



THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

November 2024

President's Message - Donna Wasylik

Hello everyone,

Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on **Thursday November 21st**. This is our most important meeting of the year and we have already had preliminary discussions on the main topics at the October meeting, and a preliminary consensus to accept the Budget and Donations was also obtained. We will vote officially on all the motions presented in the Agenda on the 21st. *[This was sent to you in a separate email, so search your inboxes please - Ed]* The plan is to get through the motions quickly so that we can get on to our tea break and speaker for the evening - Elizabeth Hudgins, who will talk about Rhododendrons. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting to vote. In order to pass motions, we must reach our quorum of 35 members present and on Zoom.

Our accounting procedures for the year were reviewed and a report was submitted on October 17, 2024 by Alan Le Couteur, Chartered Professional Accountant. Mr. Le Couteur reports that he found no material discrepancies and commended our Treasurer, Jennifer Sydenham, for her well-organized state of accounts and detailed backup records. Thank you, Jennifer!

There remains **one vacant position** on the executive that needs to be filled: a **MAL** position. A MAL is needed to join the team that organizes and executes our annual plant sale. *[This is the most fun committee of the Club - Ed]* As most of you know, but are reluctant to admit it, many club members who have held executive positions many times in the past are now aging out and we need younger members to step forward to take turns on the Executive. The Club **NEEDS YOUR HELP** to fill our executive positions.

The executive discussed some of the technical problems currently being experienced at the meetings. In particular, it would be an improvement if our speakers could walk around instead of having to stand behind the computer camera when talking. In addition, it was felt that the use of a personal computer presented a risk of data compromise. It was agreed that this would be a beneficial use of resources and that the discretionary funds built into the 2024 budget will be used to obtain a club computer, camera and microphone.

Our **Christmas Party** this year will be held on **Thursday, December 19th**. If you are planning to donate to Sage House at our Christmas Party this year, boxes will be on hand for your donations. Sage House requests toiletries in regular sized containers, toothpaste, toothbrushes and other items for personal hygiene. Underwear, socks, gloves, *etc.* are always welcome. As often there are also children coming to Sage House, donations of small toys, crayons and colouring books are great gift items.

Boxes will also be available for donations to The Harvest Project.

We will also be making a Christmas centrepiece and a list of things to bring for that will be included in the AGM presentation.

Thank you and see you on November 21st.

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
7:00 PM*

SPEAKER
NOVEMBER 21
ELISABETH Hudgins
RHODODENDRON PROBLEMS

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 2024

President

Donna Wasylik .

Co-Vice Presidents

Penny LeCouteur .

Daphne Page .

Secretary

Marilyn Bullock .

Treasurer

Jennifer Sydenham .

Membership Co-Chairs

Ann McKinnon .

Krystina Madej .

Members at Large (MALs)

Jacquie D'Auria .

Sarah-Jane Gray .

Miriam Scott .

Tom Davis .

Committees

Plant Table

??????

Hospitality

Sharon Carabetta .

Bev Fraine .

Brenda Reid .

Sunshine / Door Prizes

Hiromi Matsui .

Website

Aline Burlone .

Newsletter Editors

Maria Issa .

Margaret Campbell .

Executive Meeting

No Exec meeting in December.

The January meeting will be chez

Donna, on January 8.



Newsletter items to
LVGcnewsletter@gmail.com

Thanks to this month's LEAF

contributors: Aline Burlone,
Margaret Campbell, Norma
Ferguson, Jackie, Jim & Gillian
Morris, Jane Sherrott, Wayne
Smith, Helen Zaparniuk

SPEAKER

Elisabeth Hudgins

RHODODENDRON PROBLEMS

Elisabeth fell in love with fungus when she inadvertently took a plant pathology course while studying biology at University of Toronto in the 1990s. She focused her studies on applied plant pathology in agriculture and obtained a master's degree from Michigan State University on control strategies of fungal disease (*Fusarium*) of celery. Throughout her graduate studies, she knew her interest was in extension and applied work and had a growing focus on diagnostic applications.

