



THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

April 2023

President's Message - Lorraine Robson

A Turkish proverb says, "Hope is the bread of the poor" and I might add, "and of garden club presidents and Executives, too." In this last *Leaf* before our big **Plant Sale on Saturday, May 13**, I am hoping for many things: for the seedlings in my little grow-op to flourish and reach a decent size in time for the sale, for the time to finish root-washing and potting up the big bags of *Sarcococca* from a *very* weedy dig last year, and for lots and lots of you to be successful growing your seedlings and potting up divisions of plants from your gardens. Thank you to the well-organized MALs for arranging the soil drop off for the Plant Sale contributors! And thank you to Daphne Page for kindly offering her garden as another sale site along with Carol Ferryman, Kathy Stubbs, and Maria Issa who have so generously volunteered as site hosts yet again!

I'm hoping for lots of willing hands to help organize and price all the donated plants at each of our four garden sites on Friday, May 12. We'll work in teams with new volunteers placed with experienced members, so someone will be there to show you the ropes if you're new to this. We'll categorize the plants by Sun, Shade, or Part Sun/Part Shade, so please label your donated plants accordingly. If you need help with plant identification or have other questions about the Plant Sale, please ask. **Please let Marilyn Bullock know if you can help with pricing on the Friday or take a shift selling plants and helping customers on Saturday or Sunday.**

We've had to shut off Chat on Zoom during the speakers' presentations because the text pops up distractingly in the middle of the big screen in the church, but we plan to open Chat during the tea break of our next meeting, so our Zoom participants can let us know when you'd like to help. The Plant Sale is one of the favourite club events for many of us. The energy and fun of working together to do some good is very satisfying. (Finding a plant - or five -- we've never grown before might be part of the fun!) Fifty per cent of whatever we make is donated to non-profit groups like school, hospice, butterfly, and community gardens, and, of course, the other half allows us to book the kind of quality speakers we bring in and to support other club activities.

I'm hoping for **volunteers to help coordinate our field trip in mid-June** (perhaps June 17) or it might not happen. Your executive has a tentative plan for a "Sustainability Tour" where we'd take the Seabus across to visit the rooftop food garden at the YWCA and then take public transit to visit Queen Elizabeth Park and the Conservatory full of tropical plants and exotic birds, and then perhaps on to the renovated gardens at Hycroft Mansion. Perhaps two or three friends might take on the logistics of this event together. I'm willing to help but not to do it alone.

One person has volunteered to help with the **Members' Garden Tour (tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 8)**, but I'm hoping for a couple more to share the tasks of preparing a route map and providing fruit, drinks, and treats for the lunch break. So far

LVGC MEETINGS
3rd Thursday of each
month (except July
and August) currently
at

**Mount Seymour United
Church**

**1200 Parkgate Ave,
North Vancouver,
BC V7H 2X9
(604) 929-1336**

*Meetings start promptly at
7:15 PM*

SPEAKER - APRIL 20
WILLOUGHBY AREVALO
GARDENING WITH
MUSHROOMS

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!

Executive 2023

President

Lorraine Robson .

Vice President

Judith Brook .

Secretary

Sarah-Jane Gray .

Treasurer

Jennifer Sydenham .

Membership

Ann McKinnon .

Alison Parkinson .

Members at Large (MAL)

Linda Downs .

Jacquie D'Auria .

Marilyn Bullock .

Brenda Reid .

Committees

Plant Table

Cathy Rickey .

Hospitality

Sharon Carabetta .

Susan Nicholls .

Daphne Page .

Miriam Scott .

Leneen Webb .

Sunshine / Door Prizes

Rosamond Hughes .

Website

Aline Burlone .

Newsletter Editors

Maria Issa .

Margaret Campbell .

Executive Meetings

April Executive meeting will be
chez Linda Downs



Newsletter items to
lynnvalleygardenclubnewsletter@gmail.com May 5 2023

Thanks to this month's LEAF contributors: Judith Brook, Rob Callahan, Anna Marie D'Angelo, Taylor Hewstan, Gillian Konst, Shirley Lawson, Rita Marshall, Lorna Moxon, Lorraine Robson

one has offered to have us visit their garden and, obviously, there won't be a tour if no one does. Currently, we're thinking we might visit the Butterflyway Garden on Grand Blvd and then tour members' gardens in that area or perhaps a little further afield.

