold, wet days (and which has had us coining new names for the months like "Mayvember" and "January"), we couldn't have been luckier to receive three days in a row of gorgeous sunshine. Everywhere I went on all three days, customers, hosts, and volunteers were beaming. This distributed Plant Sale does require an extra layer of organization by the MALs, but customers love the combination of garden tour and plant sale. Great plants + great people + sun = great success. Together we raised \$9,358. I think that may well be a Plant Sale record. Well done, LVGC!

Since our club gives away about 50% of what we raise to various non-profit environmental and garden-related groups, our next task is to choose where we would like to see our donations go. Please send in your suggestions of groups you would like us to consider and let me know if you would like to serve on the Donations Committee this summer. We need at least 3 people. That committee makes recommendations to the Club

LVGC MEETINGS
Non-Pandemic: 3rd
Thursday of each
month (except July
and August) non-
pandemically at
St. Stephen's Church
1360 E 24th Street

Pandemic: ZOOM
MEETINGS WILL START
AT 7PM

NOAH LEWIS
GREY WATER
GARDENING

June 16, 7 PM

We have managed to get rid of our PO Box as we get 99% junk mail. Consequently, if you need to contact anyone at LVGC please use email or phone! If you must send a thing – phone to get the address and send it to a VIP (list is on the next page)

PLEASE USE
ELECTRONIC ACCESS
Your emails are welcome!
lynnvalleygardenclub@gmail.com

Executive 2022

President	
Lorraine Robson	x
Vice President	
Gillian Konst	x
Secretary	
Sarah-Jane Gray	x
Treasurer	
Donna Wasylik	x
Membership	
Barb Downman	x

Members at Large (MAL)

Penny LeCouteur	x
Ann McKinnon	x
Courtney Mitchell	x
Marilyn Bullock	x
Brenda Reid	x

Committees

Newsletter Editors	
Maria Issa	x
Margaret Campbell	x

Plant Table	
Norma Buckland	x

Hospitality	
Sharon Carabetta	x
Susan Nicholls	x
Daphne Page	x

Sunshine / Door Prizes	
Rosamond Hughes	x

Website	
Aline Burlone	x

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

Next Newsletter Deadline
Beginning of SEPTEMBER
If you have material to delight
your fellow members - please
submit it via email to
[mailto:lynnvalleygardenclubnew
sletter@gmail.com](mailto:lynnvalleygardenclubnewsletter@gmail.com)



Thanks to Leaf contributors:
Rosemarie Adams, Audrey
Beugger, Aline Burlone, Rob &
Sue Callahan, Barb Downman,
Lori Herman Linda Howe, Rita
Marshall, Denis McMahon,
Courtney Mitchell, Jackie Morris,
Lorna Moxon, Sue Nicholls,
Lorraine Robson, Jane Sherrott

in the fall which are voted on at our AGM in November. Our website lists the groups we donated to last year.

In more good news, we have managed to reserve a place to hold **in-person meetings starting in September** on our regular meeting night at the **Mt. Seymour United Church**. This task has been the most challenging for me so far and anyone who has had to search for a club meeting hall in the past will tell you how limited rental spaces really are on the North Shore, especially for a large group like ours. I am hugely relieved to have found an attractive, large, comfortable space that holds 300 - and for a reasonable cost! The United Church's Sanctuary has two main advantages over previous meeting places: it has cushioned pews, so no setting up and stacking of chairs will be required. In addition, there is a built-in screen, sound system, and projector, so no one has to lug our equipment to the site and home again later. While we cannot take food, drinks, or plants into the Sanctuary, we'll have another large room immediately next to it where we can take our tea break.

We can meet there from September through June 2023. When St. Stephen's completes the renovations to their hall (which have still not begun), we can likely return there. Some may be disappointed that the new place is not in Lynn Valley, but nothing was available there. The choice was not between Lynn Valley and Mt. Seymour; the choice was between Mt. Seymour and staying on Zoom. When this space became available, the Executive unanimously agreed "Grab it!" It is about 7 km (4.5 miles) east of St. Stephen's, equal to a 10-minute drive. At least 12% of our members live east of the Seymour River, so it will be closer for them. I think Mt. Seymour United Church will make a very suitable temporary home for our club and I am looking forward to seeing you all in person there come September.

Before then, we have the combination Bus-less Field Trip and Members' Garden Tour on Saturday, July 9 to enjoy together. To minimize travel and do away with the need to sit in an enclosed bus, everything will take place locally. We will have a walking tour and talk about plants to attract native birds and pollinators with the Wild Birds Trust at Maplewood Flats Conservation Area as well as a visit to their small native plant nursery. Next, my friend Delphia Johnstone, has generously agreed to have us tour her award-winning garden. If you subscribe to Fine Gardening magazine, you will have seen her article about accommodating **hostas** in the latest issue. Delphia is an artist with plants as well as with pencil and paintbrush. We will then visit two members' gardens which are across the street from each other: Barb Downman and Donna Wasylik both contend with a resident deer population and manage to grow beautiful gardens despite that challenge. Just down the street, they have both contributed to a brand new butterflyway garden. We'll enjoy lunch at Barb's and Donna's. Please see more details about the day later in this Leaf. Hope to see you there and please say hello!



SPEAKER

NOAH LEWIS
GREY WATER GARDENING

Noah is one of the recipients of the **Lynn Valley Garden Club awards** at the Greater Vancouver Science Fair.