Her career began as the diagnostician for plant health for Oklahoma, where she identified the problems of all plants submitted to the state plant lab. She also provided all the Master Gardener training in plant diseases across the state. After 4 years, she decided to return to Canada where she worked as a plant disease diagnostician with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food in BC for 5 years. Once back in Canada, she got married (fungus wasn't her only love!) and began a dance company with her husband, which continues to thrive today in Vancouver. She chose motherhood over fungus for the past 10 years but recently started working again in biocontrol research at Kwantlen University's Institute for Sustainable Horticulture. She is passionate about everything she does from agriculture and plant pathology to child-rearing and dance.



2024 ANNUAL REPORTS

President's Report - Donna Wasylik

I'd like to start off my report by thanking the Executive and Committees of the Lynn Valley Garden Club for all their work in making the club a vibrant part of our community. Our Co-Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Team and MALS, who form the Executive, and Newsletter, Website, Hospitality and Sunshine, who comprise the Committees, are all integral parts of the organization and keep the club running smoothly. I've had the pleasure of working with these members who are dedicated to their positions on the executive and on committees: each member has taken a professional approach to their duties and goes the extra mile to ensure that their tasks are executed in a way that benefits the club.

There are 162 members of the Lynn Valley Garden Club with 22 new members joining this year.

When I volunteered to take on the position of president at the end of last year, many members approached me during the Christmas party to say that they wanted 'less meetings and more fun!' I've made it my goal to fulfill those wishes.

In March we had a 'table talks' session utilizing the knowledge of some of our own members. It was chaotic and noisy but generally well-received. Hopefully we will have another session next April. On May 11 we had another successful plant sale at St. Clement's. On June 1st a field trip to Van Dusen Gardens turned out to be a great day. Many thanks to Rita Marshall for organizing this. On June 20, I arranged a visit to Loutet Farms. Reportedly it was well attended and very enjoyable.

The plant sale in May brought in \$7,434.00!! It is anticipated that \$4,037.00 of the proceeds of this sale will be donated to organizations involved in imparting the knowledge and love of gardening. These gifts are greatly appreciated by the recipients. We should all be very proud of contributing to these great causes. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped with the plant sale both by growing and donating plants and helping at the sale.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who have helped in various capacities throughout the year. Your assistance is valued and greatly appreciated.

The speakers this year have been TOP NOTCH, with the professional qualifications to deliver a great evening of knowledge and expertise. We were so lucky to have them. A special thanks goes to Daphne Page for all her efforts in organizing these speakers for our meetings.

We continue in our mission to reduce the bank balance, which accumulated during COVID from two very successful plant sales with minimal expenses incurred.

The club traditionally has members organizing our social events. The executive does not usually get involved. Members are invited to come forward with ideas for field trips and garden tours and to organize them. We have funds to finance these events but unfortunately no one volunteers. **HELP SPEND THE MONEY BY VOLUNTEERING TO ORGANIZE AN EVENT!**

At our upcoming Christmas Party on December 19th we will continue with the third year of our new tradition of contributing to Sage Transition House, an organization for women fleeing domestic violence situations. The Harvest Project will also receive non-perishable food donated by members.

I have enjoyed my first year as President and look forward to another successful year. --- *Donna*



There Is No "The dog ate my homework!" - from your Executive

As members in good standing of Lynn Valley Garden Club, it is your responsibility to attend the AGM and have read the agenda and the financial reports and any motions you will be asked to vote on. So:

Please read this *Leaf* for information on the **Budget** and **Donations**. If there are any objections, please forward them to the executive with substantiated suggestions and rationales for them. No objections will be taken from the floor at the AGM.

We still need to fill executive positions (membership chair, and one MAL). Please consider jumping up - and in!

Treasurer's Report - Jennifer Sydenham

Our bank balance as of November 13 \$21,242.25

Please also see the **Proposed 2025 Budget** (at the end of this *Leaf*) that you will be voting on at the AGM on November 21. This budget was presented and explained at the October meetings. It was also emailed to you as a separate email



Membership Report - Ann McKinnon and Krystina Madej

LVGC membership reached 163 in 2024. We welcomed 23 new members. Meetings were held both in person and on Zoom, with the exception of the March meeting which was a series of workshops held in the lobby.