A lot of us are too aware of what we perceive to be flaws or imperfections in our gardens, but I've never met a garden that didn't also have beauty to admire. Many of us are shy to put ourselves forward, so please encourage your friends if you know they have gardens we'd like to see. Remember: they don't have to be perfect or finished! (When is a garden ever finished?) They don't have to be grand! Seeing how many plants can be grown in a small garden is a delight. And they don't need to be full of rare plants! Seeing familiar plants grown in new combinations is a joy.

I'm hoping that if you have not yet picked up your LVGC Membership card, then you will collect it at the Membership table when you sign in at the next meeting or ask a friend to pick it up for you.

Our next speaker will be Willoughby Arevalo on Gardening with Mushrooms. I think the talk will be less on identifying wild mushrooms and more about growing edible mushrooms at home. It reminds me of the wry saying, "All mushrooms are edible, but some only once." I'm hoping none of you eat the wrong ones!

Author Tom Bodett says, "... a person needs just three things to be truly happy in this world: someone to love, something to do, and something to hope for." On all three counts I am very lucky, but you can make me deliriously happy by pitching in to help where needed. I'm optimistic that you will. Here's one last quote from Helen Keller: "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence." I have every confidence our members will come through for LVGC again.



SPEAKER

WILLOUGHBY AREVALO

Gardening with Mushrooms" (with an outdoor cultivation focus)

Willoughby Arevalo is passionate about the ecology of fungi, the ways they shape our world and the ways we shape theirs. His lifelong friendship with fleshy fungi has led him down a mycelial pathway - from a start in field identification and mushroom hunting, branching into cuisine, DIY cultivation, farming, education, writing and eco-arts. In his over thirty-year relationship with fungi, he has spent the last decade sharing mycology with people in communities across North America. This has manifested in numerous presentations, art projects, teaching tours, collaborations, gatherings, and his book, *DIY Mushroom Cultivation*, published by New Society Publishers.

Willoughby will be bringing copies of his book *DIY Mushroom Cultivation* for sale. Cash preferred.

Originally from Arcata, California (Traditional Wiyot and Yurok Territory), he lives as a grateful guest on Unceded Coast Salish Territory in Vancouver, BC. His work can be seen at [Mycelial Connections](#) and [Art and Fungi](#).

- "Everyone should have themselves regularly overwhelmed by Nature"
 - - George Harrison, Musician (1943 - 2001)

Vice President - Judith Brook

This is the much-anticipated list of booked speakers:

May 18 **Tasha Murray:** Invasive Plants and Other Pests
That Are Relevant to Gardening
June 15 **Ana Dushyna:** All Season Herbal (Apothecary)
Garden

Treasurer - Jennifer Sydenham

Bank Balance as of February 28	\$15,479.53
In Petty Cash	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total	\$15,579.53

Auditor's Report - Judy Lashley

2022 Audit

I have reviewed the club's financial records provided covering the period between Jan.1, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022, which was supported by monthly bank statements. All transactions were fully supported by invoices, requisitions for reimbursement and receipts for cancelled cheques.

The budget was balanced. In my opinion the financial statement produced reflects the proper status of the Lynn Valley Garden Clubs' finances for the 2022 fiscal year.

Donna's records are complete and very well organized. She has done a great job as Treasurer of the Lynn Valley Garden Club.

Membership - Ann McKinnon & Alison Parkinson

We have one change for the 2023 Membership List. Please note that Helen Zaparniuk's phone number has changed.

As noted in the February *Leaf*, the 2023 membership cards are available for pick-up at the monthly meetings from the membership table. The club only mailed membership cards in 2022 because the monthly in-person meetings were suspended due to COVID restrictions. For 2023 the LVGC Executive decided to return to our past practice of in person pick-up this year due to the significant time, effort and cost involved with mailing 175 cards to individual addresses. If you are unable to attend a meeting to pick up your card, you could ask a friend in the club to pick it up for you.

If you need your name badge reprinted as it has been misplaced or recycled during one of those Covid decluttering events, please email lvgc.membership@gmail.com before the April 20th meeting. We'd be happy to reprint some badges now as we use a perforated sheet that can hold ten names. Once the sheet has been separated into badges, the unused part of the sheet won't feed into the printer a second time. If there is a calligrapher amongst our members, perhaps they would volunteer to create some handwritten badges with these partial sheets.