The Greater Vancouver Regional Science Fair (GVRSF) is the regional science fair for 10 school districts in the Lower Mainland area. It is open to students from grades 7 to 12 attending public, independent, private and home schools. The GVRSF is a registered charity and non-profit organization run by a diverse group of dedicated volunteers passionate about education in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM).

The GVRSF's mission is to encourage youth to conduct research and experimentation in the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics.

The Fair

- Encourages 100,000+ youth in our region to conduct creative inquiry-based projects
- Hosts 300+ students who are keen and invested in today's scientific and technological developments
- Provides \$45,000+ in cash, prizes, trips and scholarship awards
- Awards top projects the Grand Award of progressing to the Canada-Wide Science Fair
- Offers various student and educator workshops, research lab tours, and fun student activities



REPORTS

Vice President – Gillian Konst

Last year, LVGC elected to sponsor several awards at the Greater Vancouver Science Fair – with a view to fulfilling LVGC's mission to foster horticultural and related education. We have donated to the library to buy plant-related books, we have given money to the BC Council of Garden Clubs and contributed to their pot of money that gets allocated somehow to scholarships. This is the first time that LVGC has directly addressed supporting plant-related education and research outside of education for its own membership. We are proud to have offered a prize for the best horticulture-related projects. Noah Lewis is our first Awardee to present his project to us. Another innovative student, Aaron Zhao (see card!) will present his project in the fall. This is LVGC's support of the 'next generation'. [mi]



Treasurer – Donna Wasylik

[As Donna has been away, we do not have a specific 'dollars and cents' report. However, last month we were at

Bank balance: 10,963.86

Cash on hand: 100.00

Total 11,063.86 - and now we can add on the \$9000+ that the incredible Plant Sale netted – so we are somewhere in the \$20K range: just think of all the wonderful organizations we can help! Join the **Donations Committee** and make magic happen! – mi]

Membership

– Barb Downman

We continue to be at full membership. We now have a few names on the waitlist for next year!

Sunshine

– Rosamond Hughes

Sunshine averages about one card a month: please let us know if someone would enjoy receiving one to mark one of life's important moments.

Notice of Website Upgrade

- Aline Burlone

The Lynn Valley Garden Club website will be upgraded in early July to a more secure URL address. The old address <http://lynnvalleygardenclub.org> should redirect you to the new one, which will be <https://lynnvalleygardenclub.org>

The only difference between the two is the letter s at the end of http in the more secure address. When the update is complete an email will be sent out to inform all members.



Members at Large (MALs) - Marilyn Bullock, Penny LeCouteur, Ann McKinnon, Brenda Reid Ann McKinnon, Courtney Mitchell, Brenda Reid

The plant sale on May 21 was a big success! Those rare sunny days leading up to the wonderfully sunny Saturday of the plant sale seemed to get everyone in the mood for gardening.



Like last year, the sale was held in six member's front



yards. The plan was that there would be about the same number of plants at each site and a somewhat similar variety across all sites. As we expected many fewer veggies

than last year, they were all grouped along one side of Kathy Stubbs' place, with a somewhat larger group of perennials expected to fill the rest of the yard.

Well, this site turned out to be more of a happening than a plan. I will admit that I sent some last-minute donations there as I knew that Kathy has a big front yard, ample parking, and that Penny had rounded up some tables that we could stash spare plants under. Also, Courtney brought a carload of plants kindly donated by the West Vancouver Gardening Club. After all, lots of plants is a good problem to have!

It all worked out and was a taste of what we can expect next year when we are back together in a hall.

This year, with the Covid risk much reduced, we felt safe advertising our plant sale everywhere anyone



could possibly think of. The poster went up in rec centres, libraries, pubs, car windows, grocery stores, and everywhere in between. The information went onto other garden club's websites, into both a free and a paid ad in the North Shore News, and was emailed to many friends and neighbours. Our president, Lorraine, even managed to get an article accepted by the North Shore News for publication the Wednesday before the sale. And who knew that people would listen to CBC North by Northwest and decide at 5:30 a.m. that they must



come to our sale! Well, I guess Courtney did - as the publicity was her focus.

Thank you to all the donors who dropped off their plants on Friday morning, as requested. Marilyn's teams of pricers started about 1 p.m. and almost all finished by 3 p.m. The last team finished at 4 p.m. as they were having such a good time drinking tea and eating cookies as they priced plants in Carol's lovely yard. We know that the site hosts were a big help by allowing some people to drop off on Thursday evening and in helping set up the sites. Marilyn's teams of Saturday volunteers helped people purchase plants and hopefully had a bit of spare time to chat and buy some plants for themselves. We really appreciate that they cleaned up at the end of the day and helped with the transfer of plants to the Sunday site.



At the end of the day on Saturday, the remaining plants were consolidated at only one site as there was about an SUV load at each of the other five sites. We held a half-price sale for two hours on the sunny Sunday morning at Kathy's. At 10 a.m. there were lots of customers, some whom had not even heard about our Saturday sale but were thrilled with Sunday's reduced prices.

"Really, it's half off this number?", was often heard in an incredulous tone. At noon, the remaining hostas went off to Penny's and the rest of the plants were left for sale with an



honesty box, in front of Kathy's boulevard for the following week. Then some plants were kept for next year and others went into the green bin.