In person attendance ranged from a **high of 66/163 (40%)** in January to a **low of 29/163 (17%)** in October. Zoom attendance ranged from 27/163 (16%) down to 15/163 (9%). The Brian Minter presentation in September continued to be popular and the March workshops were a great success.

Membership Renewal for 2025

Thank you to the 81 members (49% of membership!) who have already renewed!!

BONUS FOR RENEWING EARLY: Renew and pay by **Sunday November 24, to be eligible for the early bird prize draw of a \$25 gift card to Maple Leaf Garden Centre.** Just a little thank you for helping the Membership team get the work done before the busy Christmas season.

Membership renewal for 2025 ends on December 31, 2024. After that date, you will be considered a lapsed member and will be accepted on an equal basis with new members until the member limit of 175 is reached.

The renewal form is included at the back of this LEAF and also as a separate attachment. **PLEASE email the form** to membership (lvgc.membership@gmail.com) and send the **payment via e-transfer (to LVGC.Treasurer@gmail.com)** - that speeds up the renewal process. **If** you are renewing in person, please fill out the form online and bring the printed version, as that makes it easier to read.



With thanks to Silver Harbour
Seniors' Centre

Pro tips for filling out the membership form and making the fee e-payment:

1. The Membership form emailed with the Leaf is a fillable PDF. **Open** the file, **save it** with a meaningful name such as "your-name LVGC membership 2025", and **then fill it out**. IT IS IMPORTANT to save the file first - some of our testers had an empty file when they filled out the form first and then saved it. If you need more than two lines for speakers, include them in the email when you send us the form.
2. Note: if you are using an iPad, open the copied form and then select Open in Acrobat. This ensures that all the check boxes work correctly. If you are using an iPhone, save the file to Google Drive, OR first open Acrobat Reader and then open the file from within Acrobat.
3. Send the filled-out form to lvgc.membership@gmail.com with the subject line "your-name 2025 Membership Form." *Do not forget* to attach the form file using the paperclip icon. If that proves too difficult, people have in the past taken a picture of the printed form and emailed that to us. It is not as tidy but works in a pinch.
4. Remember to send the payment by doing the following:
 - Make an E-transfer of the \$20 membership fee to LVGC.Treasurer@gmail.com and add the note "2025 Membership Fee." Do not send the fee to the membership email address as we then have no way of depositing it. 65% of you successfully e-transferred last year so there are lots of members who can help you learn how to do this.
 - OR bring a \$20 cheque made out to Lynn Valley Garden Club to the November 21 meeting.
 - OR bring \$20 in cash [least preferred].
5. If doing your renewal online or at a meeting does not work for you, please see the membership form for instructions as to where the form and payment can be posted through Canada Post.
IF CANADA POST IS ON STRIKE PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN THE MAIL AS IT IS LIKELY THE FORM WILL NOT GET TO US.

Feel free to contact us at lvgc.membership@gmail.com if you need help completing your renewal.



Donations Committee Report - AnnMcKinnon, Courtney Mitchell, Edie Rustemeyer, Maria Issa

After discussion during the October 17 membership meeting, the donations listed below are recommended for voting on November 21, as part of the AGM. For those of you keeping track, the changes agreed to in the meeting were

to add North Shore Neighbourhood House and fund it by cutting \$100 from the amount allocated to the three new charities at the bottom of the list: Backpack Buddies, Earth Bites, and Sharing Abundance. The Neighbourhood House also got an extra \$37, so that we spend every single dollar that we were allowed to donate this year.

The gardening books to be purchased by the NV District Library will again be on paper. The e-books are very expensive, are only licensed for 1-2 years, and many of the members use e-readers that don't display the colour pictures that are particularly important in a gardening book. This is something that could be revisited in future years as we replace our personal technology.

Please familiarize yourselves with the donations as presented at the end of this *Leaf*.