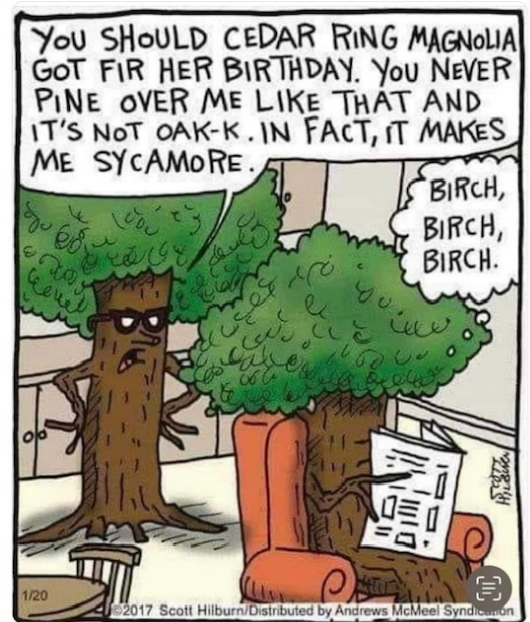
MALS - Marilyn Bullock, Jacquie D'Auria, Linda Downs, Brenda Reid

The PLANT SALE is Saturday May 13 and there's still a lot to do!

THE PLANT SALE POSTER

At the end of the LEAF articles, you will find the **PLANT SALE POSTER**. It is our ad for the plant sale and we need you to get it out to your friends & family! Please print it and then post it in your supermarket, library, at the gym or on any other bulletin board you come across!

Please note the sale is **CASH ONLY** and the hours are posted as 10:30am to 4pm on May 13. These are the hours for the public. LVGC members have a start time of 10:00am so you can have a head start!



The site addresses are not posted yet but will be up on the website on Sunday May 7th. The QR code on the poster will take you directly to the website (for those of you who aren't QR savvy, just aim your cell phone camera at the code and it will bring up the website).

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR PLANT SALE VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who signed up BUT we still need more volunteers for Friday (10 people) and Saturday (15 people). We'd love to have you join us!

FRIDAY MAY 12th - SORTING 10am to Noon & PRICING 1 PM to 4PM

- Sort the plants as they arrive at one of the four sites.
- Arrange by size, plant type & move them into the 'sun' or 'shade' locations.
- Price the plants (with the help of our "plant experts").

SATURDAY MAY 13th - SELLING 10AM to 4PM (2-hour shifts)

- Assist customers with their plant questions.
- Handle the cash.
- Manage the crowds and keep the pay lineup orderly.
- Put plants on hold while people shop.
- Help them haul their plants to their cars.
- Help move any leftover plants.

Missing Dog. If anyone sees her, let us know.



If you can help, please contact Marilyn Bullock. Marilyn will be at the sign-in table at the April LVGC meeting so come & see her!

HOST SITE FOUND

We have our 4th host site - many thanks to Daphne Page for volunteering her yard for the sale! Like last year, one site will have veggies and some perennials, and the other three sites will only sell perennials.

PLANT DONATION FORM

The plant donation Office 365 form will be sent out at the end of April. It is not for the veggie donors though - **all veggie donations should be co-ordinated with Jackie Morris** (no form to fill in - just email Jackie at jackie@lvgc.ca). For the donors of perennials, please complete the form with the names and quantities of perennials you are donating to the sale, so that we can figure out which of the four sites to send you to for the plant drop-off. We'll give you about a week to complete the form, then we'll assign you your drop-off site (and we'll try to match the Friday volunteers to their site!).



Hopefully your plants can be dropped off on Friday morning, but, if you can't make it then, we'll make arrangements with you because we really want your plant donations!

And - **please label your plants**. At the very least, we need to know its name, where it likes to be (sun, shade, partial sun/shade, etc). If you can add any additional info on your label, such as colour of flowers, if it has berries, etc, these are all great selling features.

SOIL

We hope you made it out to pick up your soil, pots and labels at our two soil delivery sites. Special thanks to Jackie Morris and Kathy Stubbs for hosting the piles of soil in their front yards. Once again, the District of North Van donated a couple of cubic yards of soil to us. As the price of having soil delivered has skyrocketed, it was great to receive the donation and a big thanks to Linda Downs for arranging it.



POTS

There be pots and pots and pots at Maria's house – for your potting emergency. Just drive up the mountain and they will be by the garden shed. Help yourselves.

take as many as you want

[If you need extra growing space, here are some ideas – from Tom Davis]
 <<<<<<

BEER FLATS

If you've been (*drinking regularly and*) saving those beer flats, nursery plant flats or any other type of "flat" that's suitable for carrying plants, you can drop them off at the April LVGC meeting. Just leave them inside

the entrance to the church and the MALS will collect them. Or – bring them along when you drop off your plants on Friday May 12th. If you won't be at either, please contact Brenda and we'll make arrangements to collect them from you.