All that advertising and the hard work by all the volunteers, site hosts, plant donors, and MALS paid off. \$9,358 worth of plants were sold, mostly at full price, minus a few hundred dollars of expenses for ads, signs, various supplies, and thank-you chocolates. We'd like to thank our banker, Jennifer Sydenham, as she made



several circuits of all the sites, picking up the cash and depositing it into the bank account. On Monday, the MALS met at Penny's to roll coins for a few hours, tally the Sunday cash, and leave it for Jennifer to deposit on Tuesday. The last few dollars will go into the bank when Donna returns from vacation.

The silent auction was a mixed success, earning about \$400 and requiring much effort on Brenda's part. Generally, at a silent auction, people can easily check back to see if they need to raise their bid. Many of the items only attracted a few initial bids then stuck there as people did not drive back to raise their bids. This meant that many bidders got great deals. Aline and her husband became the surprised and delighted owners of



the garden box built by Carol Ferryman's husband.

Despite the cold, damp Spring, the plants were a credit to the skills the garden club members. They were generally large and healthy, the pots were clean (okay, I know some of the site hosts tidied a few), and the labels were easy to find and legible. We hope to hear about some of the great finds that people took home. I



personally snagged both a pink and a white flowered *Epimedium* for my front yard.

The yards were a beautiful setting for a sale on a day when the sun shines. I look forward to seeing Audrey Beugger's photographs of the big day. I keep hearing she's such a good photographer that they will be wonderful so am thanking her with full confidence that this will be the case.

Now's the time to take pictures of your flowers as we hope you will use the divisions in next year's sale. We learned that irises without any note of the colour did not



sell, not even at half price. However, for a small donation they were taken to Whistler and given to various neighbours, so their offspring may appear at a future sale. Again, grasses didn't sell well as they seem to have gone out of fashion or don't look great in May. The plain hostas that came out of a Big Dig last year mostly did not move. Actually, that's not quite accurate



as last year they moved from their original home to Penny's, where she carefully divided and repotted them, then this Spring they went down the hill to Bogna's so that they would warm up and leaf out, then to several different sales sites on the Friday morning, then to Kathy's at the end of the day on Saturday, and then back to Penny's on Sunday afternoon. We really don't want to keep doing this so if you or any of your landscaper friends want to buy some plain hostas at a great price, please contact Penny by phone or email.



We've been declared hosta snobs and it appears that our customers are too, as all your and Penny's fancy hostas sold. However, the remaining plants are in great shape as Penny, our resident hosta expert, takes wonderful care of them. If you want to fill a space with a bit of greenery, they are perfect - so make Penny an offer!. There were a few leftover day lilies (my bad, remember for next year that non-orange ones sell just fine) and certainly no tomatoes as they sold out early Sunday morning. There were some house plants remaining so next year they need to be included in the advertising. Really, all those new apartments in North Van must need some plants! This way, next year's plant sale will be even bigger and better! Both the continuing and the retiring MALS will be cheering you on because it takes all of you to make a plant sale this successful!

P.S. Now that I have some spare time to work in my garden, I am pleased to announce that the silver mulch (that silver highly reflective mylar film) that one of our speakers recommended, seems to have confused the numerous black flea beetles in my garden. They found the pots of tomatoes at the bottom of the steps, where I had stashed them until we got some boards in the raised bed replaced, did not find them when I moved the tomatoes up to the deck, and surprisingly have not found them in the raised bed with the shiny sheets. The sheet was not quite long enough so the zucchini at one end of the bed has one perfect leaf hanging over the



shiny surface, and the rest of the leaves are getting those annoying little holes that will eventually kill the leaf. We shall see if this strategy continues to work. I may end up cutting a little square of film to protect all of the zucchini. One can never have too much zucchini!



Overheard after the sale :

"I had a great time participating in the veggie sale and working with the other club members and talking to all of the purchasers!"

"And a huge thank you to Kathy (and her husband) for being such great hosts and working throughout the sale...and I thought I was tired!!"



From a Vegimate reporter on the spot – the ~~weather~~ veggie report

Another Club Triumph: The Plant Sale. Thank you for your plant and/or time donations to the plant sale!! While we haven't heard how much the sale netted, it seemed to be a big success. Certainly, our donations were much appreciated. By the end of Saturday, *we maybe had a dozen tomatoes left (out of over 250)*, and a scattering of veg, herbs and fruits. We occupied tables with plants on top, of course, but also underneath and behind or beside! After Sunday's half-price day, there was almost nothing left.





The Great LVGC Bus-less Field Trip and Members' Garden Tour Saturday, July 9, from 9:30 AM to after lunchtime

The Plan: From *Maplewood Flats Conservation Area* and native plant nursery, to **Delphia Johnstone's** award-winning garden, to **Donna Wasylik's** front garden and back vegetable garden, to **Barb Downman's** front garden for lunch, and a nearby **butterflyway** garden.

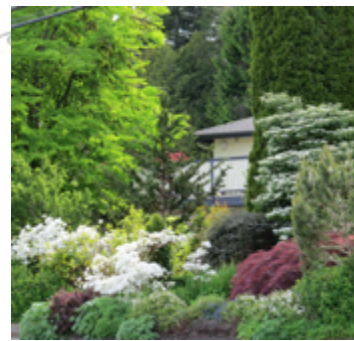
Always a fun get-together, for this year's event we will meet at 9:30 AM and will start with a guided walk and talk by the Wild Birds Trust at the **Maplewood Flats Conservation Area** just east of the Ironworkers' Memorial Bridge. The main focus of the talk will be on plants to attract native birds and pollinators to our gardens. We will visit their small native plant nursery. Next, we're off to visit Delphia Johnstone's soothing garden with its quiet palette of pink, blue, white, soft butter yellow, and many shades of green from her hosta collection. We'll then visit Donna Wasylik's tidy front and back garden where she grows many vegetables and Barb Downman's lovely front garden across the street for our lunch break. You may wish to walk half a block down the street to visit a new butterflyway garden that both Donna and Barb have helped create.