Q: For Hallowe'en, what did the jalapeño dress up as? A: A ghost pepper

Q: What do you call a bear in the rain? A: A drizzly bear



Christmas Card Donations -- Courtney Mitchell

For many years Lynn Valley Garden Club members have donated Christmas cards for the women who access the WISH Drop-In Centre in the downtown east side of Vancouver. The women are always extremely thankful to have the cards to share with their families and friends. This year I can't attend the actual WISH Christmas party, but I will drop cards off at the WISH office. The preferred types of cards include bright sparkly ones with animals or cute pictures and especially ones with an indigenous theme. (*Maybe avoid unrelatable themes like cosy homes, fireplaces with stockings, or piles of presents under a tree – Ed*) If you have collected cards during the year or have extras, I will pick up any card donations at the meetings on November 21st and the December 12th Christmas Party, or contact me.



The Hidden World of Poppies - Sarah Bancroft [From the Fleurs de Villes Journal]

{Sourced by Margaret Campbell – who writes: “Given that most of us will be wearing poppies this month, I thought this article might offer some interesting tidbit to add to Leaf”}.

Poppies hold a unique significance on Remembrance Day, an annual day of commemoration observed in many countries to honour military personnel who have lost their lives in service. This connection between poppies and remembrance has a history deeply rooted in the First World War, evolving into a poignant symbol recognized worldwide.

The symbolism of the poppy as a flower of remembrance traces back to the infamous battlefields of Flanders in Belgium during WWI. Amidst the devastation and loss, vibrant red poppies grew in the churned-up soil of soldiers' graves. This striking visual was noted by Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a doctor and poet, who was moved to pen the now-famous poem “In Flanders Fields” in 1915. The poem opens with the lines, “In Flanders fields the poppies blow / Between the crosses, row on row,”

capturing the contrast of the scarlet poppies blooming among the graves of fallen soldiers. McCrae's work was widely circulated and became a powerful reminder of the bloodshed and sacrifice of war, embedding the poppy as a symbol of both remembrance and hope.

McCrae's imagery struck a chord with many, and the idea of the poppy as a memorial emblem was soon adopted by Moira Michael, an American professor and humanitarian. In 1918, Michael began wearing a poppy to honour those who had died in the war and campaigned to have it adopted as an official symbol of remembrance. Her dedication inspired others, including French humanitarian Anna Guérin, who further promoted the poppy across Europe. By 1921, the Royal British Legion adopted the poppy as its symbol, and it became widely embraced in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand as a

way to raise funds for veterans and their families, a tradition that continues today.

The poppy's significance has grown beyond its initial association with WWI, now encompassing the recognition of all military personnel who have perished in service. In Canada and the UK, the red poppy is distributed in early November and worn on the lapel, especially on Remembrance Day, which is observed on November 11th. This date marks the anniversary of the armistice that ended WWI in 1918. Wearing the poppy is a visual reminder of the sacrifices made by soldiers and the price of peace.

The flower's resilience is also symbolic, as poppies are known to thrive in disturbed soils, often the very earth ravaged by war. Their hardiness and ability to flourish amidst devastation are a metaphor for the resilience and hope carried forward by the memory of those who fought. Each year, at 11 a.m. on November 11th, a two-minute silence is observed, creating a moment of collective remembrance in which communities honour the lives of those lost and reflect on the costs of conflict.

While red poppies are a symbol of remembrance, other poppy colours hold different meanings. White poppies, for example, are used as symbols of peace, honouring all victims of war and promoting non-violent solutions to conflict. In 2006, the charity Animal Aid started a campaign of purple poppies to symbolize the animals that have died in military service, especially horses and dogs.

The simplicity of wearing a poppy reminds individuals to pause, reflect, and honour, making it one of the most enduring symbols of remembrance across generations and cultures.

Poppies are well-known for their symbolism in remembrance contexts, but these fascinating flowers hold a lot more mystery and history. [...]

Ancient Medicinal Use

Poppies, particularly the opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum*), have been used for medicinal purposes for thousands of years. Ancient Sumerians cultivated the opium poppy around 3,400 BC and called it the "joy plant." They discovered its pain-relieving and sedative properties, which were later used extensively in traditional medicine across various cultures, especially in ancient Egypt, Greece, and China.

Edible Seeds

While certain parts of the opium poppy contain alkaloids that are used for narcotics, the seeds themselves are harmless and edible. Poppy seeds are widely used in baking and cooking and are rich in magnesium, calcium, and other minerals. Their nutty flavor makes them a popular ingredient in bagels, cakes, and pastries.