Calling All POTENTIAL Veggie, Herb and Fruit Growers!

- Jackie Morris

Please contact Jackie Morris if you think you may have some veggie, fruit or herb plants to donate to the Plant Sale. I don't need to know at this time what you might have, and you may not know yet yourself but let me know when things clarify! Thanks!



- "We might think we are nurturing our garden, but of course it's our garden that is really nurturing us."
 • - Jenny Uglow, Biographer & Editor (1947 -)

Additional Hopes, Pretty Please With Sugar on Top!

- Your Exec



Your Executive is also **hoping** to create a list of club speakers who could fill in with short presentations when needed. In October, we may have the Science Fair winners present on their projects, but that might take only 20 – 30 minutes, so we'd need another 30-minute talk that night or a couple of shorter talks. If you are interested in sharing your expertise and passion on a garden-related topic or favourite plant, please let Lorraine know.

Aline, Maria, and Lorraine are **hoping** for a couple of volunteers willing to help set up the equipment and manage the technology at our meetings, especially on nights that we can't be there. We have one last tweak to the sound to try, but we're confident that we can train others to help now that we've figured it out. (I know it looks like a horrendous process – and it has been! – but I think it will be easier from now on.)*[you don't have to be a techy – Lord knows, I'm not – just be willing to muddle in with us! – m]*

"Hope is the only bee that makes honey without flowers." – Robert Green Ingersoll

The picture at LEFT was done by Rob Callahan after a photo from Maplewood Flats that LVGC visited on a club-organized tour. This is why we need people to organize things...

"We live in a strange world, but it's the world my generation has been handed. It's the only world we've got. We are now standing at a crossroads in history. We are failing, but we have not yet failed. There is still time to fix this. It's up to us."

- Greta Thunberg, Climate Activist (2003 -)

Seed Starting Workshop

- Lorraine Robson

Here are 2 photos of the March 12 seed-starting workshop that Peter Schell sent me. The workshop was so much fun and everyone was very enthusiastic. I'm glad we did it even though it took a fair bit of time to arrange.

Samantha Carey and Jennie Nichol brought all the materials and led the workshop. Participants included Sasha Melnik, Karen O'Neill, Marina Bailey, Miriam Scott, Helen Zaparniuk, Jennifer Sydenham, Judith Brook, Linda and Peter Schell, and Lorraine Robson.

Getting together with like-minded gardeners is fun, social (and so welcome after COVID isolation) – and it is a great



way to meet other club members, forge new friendships and grow wonderful flowers and veggies! Win:Win:Win!



We Dig It!

Both digs – the one at Gillian's house, and the one found by Cheryl Mitchell – were super well attended and yielded all sorts of wonderful plants for people's gardens and the Plant Sale. Remember that if any dig plants take root in your garden, then you should make a generous donation to LVGC by making an e-transfer to lvgc.treasurer@gmail.com.

Big thanks go to Gillian for essentially donating the contents of her back yard to the Club, and to Cheryl who not only saw the "diggable construction site" but promptly nailed down digging permission from the contractor. She moves fast! In response to my thank you note, the contractor replied: "No problem, we're so glad they went to



posted".

These, too, were fun with gusto: backsides among the bushes.

such a good cause.

We'll keep you in mind for sure on our next project and keep you

social events – with many seasoned and new members digging

Plant Propagation

If you're into multiplying houseplants – these ideas are genius and make me jealous – but I might even try some of them! (Avocado forest: watch out!). <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CoOV98nDREn/?igshid=MDJmNzVkMjY%3D>

On 20 December 2017, following three years of international efforts, the UN Member States unanimously approved Slovenia's proposal and **20 May** was proclaimed **World Bee Day**, to draw attention to the essential role bees and other pollinators play in keeping people and the planet healthy.

May 20 is marked as world bee day because it coincides with the birthday of Anton Janša, a pioneer beekeeper from Slovenia born in 1734.

Stephen Buchmann of Arizona has been studying and researching bees and written a recent book "What a Bee Knows: Exploring the Thoughts, Memories and Personalities of Bees".