You'll need to **bring your lunch, a mug, a camp plate for cake/dessert, utensils if you need them for your lunch or dessert, and a folding chair.** (We'll have some chairs, but not enough for everyone.) The club will provide fruit platters, dessert, cold beverages, and possibly coffee and tea. You'll receive further details by email at the end of June. (If you receive The Leaf as a paper copy, we'll get the details to you somehow.)

You may wish to carpool to make parking less crowded. Would anyone like to volunteer to organize carpooling? Please? (I can't commit to organizing one more thing.)

1. **Maplewood Flats Conservation Area (2645 Dollarton Hwy):** Meet at the south end of the parking lot (furthest end from Dollarton Hwy). One-hour tour starts at 10:00 am with cultural educator Nicole Preissl. Visit Coast Salish native plant nursery with Sam and Senaqwila. [Maplewood-Flats-Self-Guided-Tour-Map-2019.pdf](http://wildbirdtrust.org/Maplewood-Flats-Self-Guided-Tour-Map-2019.pdf) (wildbirdtrust.org)
2. **Delphia Johnstone's Garden** Approx. 11:30 – 12:30. Parking is limited on Fairway Drive, so it's recommended to park on Huntingdon Crescent. Don't park in bus stop!
3. **Donna Wasylik's Garden** Barb and Donna live across the street from each other and the new butterflyway is just south of them, so park anywhere along Glenhaven.
4. **Barb Downman's front Garden** We can shelter under Barb's carport if it rains, but please send out the weather prayers you used for our Plant Sale because they really work well!

If you're planning to join us (and I hope you are), please RSVP by July 2 to lynnvalleygardenclub@gmail.com using the subject line "July 9" and include your name.



"If you BOUGHT any plants that were 'extraordinary' to you ... why did you buy them, in spite of your garden being full?" was the question I posed – an Lo! The answers below:

For Bonsai?

Rob Callahan



Well, I am one of those who has to confess....

I had an insider's look first, as I was called to a Club member's house to pick up two Hick's Yews that were being donated. Looking at them, my mind started to roam as to what they could be in the future. These plants are often used in hedges. However, these ones had been cut and trimmed by the donor to be upright bushes on either side of their front entry. Both stood about 4 feet high above the rim of the black pots, very bushy, one with a twin trunk, the other with a single trunk splitting into four or five branches making a vertical clump. I thought they could be potential bonsai material. I have a bonsai corner. It is rather full, with trees that have trunks the size of one to two pencils in diameter, and some with considerably more, but surely there would be space for another two....



I dropped them off at the required location then headed home, wondering if I could get there in the morning to purchase these if they were still there.

Saturday Morning: I showed up about 10:20 to find people wondering around with plants in hand, looking to pay for things. I saw my targets with no one near them, so I grabbed my dolly and headed into the sale. No one appeared interested in trees so I was a happy camper. I made my purchase, and once loaded, headed back home and got the two Yews into the back yard.

I spent several hours trimming the roots on both, removing 3/4 off one and about 2/3 off the other, and planted them in pumice where they will sit for a year. I proceeded to trim and thin out the tree branches on both, which will help let the light in and give general shape. It will be about another two weeks before fertilizers can be used. There are lots of new buds visible so the thinning should make these pop open in the weeks to come.

New to me!

Lorna Moxon

I did buy some extraordinary plants at our sale: Cuban Oregano (new to me and so beautiful!), also an amazing hanging planter of white strawberries (can't wait to try them). Excellent prices too. There were many other plants I would have loved to buy, but many of them were for the shade, which is scarce in my yard.

To Rescue An Old Rose

Denis McMahon

"I bought the [rescued] Rose bush at your place a few weeks ago and I have found a good home for it as I have a half-acre lot here in North Vancouver." - wrote Denis. *It was such a BIG old rose with big thorns - from the E 3rd & St David's dig. Thank you, Denis for giving it a second chance! - maria*

For Bright Colour

Rita Marshall

I bought a brown-eyed Susan plant at the plant sale even though I have lots of plants in my small area. I bought it because you can always use some summer colour in the garden, it feeds bees, and is a low maintenance plant. They have a nice tall growing habit and yes, they can grow in a large container. Their bright yellow colour looks good in cobalt blue pots.

A Magnificent Buy

Jackie Morris & Barb Downman

Sometime in the midst of setting up at Kathy Stubbs' or early at the sale on Saturday, I spotted at least two *Inula magnifica* on a table near Kathy's front door. I have had a mature plant for years. They were just labeled with the name, no description. At the end of Saturday's sale,, they were still there. On Sunday, at the end of the 1/2 off sale, they were still there. Barb Downman and I looked at them and wondered why. Perhaps no one was around to explain what they were, and potential buyers didn't bother to check them out on their phones. Since the sale was over, we decided to

“rescue” them. They are wonderful plants that enjoy partial sun, put out 3’ long leaves and tall (6’ – 7’) stalks of daisy-like flowers.



Gardener’s World describes these plants: “*Inula magnifica* is a dramatic looking plant, bearing huge sprays of bright yellow shaggy daisies in summer, in contrast with large, dock-like leaves. It’s perfect for a large sunny border in a sheltered location, or at the pond edge or in moist soil in partial shade. It attracts bees, beneficial insects and other pollinators.”