Diverse Species

There are over 120 species in the poppy family (*Papaveraceae*), including the Oriental poppy (*Papaver orientale*), Iceland poppy (*Papaver nudicaule*), and California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), each with its own unique colours, climates, and characteristics. The iconic red poppy (*Papaver rhoeas*) used for Remembrance Day is just one among many types.

Vibrant Range of Colours

While the classic red poppy is most recognizable, poppies come in a broad spectrum of colours, from pale pastels to rich oranges, yellows, and even purple. The Iceland poppy, for instance, blooms in soft shades of pink, yellow, and white, adding a delicate touch to alpine and cooler climate gardens.

Unique Seed Dormancy

Poppy seeds are unique in that they can remain dormant for years and will only germinate when the soil is disturbed. This is one reason poppies bloomed so prolifically on WWI battlefields: the soil had been churned up by artillery, exposing dormant seeds to light and allowing them to sprout.

Highly Sensitive to Light

Poppy blooms are heliotropic, meaning they follow the direction of the sun. Some poppies open up in bright sunlight and close at night or in low light, which is part of why they appear so striking during daylight and tend to wilt after being picked.

California State Flower

The California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), with its bright orange petals, is the official state flower of California. This wildflower grows abundantly along California's hillsides and can even form "super blooms" in wet years, drawing thousands of visitors.

Symbolism in Greek and Roman Mythology

In Greek and Roman mythology, poppies were associated with Morpheus, the god of dreams, and Hypnos, the god of sleep. The flowers were often linked with eternal sleep and rest, which is partly why they became associated with remembrance and death over time.



Raised Garden Beds – Jackie Morris

Some of you have been to our garden on club garden tours, but many of you have not. For those of you who have, you will be wondering why I am writing about raised garden beds. Don't we already have them? Sort of.

The front of our property is 4' down from the street. We have a retaining wall. It then slopes fairly steeply down to the end of back garden (but not as steeply as some of yours where you need mountain goats and Inca walls!)

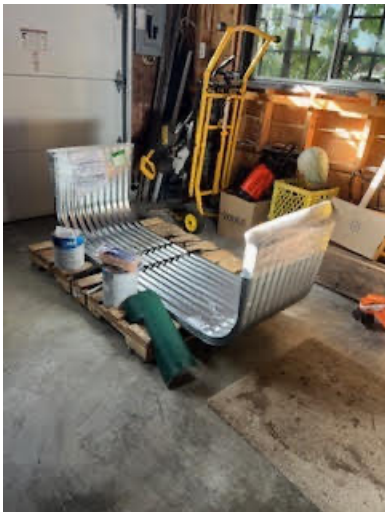
When we started to redesign the garden in 1993, we set up an overall pattern of brick paths and terraces using river stone for walls. Walls and paths have curves. We employed Tony and Angelo Vignone, fabulous Italian stonemasons, for several summers.

We established our vegetable garden on either side of our driveway, which gets 12 hours of sun a day when the clouds and rain cooperate. The terrace above the driveway is raised about 2' and ranges in width from 9' – 11'. The lower one is 1 rock high on the driveway and slopes to 2' above the brick path on the other side and ranges in width from 5' – 7'. We are now 74 and 75 and getting down to plant, weed and harvest is getting more difficult, even for Jim. Little can be reached from a side of our current beds. So, we are putting raised beds on these two terraces and I want to share what we have learned:

At the Master Gardener Spring Seminar in March, a speaker talked about raised beds. She had a company doing this work. Our work could not be done before we planted this year, so we had her come by in June. She came back with a design for 10 hexagon cedar beds and a quote, which included sealing the cedar, soil and labour, of \$25,530!

Obviously, we weren't doing that.

I did some research and found a Canadian company with the useful name of Raised Garden Beds Canada. It is based in Ontario and has several heights and sizes of 1mm thick steel alloy beds. All have the top rounded off. They come in shiny silver but can be painted. They can be bought singly but there are discounts for a 2-pack and a six-pack. Shipping is free. [!!!]



arrived within 2 weeks, on a #1. The smaller one arrived of what Jim might want you to light. See picture #2.