He found that "bees can demonstrate sophisticated emotions resembling optimism, frustration, playfulness and fear, traits more commonly associated with mammals. Experiments have shown bees can experience PTSD-like symptoms, recognize different human faces, process long-term memories while sleeping, and maybe even dream." Read the article [HERE](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/apr/02/bees-intelligence-minds-pollination) or here <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/apr/02/bees-intelligence-minds-pollination>



From Gillian Konst:

(Gillian has a new doggie.) "So far so good on the digging front. Our last dog was a big digger. But I think this one has some goat in his DNA because he is a big puller of grass! Which drives my husband to distraction because he loves his 1950's style lawn, whereas I am secretly smiling because I want garden, not a lawn!!" Others seem to agree>>>>>



From Shirley Lawson

(In response to the various 'Manure is Available' notices) "Thanks Maria but I think my condo neighbours would object. I will be planting tomatoes in my



Trug down on the patio and they do like to see those. I also share a few when there are lots. I tried planting a tomato in a pot on my deck, but I don't get enough sun as the park trees shade it." (Shirley lives near Wagg creek that runs into Mosquito creek - interesting to read about the Mosquito Creek watershed: <https://www.pskf.ca/ecology/watershed/northvan/mosquitok.htm>).

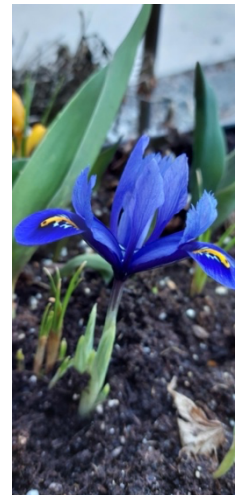
From Sue Callahan & Rosamond Hughes

(Sue had won, as door prize, some special bulbs that Rosamond had sleuthed out.)"

- "Rosamond, thought you'd like to see them: this was taken yesterday."
- "Sue, what lovely photos! Thanks for sharing... I tried some bulbs as well -- but squirrels have sabotaged them, I think. Anyway, they didn't appear, so your photograph is doubly special."



- "Rosamond, here's a new one that popped out today a little taller than the other one."
- "Thanks again Sue! I had another nice surprise today -- grandson's friend told me she liked snacking on the Sungold tomatoes in the garden last year, and they would like me to show them how to grow them...It's curiously satisfying to have an 18-year-old thinking his grandmother knows



anything at all worth knowing!"

- "Nothing ever seems impossible in spring." -- L.M. Montgomery, Writer (1874 - 1942)

Why Are Garden Zones So Confusing?

- Lorraine Robson

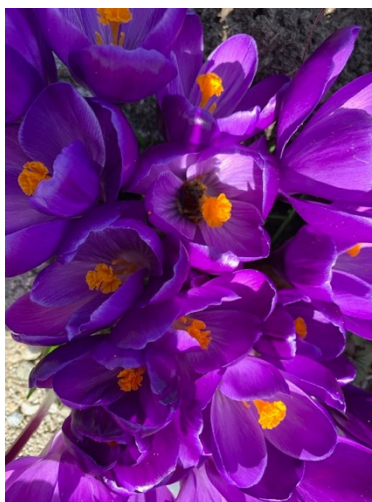
Question: Can you please tell me what gardening Zone we live in? And are the Zones all the same in North Vancouver? I cannot grow the same things in Blueridge as my friend grows in Burnaby. Does that mean just different sunlight hours? I also get more rain, but she gets more snow. Does that mean we live in different Zones? So sorry if this is a stupid question.

Maria's Answer: NOT a stupid question as it is one I ask all the time - so definitely not stupid.... and I don't have the answers as every zone map I look at gives me something different. I have found out by (sometimes bitter & \$\$\$) experience "what works and what doesn't works" in my garden. The more philosophical, correct and educational answer I'll leave to Lorraine who actually knows stuff.

But don't despair: "do Darwin" - what survives deserves to live in your garden and receive your TLC - what doesn't - you didn't want it anyway...

Lorraine's Answer: It's not a stupid question at all! Multiple Zone maps are in play, so it can be confusing. National Resources Canada divides the country into 9 Zones while the United States Dept of Agriculture (USDA) divides the continent into 13 Zones. In both systems, the lower the Zone number, the more cold-tolerant the plant has to be. For our geographic area, the Zones of those two maps are close but not an exact match.