My new one, pictured, has doubled in size already. The bright areas on the leaves are a reflection, not damage. I also attach a picture of the flowers.

Thank you to whomever donated these plants. Barb and I will take good care of them!

Sale Plant Profiles

Barb Dowman

Here is a bit of information about some of the more interesting plants I spotted at the LVGC Plant Sale:



Toad Lily (*Tricyrtis formosana*; *Tricyrtis hirta*) - This unattractively named plant is easily overlooked but it shouldn't be as it is a lovely addition to a woodland or shade garden. There are quite a few different cultivars with the most widely grown displaying white with purple spotted orchid-like flowers in late summer to early fall. They are quite easy to grow in part to full shade in rich moisture retentive humus rich soil. Hardy to zone 5, they spread by rhizomes to form nice sized patches over time (generally 80 cm x 80 cm). Less common cultivars sport yellow, lilac or white with blue spotted flowers. Some of the more unusual cultivars have golden or creamy white edged leaves. [I snagged one of these!- maria]

Hardy Ground Orchid (*Bletilla striata*) - This is another plant that was very easy to overlook at the plant sale (it looks like spears of broad grass when not in bloom). The most widely grown cultivars have small magenta cattleya-like flowers in early to mid-summer. It is easy to grow in part shade in evenly moist, well-drained soil. Hardy to zone 5, it will naturalize and spread modestly to form clumps 30 to 40 cm tall by 30 cm wide. Less common (and perhaps less robust) cultivars may have white, blue or pale-yellow flowers.



Hacquetia epipactis - This is a very subtle plant for a part to full shade location. It produces green, yellow-eyed bracts in late winter to early spring followed by trifoliate leaves that form a lush mound and remain attractive into the fall. A clump forming perennial that will spread slowly by short rhizomes to form a nice colony 15 cm tall by 30 cm wide.

Inula magnifica (**Giant Fleabane**) - Completely unknown to me until this year's plant sale. This is a tall herbaceous perennial that grows to 1.8 m tall by 1.8 m wide. It has hairy stems and leaves (likely deer resistant) and shaggy yellow daisy shaped 10 cm flowers in the summer. A tough focal point plant for part sun in moist soil. Perennial and hardy to zone 4. Its nectar and pollen rich flowers attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators.



"If swallows come to the garden - to nest or to feed - you have received a blessing and a nod. You have created Eden in all its original complexities and subtleties. Not just a thing of fleeting beauty for us, but a cohesion of all that it should embrace - the pollinator, the spider, the serpent, comfort and safety and seclusion for diversity that we do not see nor will ever fully appreciate."

From *Windcliff: A Story of People, Plants and Gardens* by Daniel J. Hinkley



I lost all sense and spent \$40.00 for the burgundy-leafed *Podophyllum* 'Red Panda'. 'Red Panda' was introduced by Terra Nova Nurseries in Oregon and I read that they *tissue culture* many of their *Podophyllums* to get them out into trade, so this probably accounts for the high price. The photo (left) in the *Pacific Horticulture Magazine* started my hunt for the burgundy-leafed form that Free Spirit and Fraser Thimble Farms happily carry.



Sadly, it is only the new growth that is burgundy and within a month of emerging the leaves are fully green. Whether I'm happy to have spent \$40.00 for the plant is still being decided since its leaves are smallish, limp and dull, but its growth form -- with one leaf coming off the central stem like a patio umbrella and cool flowers that hang down under the leaf -- will likely mean it earns a place in the garden (though it doesn't have the presence of the Chinese may apples with their 20" glossy leaves).

<https://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/podophyllums-the-mayapples-of-asia-and-america-2/>



Despite the cost, these plants are very easy to grow and they seem to happily cross pollinate and express genes in new and interesting ways; I've had a new one come up with an interesting fuzzy white ring circling the leaf.

Now, I have an ongoing search for the variegated reddish-burgundy-formed plant in the lower right. The variegated forms hold their colors well, so I hope this won't turn green. A trip to Far Reaches Farm is on my bucket list.

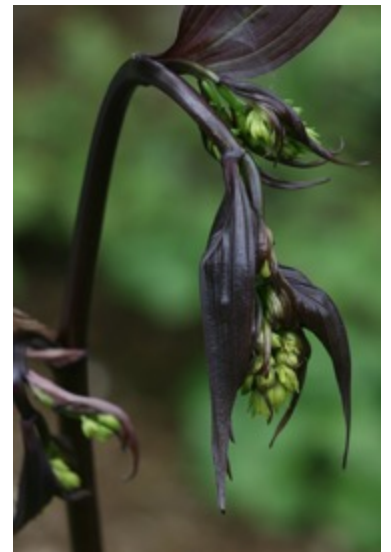


[https://www.farreachesfarm.com/searchresults.asp?Search=podophyllum&Submit=20" shiny leaves of *P. versipelle* on the left; Flowers underneath single leaf \(above right\).](https://www.farreachesfarm.com/searchresults.asp?Search=podophyllum&Submit=20%20shiny%20leaves%20of%20P.%20versipelle)



Another irresistible plant is *Disporum* 'Night Heron'. This is a cool *Disporum* with slim, arching, bamboo-like stems and clusters of fairy bell, pale yellow flowers. It's stately but elegant and the black tones in this make it a favourite of mine. The 'heron' indeed hints that Dan Hinkley introduced this.