We didn't want shiny silver so we decided to paint them roof. (I wanted each to be one of the rainbow colours, but....) paint for steel. Who knew? We got ours from Sherwin Williams: DTM Acrylic Coating. They suggested 2 cans and they were right. Cost was \$200 per can.

We set up a work area and bought the paint.

Step 1: They are covered in a machine oil and need to be washed. The best way we found is to wash both sides with lots of soap and then rinse off. Roughly hand dry. Then spray both sides with Windex, wipe off with paper towels and let dry. See picture #3.

Step 2: Starting with the inside of each box, the best way we found to paint was, firstly, with a brush that fit within the grooves, followed by a soft roller to smooth it out. Then do the outside the same way. Then let dry. We did one coat on the insides and two coats for the outsides. See pictures #4 and #5. We had them dry in our unheated garage (October). They seem to dry quite quickly but we gave



We bought 7 in the Discover series, six were 3'x5'x22". The 7th was 3'x4'x22". They contained more garden space than the 10 hexagon ones! The cost was just under \$1430. They pallet. See picture separately. In spite believe, they are

to match our green There is a special

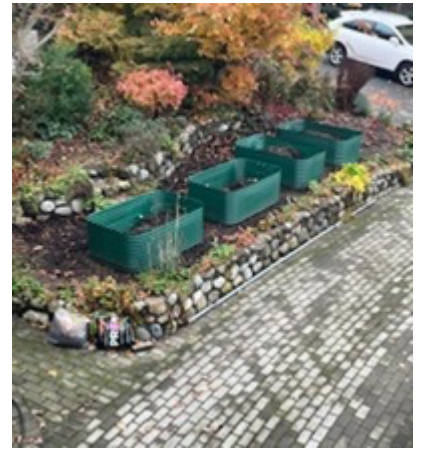




them a few days. Apparently, the paint “cures” (whatever that means – *The chemical reaction goes to completion when all the polymer cross-links are formed - Ed*) over 30 days. We also painted some parts of the assembly materials by sticking them in some old foam, so they stayed in place.

Step 3: Assemble the beds, lay them out, line them up, level the ground. Leave space for chip paths (22”). See picture #6 (upper terrace).

Step 4: Water source. These beds had a sprinkler system. That wasn’t going to work, as we will still have tall plants in the ground



(corn, kale, main crop tomatoes, dahlias, sunflowers, ...) as well as plants in the beds. So, we will, for the first time, be having drip irrigation for the 2 terraces. West Van Irrigation came to take out the old system and rough in the main lines for the drip. Cost to completion of the drip system is \$1200.

Step 5: Late winter or early spring, we will have soil delivered and West Van Irrigation will finish the drip irrigation.

Total cost so far has been \$3030, plus soil, plus our labour (and that of our godson, Simon – thank you, Simon!). We look forward to deciding what and where to plant now that we will have all this space at our fingertips!



Drying Crab Apples – Wayne Smith

I was disappointed the lovely tree my neighbour gave me turned out to be a crab apple.

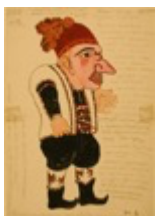
I was going to cut it down
the apples tasted too sour

Wondered what I could do with the fruit and gave the tree another year of life
This summer tiny sour apples exploded in clusters on every branch
With great courage I continued to nibble the fruit and as they ripped I could imagine a slight hint of sweetness

I don’t think bears would be interested
Bugs and squirrels don’t bother with them
I decided to try drying some of the apples

Glad I did
I like the sour flavour now
I quartered the fruit

Laid the pieces on my heated tile floor on a bug screen
Takes two or three days to dry them
They taste chewy, less sour, slightly sweeter



Mahatma Gandhi *“If there is an idiot in power; it is because those who elected him are well represented”.*

Turkish Proverb *“When a clown moves into a palace, he doesn’t become a sultan. The palace becomes a circus.”*

BIG!! – Jackie, Jim and Gillian Morris

[When I first joined LVGC, I was routinely blown away when the Morris truck drew up and zillions of veggies poured out for the Plant Sale. I was impressed with the numbers. What I didn't know is that this family also goes for sheer size. Have a look. – Ed]

1. Gillian didn't have a huge squash this year, but a magnificent broccoli!
2. Sunflower and Jim
3. One zucchini plant, 8 feet across!
4. The most gorgeous kale plant. 6', dark and curled !