The USDA Zone map says we are Zone 7 and Canadian one says we are Zone 8 (and if you find a map using the American Western Sunset Zone system of 15 Zones for the western side of the continent, it's *completely* different - we're a Zone 4 on that one - though I think it's only used in Western Sunset publications). Most growers use the USDA or the Canadian Zone maps, but they don't always specify which system they are using. Since so many plants are grown in the USA and are labelled with the USDA Zones, I generally choose plants that are Zone 7 or lower so they will be hardy here. If I must have a Zone 8 or higher plant, then I know I'm going to have to baby it and provide special care. (I'm looking at you, *Hebes!*)



The USDA system of plant hardiness is based on the coldest minimum temperature in an area. That's it. Plants grown in the USA will likely use the USDA Zone ratings on their labels.

In the more complex Canadian system, more factors are used to assign the Zones. Canada is divided into 9 Zones that primarily are based on the coldest winter temperatures in each area. Other factors taken into account, but to a lesser degree, include the length of frost-free periods, the amount of precipitation, the degree of humidity, and wind velocity. All of these factors affect the ability of a plant to survive in any given Zone.

As you might expect, the Zones are not uniform throughout each area. For example, a garden in North Vancouver close to sea level might be USDA Zone 7b (warmer) or even 8 if it is right on the water's edge facing south whereas a garden above the highway might be a Zone 7a (colder).

The Zone Map is only a general indicator of climate; certain geographic and topographic features may make a specific small area either cooler or warmer than the overall Zone surrounding it. For example, north-facing hillsides are cooler than south-facing slopes. Higher altitudes are likely to be cooler than lower ones. (Just ask Maria and Penny how much longer the snow lasts in their gardens way up the mountainside!) A



A full sun front garden will be warmer than a very shady garden behind the house on the same lot. Choosing the right microclimate for a plant will help it survive. If your perennial plant is going to live in a pot, choose a plant at least one Zone hardier than your overall Zone because the soil in a pot will freeze faster than the ground where there's more soil to insulate your plants. For example, if you garden in USDA Zone 7, choose a plant hardy in Zone 6 (or lower) to grow in your pot. If it's an annual plant that won't survive the winter, it won't matter. Or you can bring some tender Zone 8-11 plants inside over the winter to protect them from the cold. Conversely, soil in pots or raised beds will warm up and dry out faster in the spring.

Once you've determined that a plant is cold hardy enough for your garden, consider the other factors to decide if it will thrive or not. Right Plant, Right Place is a good rule to follow, but it means you need to find out what conditions are right for each plant. Our wet winters probably kill more plants than the cold. For example, *Lewisia cotyledon*, a plant native to western US states and parts of BC, is cold hardy from Zones 5 - 8, but it will usually just rot if left out in the rain over winter. Its native habitat is in the drier rain shadow of the mountains whereas we live on the very wet side of the mountains. I kept a pot of *Lewisia* with lots of sand and small gravel mixed into the soil under the eaves on my deck in winter for several years and lost it one winter when I forgot to tuck it back out of the rain. Conversely, I lost another native plant, *Ribes sanguineum* (red-flowering currant) which likes sun and average, well-drained soil, when the neighbour's Douglas fir grew so big that it cast deep shade and sucked a lot of moisture out of the ground. As an experienced gardener told me years ago, "if you haven't

killed many plants, you're not trying hard enough." I always learn more from my mistakes than from getting things right. (Don't we all?)

Even though the Zones don't take into account the number of hours of sunlight your garden gets, as gardeners we should be mindful of the microclimates in our gardens. Consider whether a spot receives cooler morning sun or hot late afternoon sun. A plant that prefers shade might do well in a spot that gets some morning sun but might look miserable in a spot with an equal number of hours of hot afternoon sun. Reading up on the plant's native habitat helps you choose the best spot for it and the right kind of soil and moisture level. But don't despair if a plant dies; that's "a planting opportunity"! Just look carefully at the conditions where you want to grow something and find a plant that will be happy in those conditions. And remember: the coldest minimum temperature a plant can survive is only *one* of those conditions

Stressed Plants Cry in Ultrasound

- found by Maria Issa

"Thirsty or stressed plants produce ultrasonic clicks that, when processed to make them audible to humans, sound like popping popcorn. Tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*) and tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) plants that needed water, or that had recently had their stems cut, produced up to roughly 35 clicks per hour. Well-hydrated and uncut plants made only about one sound per hour. The noises possibly come from air bubbles forming or breaking in the plants' xylem, the tubes that transport water and nutrients from the roots to the stems and leaves. The sounds could be used to monitor plants in farming and horticulture." Read the rest *(file)* and listen to the clicking

This reminds me about the *(website)* that talked about extra sweetness - and how the applause"... which must have stressed rhubarb plants.