[Daniel John Hinkley is an American plantsman, garden writer, horticulturist and nurseryman. He is best known for establishing Heronswood Nursery, in Kingston, Washington; and Windcliff, on the Kitsap Peninsula near Indianola, WA;[1] and for collecting, propagating, and naming varieties of plants new to the North American nursery trade.-mi]



BRIGHT SPOTS

From Rosemarie

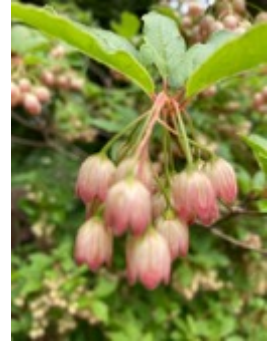


<< *Azalea Luteum* - very fragrant



<< *Deutzia rosea*

Enkianthus - pretty pale yellow bell-like flowers tipped in pink. Lovely fall foliage colour.



Iris cristata



Nemesia cheiranthus
"Masquerade" - just acquired from a newly discovered nursery in Saanich on Vancouver Island - thanks to Anne Pentland!

masses of tubular flowers swarming growing this from cuttings I took.



Weigela variegata - picked from my daughter's garden in Victoria. Pretty variegated leaf, with bees. Going to try



Two Happy Resurrections

Rosemarie Adams

Hurray for Elizabeth! I purchased a yellow *Magnolia* "Elizabeth" quite some time ago, and for many years it lived in a pot outside my basement door. At some point it got moved (probably because my husband wanted to get out of the basement door!), and put behind my veggie bed frame, and sort of forgotten about.



A couple of years ago I found the poor thing looking very sad. The top half was almost dead, so I decided to cut it down, re-pot it, and make it a bonsai candidate. Two years ago it started blooming again, but the flowers were no longer yellow, and looked like what I think of as Star Magnolia. I hadn't realized that the tree had been grafted, and can still see no signs of the graft. It bloomed in March this year, small



white flowers, and this week (late May) it now has yellow flowers, Elizabeth has come back to life! (Elizabeth did not photograph well – colour is a deeper lemon than it shows)

Determined Tulips. Every year I purchase daffodil and tulip bulbs from Silver Harbour Senior Centre – the bulbs are donated by City of North Van when they dig up their Spring flower beds and they usually have some very nice varieties. Last year, after I cleaned and dried them, I packed them away in a large cardboard box as usual, but come Fall – I couldn't find them anywhere, and decided they must have been thrown out with the cardboard recycling, or met some other fate. I even began to second guess whether I had actually purchased any! I found them in February, when I was finally putting the Christmas decorations away, and eventually got them potted up. I cover the pots in chicken wire to keep the squirrels at bay, and come late March they were doing well, growing, and poking through the wire, which I removed. Big mistake!

The squirrels got all six pots, tossed all the bulbs out, munched on some and took bites out of others. Good job I don't own a gun!

I scooped all the soil and bits of bulbs back into the pots, wire covered them again, and took them up to my deck. Now in late May those determined little tulips are in bloom, only 4 – 6" high, where they should have been 15-18" but looking very pretty. I was so close to putting all the remains into the compost – so glad I didn't.



An Azalea Tale

Rob Callahan

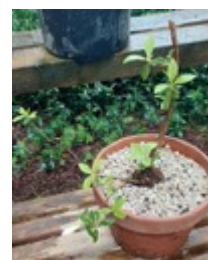
Well...with partners in crime (*see* June 2021 Leaf) we had dug up a yard almost a year ago where the homeowner was changing the yard around and numerous plants of all shapes and sizes were acquired, several as donations to the Club. One of those items was an azalea bush about 5 feet high and with a root ball almost 2 feet in diameter.



Once I had this home, we had to "MAKE A SPOT" for it as the garden, of course, was filled to capacity. We had acquired some dirt to help with other plantings for the Club sale and with the leftovers, we set up some concrete block walls to retain soil then covered the roots in our makeshift pot. I left it to sit there for 11 months, develop some new roots with some small amount of trimming. The thought was to give this plant time to readjust, having been just dug up.

So, about the first week of May 2022, while it was still cool and damp, I dug up the azalea and proceeded to spend about five hours splitting the root ball. Yes, *five hours* with an assortment of tools, both electric and manual. As a result of this time-consuming process, I now have five plants and today (June 4) one is out in full bloom while the others have many blooms ready to open. Each cluster appeared to have a good batch of roots.

All have been re-potted in pumice, with excellent drainage and in a shady location to help prevent drying out. Once the flowers finish, I will deadhead them, possibly trim some of the longer branches with the hope of back budding happening this summer, but otherwise, they will probably sit another year before working on the tops and several years before challenging the roots again.



Post Plant Sale Peregrinations – Courtney Mitchell

As soon as possible after our successful Plant Sale, my husband Bill and I set off on a road trip to Golden, Colorado to see our son and his family for the first time since Covid disrupted all our lives. Our drive went as planned until we learned that our son's father-in-law had tested positive for Covid, so accordingly, we went into a holding pattern for several days in northwestern Utah and northern Colorado – and spent two full days in Vernal, Utah. We highly recommend visiting the nearby Dinosaur National Monument. Its famous wall of bones is contained in a large building with active excavation. The Utah Field House Museum of Natural History has an entire wall of beautifully displayed **fossil plants**. [<https://stateparks.utah.gov/parks/utah-field-house> , <https://www.nps.gov/dino/index.htm>]



learned that they supply the street plantings for towns in the Rocky Mountains such as Breckenridge and Dillon. The nursery starts plants in February and are very careful to harden off all baskets and flats to survive the mountain weather conditions and night-time temperatures. One employee mentioned that the heating costs average between \$6,000 and \$7,000 per month! Understandably, their prices reflect these costs. This nursery was a feast for the eyes and I recommend a visit if you are ever in the area during early summer. See the website for more photos of hanging baskets. <https://mountaingrowngardens.com>



Any time we are in Golden, CO we make a special effort to visit the Denver Botanical Gardens. It has been nearly 3 years since our last visit, and we noted a number of changes – especially changes to replace beds that require a lot of water. My favourite section of grasses has been replaced with foxtail lilies – but I like them too. I overheard a docent telling a tour group that the new Nexus bed replaced a border that had required watering 2 to 3 times a day. This new bed contained beautiful flowering opuntia cacti, various succulents and fiery penstemons, among other plants.



Near the permanent Dale Chihuly glass sculpture, I found a stunning golden yellow floribunda rose named in honor of Bill Reid. What a surprise. The bonsai garden area was awe-inspiring. Beautiful coloured iris and peonies were in bloom, and the water gardens were in the process of being set out. I noticed a shady pathway that was edged on one side with about 2 meters of sweet woodruff and it looked lovely. I think I will use this idea to allow the invasive sweet woodruff in one of my beds to grow and surround my hostas and find another place for the struggling primroses and heucheras. Finally, I heard a young boy about five years old announce gleefully, "I can see a million weeds!" to the laughter of everyone who heard him. It was a very enjoyable day. Do visit the Botanical Garden if you are ever in Denver.

<https://www.botanicgardens.org/>



1,000-year-old Oaks Used to Create 'Super Forest'

- found by Sue Nicholls

Planting more trees is one of a combination of solutions to combating climate change, but some trees are far better than others. Which ones though?

A most interesting article from the BBC discusses nine new woodland areas planted on the Blenheim Estate in Oxfordshire as part of an ongoing experiment to “work out the best formula for achieving ambitious tree planting targets.” As scientists are now pointing out:

“Despite the fervour for planting trees ... it's not a "silver bullet" for tackling climate change. If not done with utmost care, the rush to plant trees can harm biodiversity and block land needed for other essential functions, such as growing food. And natural woodlands that contain a mixture of native species are more resilient and better for wildlife than vast plantations made up of one type of tree.”

Monoculture forests push out wildlife, are vulnerable to pests and diseases, and degrade the soil whereas biodiverse forests reduce flood risks, provide habitat for birds and pollinators, and resist tree pests and diseases.

It is an article well worth reading at <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-60617810>.

Soil Maps

- found by Linda Howe



Who knew there were soil maps? “Based on a 1931 survey, this grand-scale map (32.5” H x 48” W) traces various soil samples and natural wonders found throughout the United States. Reprinted from a book published by the U.S. Agriculture Department, this vibrant map is perfect for adding an artful and informative touch to your space. Printed on archival paper to ensure high-quality print color that will stand the test of time.” One catch – it is expensive: \$199!



A comparable map has been created by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to provide information about Canada’s agricultural soils at the provincial and national levels.

You can read details at <https://sis.agr.gc.ca/cansis/nsdb/slc/v3.2/change.html>

Zen Gardens

- contributed by Sue Nicholls

According to a recent BBC article, “to comprehend the beauty of a Japanese garden, it is necessary to understand the beauty of stones....” The first time you visit a Zen garden, it's hard to avoid a sense of awe at the mesmerising sight of the immaculately raked gravel – in wavy lines, straight lines or concentric circles – broken only by a handful of rocks, perhaps a shrub or two or a clump of moss, but definitely no flowers. Intuitively, you know you're in the presence of something profound and powerful....

The article goes on to explore the importance of empty space, the beauty of imperfection, the idea that a garden needs to be understood rather than just observed for pleasure. It is a profound examination of our need to be re-connected to nature. Find it at <https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20220406-the-meaning-behind-the-japanese-zen-garden>

GOINGS-ON

"Carol Ferryman's talented husband Lyle, recently refurbished an old garden bench for a member of the club. Instead of accepting payment for the bench, the Lyle suggested that the member donate the money to LVGC - which she was very happy to do. Thank you Carol and Lyle for your generous support of the LVGC!"

Butterfly Garden for Pollinators – Aline Burlone

A Butterfly Garden for Pollinators is coming to the Grand Boulevard area at 17th Street East. This initiative, spearheaded by the City of North Vancouver and David Suzuki Foundation (DSF) Butterfly Ranger Sally Hocking, is in its initial stages of planning. If you are interested in finding out more about it or volunteering with this project contact Sally Hocking at sallyhocking@deedesie.com



GO QUICK!!! - Lori Herman

I was out at this wonderful family-run nursery with my son's partner on Thursday, and sadly, it is **closing at the end of the month!** They were displaced by a condo development. Lambert and Marjanne are moving to Saltspring, and do not intend to start up another nursery, so I expect that there will be some real bargains at the end of June! I think it might have been on the club garden tour before I joined. I don't know what your deadline is for the leaf – I hope this makes it! <https://www.freepiritynursery.ca/>

Anyone up for a mad dash to Free Spirit? - I don't mind driving- email me! - Maria

Phoenix Perennials – Native Plant Alert - New BC Native Plants Available Now

...and while I don't like to do their advertising for them for free, just this once – because:

"20% of the profits of all BC native plants we sell each year will be donated by Phoenix Perennials to the First Nations and Endangered Languages (FNEL) Program in the Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies (CIS) at the University of British Columbia (UBC). This donation will support projects to conserve and revitalize BC Indigenous languages such as producing digital and printed resource materials for the FNEL program and the wider First Nations and non-indigenous communities, to bring elders to UBC to teach workshops, and to provide financial support to students working on language documentation in First Nations communities. Language is central to the health and vitality of all communities as it is irrevocably linked with culture, traditions, spirituality, history, and unique world views. Thank you for supporting "the gift of language life" with your purchase of BC native plants!"