Now imagine being a whale, outside the human wavelength range: they would be able to tell whether their home is healthy or not... and maybe this is how animals know when big weather or tectonic events are coming - the plants communicate to each other through the mycorrhizal connections and stressed plants emit sounds some animals can hear. There is a whole world of electromagnetic spectrum out there that our limited human range does not access. Wouldn't it be interesting to see what ultraviolet the moths see, or what plant cried for help the bats can hear, or the few molecules of cancer that a dog's nose can discern? There is so much left to learn....



in *Nature* (the links are in the April links sounds on a processed audio reel...

article in the May 2019 Leaf (see it on rhubarb forced in candle-light for room "almost rippled with been the sounds of thousands of

or bee or other animal that can hear

Fire Ants and How to Get Rid of Them

- Jackie Morris

"I am not sure if anyone in our club has fire ants. However, I sent this off to my son's mother-in-law. She just bought a brand new home in a new community (gated?) near Tampa, Florida, and her garden is infested with fire ants and that have even gotten into the house! Not pleasant at all when my son and his wife and 6- and 4-year old boys went to visit a couple of weeks ago. I was going to suggest boiled water, but this article set me straight!"

Protect yourself and wildlife from the wrath of fire ants with these effective controls and avoid common remedies that don't work. Read More: https://www.southernliving.com/garden/grumpy-gardener/controlling-fire-ants?utm_source=emailshare&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=shareurlbuttons

>>> REMEMBER: when you buy plants in pots, slam the pot down a few times as that mobilizes any ants, and they scurry out of the pot... and then you know not to take that pot home with you... and you can say a few choice words to the sellers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER GOINGS-ON

A reminder from Courtney M. that Covid is everywhere and lots of folks are getting it. Keep those masks on at group events and when with strangers. While Dr. Bonnie Henry has relaxed the **mandate** – the “have to” – she did not say precautions are not wise. We don’t know who among us is more vulnerable... Masks are now a part of our elegant sartorial accoutrements.

On the hunt for a yellow or ‘latte’-coloured rose and a similar coloured dahlia... if your path takes you by one in a garden store, or you know of one, and you remember this notice – please let Lisa P. know. She has plant-lust-itis and these are her current needs. We all develop these needs... so you know how it is!

Garden Help

– Lorna Moxon

I thought I would share this service that’s available to us on the North Shore.

Dani and her helper wheelbarrowed and spread 5 yards of organic premium veggie mix into my 10 beds. It was a big job and they had to use ramps to get into my yard and then into the beds.

If anyone needs help with some heavy or daunting yard work, I would recommend that they contact Dani. I know all the Lynn Valley Garden Club members have fabulous yards, but if there is a project anyone needs help with, I wouldn’t hesitate to recommend this lovely gal. I was given her phone number by a tree service. I just phoned her and she was here the next week. 778-877-2201

The BCCGC AGM – ~~(our man in Havana)~~ Our Rep in Burnaby: Jacquie D’Auria

The Annual Meeting of the BC Council of Garden Clubs was Held on April 2, 2023 and Jacquie D’Auria attended as the official(voting) LVGC representative.

The Council was founded in 1943 in BC with the purpose of speaking with a unified voice for horticulture and to further the interest of conservation and civic beautification.

One of the main functions of the BCCGC is to provide scholarship aid to students in fields related to horticulture. 12 scholarships are awarded annually. This year, a request is being made that each member Club donate an extra \$80 to celebrate the council’s 80th Birthday.

The theme for 2023 is Planet Friendly Gardening - what are we doing to help the environment?

Garden colour emphasis is on Purple, as purple is thought to encourage creativity, lift the spirit, and calm the mind.

The general meeting took place with election of officers.

The new President is Lynda Pasacreta.

A speaker, Trevor Schibli, UNBC gave a talk on Zoom, on Plant Community Interactions. Trevor is a recipient of a scholarship awarded in 2022.

It was noted that a newsletter is sent to each Club. LVGC posts this newsletter on our website. *(and sometimes remembers to put it in the Leaf – ed)* Have a look...

And now for a message from the BCCGC President!!

“Thank you for your support. I am honoured to be your president for the next two years. Our theme will continue to show the province of BC that gardeners are solving some of the climate change impacts through planting natives, growing their own food, improving soil and soil erosion, planting for pollinators, taking care of our urban forests and creating biodiversity through our gardening efforts.