UBC Botanical Gardens https://botanicalgarden.ubc.ca/june-in-the-garden-2022/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Rhododendron%20thayerianum&utm_campaign=Garden%20enews%202022%2006%2007

And for a round-up of other plant-focused activities, here is the BC Council of Garden Clubs
June 2022 Newsletter: newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com.

Maplewood Flats Rita Marshall

The most recent newsletter from Maplewood Flats and the Wild Birds Trust highlights some of their activities for the summer. One ongoing event is the Coast Salish Plant Exhibit featuring a series of Saturday morning activities. The focus will be on Indigenous knowledge of native plants, the various medicinal and food uses of the plants for humans and animal species, exploring the language of plants, the threats to native plants in Salish lands, and contributions from the Indigenous community. Purple martin nesting boxes have also been re-installed, so bird activity will be increasing. You can read more details at communications@wildbirdtrust.org.

Mark Saturday **June 25th** & **Sunday June 26th** on your calendars, and plan a trip to the Dogwood Pavilion, 1655 Winslow Avenue in Coquitlam to see the gorgeous display.

The Compost Bin

- Maria Issa

My compost bin is full of weeds: my garden is an inexhaustible source thereof. People tell me not to put them in my compost as they are sure to resurrect and come back like zombies. Well, if I didn't, I wouldn't have compost... I don't pull out (or at least try not to) the good stuff. What I prune drops where I am and lives on as mulch. Though through my association with LVGC, I've discovered that things I've cursed and ripped out were highly desirable and propagated by others. Go figure. The plant sale was another demonstration of that. I'm reading Michael Pollan's book, "Second Nature" and his thesis is *weeds-R-us...* as we - the settlers of years gone by - brought plants with us, willy-nilly, in the cracks of shoes, the manure of our animals, or even intentionally. They displaced the native plants and now thrive in their weediness where we cultivate and then abandon. This makes me feel even worse.... so I won't even attempt to argue with Thoreau and his Walden.

Where I don't have weeds - OR SLUGS!!!! - is my veggie patch of black bags. I think the bags represent a potential for altitude sickness for slugs, thus they have declined the incline. More lettuce and arugula for me. Talk about intensive cultivation - I don't space things out, just let them grow where the seeds fell - and my evening attack with scissors for salad is the way I keep things in trim. The weeds don't stand a chance as they are drowning in competition. Darwin wins again. *[as an aside - if you have not heard of the Darwin Awards - you must google them!]*

Linda Howe sent me an awesome link that has great and very sadly, recognizable pictures that would fit under Sun Tzu's "The Art of War and 'know why enemy'". "Just in case someone wants to know the name of a weed or two, this lists several resources. <https://awaytogarden.com/what-weed-is-it-putting-names-to-pesky-plants/>"



So as I contemplate my Leafless summer, I look forward to my upcoming battles to subjugate nature to my whims and nurture the desirable plants.... and maybe dig out a few more from construction sites. As Rob C and indirectly Jane S, said somewhere earlier, one can always "make room" in the garden for great new finds. If I can get this Leaf together in time, I might be doing just that while you are reading this.

Happy summer to you all and start collecting bits and bobs for the September Leaf. I have but ONE REQUEST - if you send articles - please send the text as a Word file and SEND THE PHOTOS SEPARATELY as individual attachments. Unless you have written something truly cryptic, I can probably figure out what goes where.... I have to reduce the size of the photos so the Leaf will fit into your email inbox (most inboxes gag after 10 MB). If you have them beautifully arranged in the text file, it takes me 5 extra steps to grab them, and I don't always succeed. As everything gets reformatted, your lovely arrangement will be blown to hell anyway - so don't waste the effort - use it to pull weeds, dig in construction sites, get manicures like Gillian K's (left) or laze

away the sunny afternoons with a book (on plants) and an umbrella-drink while listening to this *playlist from Barb Downman*:

A Summer Song - Chad & Jeremy
Boys of Summer - Don Henley
Cruel Summer - Bananarama
Dancing in the Streets - Martha and the Vandellas
Good Vibrations - The Beach Boys
Happy - Pharrell Williams
I Heard it Through the Grapevine - Marvin Gaye
Island in the Sun - Weezer
Let's Twist Again - Chubby Checker
Lovely Day - Bill Withers
Octopus's Garden - The Beatles
San Francisco (be sure to wear flowers in your hair)
- Scott McKenzie

Saturday in the Park - Chicago
Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay - Otis Redding
Summer Breeze - Seals & Crofts
Summer in the City - Lovin' Spoonful
Summer of '69 - Bryan Adams
Summertime - Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong
Summertime Blues - Eddie Cochran
Suddenly Last Summer - The Motels
Sunny Afternoon - The Kinks
Under the Boardwalk - The Drifters
Vacation - The Go-Gos
Walking on Sunshine - Katrina and the Wave