We have an amazing executive team that are energetic, wise, and love to support one another. I look forward to working with them and know that we have each other’s backs!

1. Add your events to the events calendar - through our tracking we see that people are visiting our website to see what events are on in communities throughout BC.

2. Make sure to pass on the newsletter to your own members. We quite often have members of clubs that are asking us to get on our email list for the newsletter which means they are not getting from the newsletter contact. More value added to your club for getting information from all over BC!

3. Keep those amazing articles coming from all over BC. We love to see what you are doing to make a difference in the gardening world. Send your articles to newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com.

Lynda Pasacreta, President BCCGC (wow!)

Vancouver Rose Society Show and Sale 2023

Sunday, June 18, 2023, 12:30 – 4:30 PM

https://www.vancouverrosesociety.org/event_s.html

North Shore Streamkeepers

Check them out – they do great things for the North Shore environment – and they are worthy of our support.

<https://www.nssk.ca/>

The West Vancouver Garden Club is holding a

PLANT SALE on May 6th

10 AM – 2 PM at the Gleneagles Community Centre, 6262 Marine Drive, West Vancouver



RIDE, ANYONE?

If you are looking for a ride to the garden club meetings or have space to include another member, please email Kitty Castle While it looks like Kitty will coordinate – [*Thanks Kitty!!!!*] there have been a number of members who have offered rides/carpooling to fellow members. Willing drivers please contact Kitty!

THE COMPOST BIN

- Maria Issa

Did you know that if you garden in your back yard naked, your neighbors will build you a privacy fence for absolutely no cost to you.



There has been a lot of “Why”-ning recently as in “Why wasn’t there more soil? I didn’t get any...” [You were reminded twice.] “Why are there no plans yet for a Members’ Garden Tour?” [Are you offering to help or let your garden be on the tour?] “Why is the church so far from Lynn Valley?” [Did you spend days looking for a closer one?] “Why are we not having a Bus Tour?” [How about you stepping up to organize it...?] “Why is the sound so bad at the church?” [Are you willing to do tech work and help us figure it out?] *etc.* Complaints seem to be “a thing” these days.

I’ve decided that all the “why”-ning is great, because just like the “swear word jar” that we had to drop some coins into every time a forbidden word crossed our lips, we can make some serious profit off this “why”-ning. Consequently, I’m volunteering to be the Executive’s “why”-ne repository. From now on, every “why”ne, must be accompanied by the equivalent of a bottle of wine or reasonable facsimile. I’ll happily collect them and listen to the complaints all day long.

When we have built up sufficient stock, we can have some serious libations to keep us warm for **WORLD NAKED GARDENING DAY**. Mark your calendars as **Saturday, May 6**, is this auspicious international event. Many in the club have celebrated this wonderful day in the past, but way fewer have sent me actual, verifiable documentation thereof. Maybe this year. I keep hoping for photos, please! What I’m really curious about is how this dovetails with the West Vancouver Garden Club’s Plant Sale? The mind boggles. Let’s not go there. However, I do have to remind you that WNGD is NOT the day to prune your roses. It is a great day to pot up plants for the plant sale: while mystery plants are always fun, and we do have some every year, most people appreciate knowing what they’re buying. Where is their sense of adventure, their love of garden magic? Best you label them, just in case...

I do have a large number of potted UFOs (unidentified flowering objects) that came from Taylor Hewstan’s garden. They are out of the starting blocks, growing like mad and I don’t have the foggiest clue what they are. What I do know, is that they are ‘heritage’ plants, they are healthy, happy and there are lots of them. The plant pricing and identifying team will have their work cut out for them! I still can’t get over all the plants we got. Besides supplying us with plants, Taylor also supplies us with cartoons. Between her and Anna Marie D’Angelo, I don’t have to hunt far for the good stuff. (Thanks!!)



“It’s difficult to learn from success. I’ve learned more from my mistakes.” – Louise Penny, Author

LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB



PLANT SALE

Saturday May 13th

10:30 AM - 4:00 PM



Addresses of the 4 sites will be posted
May 7th
on lynnvalleygardenclub.org

CASH SALES ONLY

- ❖ 1 SITE: VEGGIES, HERBS, PERENNIALS, SHRUBS
- ❖ 3 SITES: PERENNIALS, SHRUBS
- ❖ 1000s OF PLANTS FROM MEMBERS' GARDENS FOR SUN & SHADE
- ❖ 50% PROCEEDS TO LOCAL CHARITABLE GARDENING PROJECTS