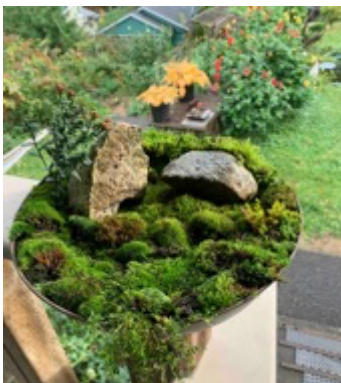


Selling Flowers and Creating Moss Gardens



[Besides being a multi-talented gardener and veggie grower, Wayne is also a musician. He has been known to "tickle the ivories" at our holiday festivities. – Ed]

I set the piano up
Near my flower stand
I might have scared away some customers.
It's great to meet people, do tours
And even dress a dog with flowers



Please don't forget your non-perishable food item for the Harvest Project. If you've been watching the news, you know that food insecurity is real – even in our rich country.

Announcements and other useful things that may deserve your attention:

Norma Ferguson says, “Lots and lots of information here on natural, and ecological gardening” and recommends the website called “THE DEEP MIDDLE” and the article on Monarch Gardening – especially, but all the rest also – please see the November 2024 links file for a hot link.

Jane Sherrott suggests: “Free PNW Native Plant Seeds - **Douglas College's Seed Library** will begin sending out free seeds for PNW native plants this week that should be planted then left outside over the winter for the cold, wet stratification they need to germinate in spring or summer. Their seed list is on their website. You can email an order. As it's a seed library, the protocol is that when you get some seeds from them, you grow the plants, then collect some seeds to return to them. The hot link to their website is also in the November 2024 Links file.

Helen Zaparniuk sent us the following note: “Hello: I received the following information about a new non-profit. I’ve included the information below as I received it from NSGarden group on Facebook. I thought it might be interesting to some of our members.

Frida Satel is moving forward with her Hope Blooms Farm project. This is the organization that is looking for donations such as dahlia tubers. She is just starting the web page but there is some basic information, a working contact form. (see the November 2024 Links file) Here is her description:

Hope Blossoms Farm will be a safe place dedicated to helping marginalized women's groups including those affected by domestic violence, sexual violence, gender violence and human trafficking. We will provide support and resources to these women, helping them rebuild their lives and regain their independence”

Ideally she would like the donations in spring as she is tight on storage space at the moment. **She is looking for tubers and annual cut flower seeds and possibly plants.** Please reach out to her if you have any questions about what she needs and doesn't. She is also open to having volunteers join. [Note to MALs – this may a place for unsold Plant Sale plants. Note to Donations Committee – in an interesting way, this ticks a lot of the donation boxes - Ed.]

THE COMPOST BIN

- Maria Issa



The photo on the left, sent in by Rita Marshall is of a “vertical forest” in Milan (See Wikipedia article in November links) designed by Boeri studios. It is real – and this image is not AI-generated as my suspicious little mind suggested.

“The distinctive feature of the skyscrapers, both inaugurated in 2014, is the presence of over ninety plant species, including tall shrubs and trees, distributed on the facades. It is an ambitious project of metropolitan reforestation that aims to increase the biodiversity of plant and animal species in the Lombard capital through vertical greening, reducing urban sprawl and contributing to the mitigation of the microclimate.” There is increasing evidence that an urban green canopy cools cities, mitigates climate change, reduces flooding, increases diversity, cleans the air – and is just plain psychologically good for people. (We gardeners ought to know...).

The problem I see, is that in Vancouver, broadly speaking, this building would never have been given planning permission. It's just too damned innovative. ... and probably expensive. The question in my mind is when do the benefits of such buildings outweigh the financial costs so that developers will ‘bite’? I have no intention of holding my breath – as what I have seen of politics in the past weeks – YES, I MEAN THAT RIDICULOUS TRUMP – and I won't apologise for that – I have little hope that we can stop climate change.

Instead, I do what one human can, and support systems that support the planet. PLEASE DO THIS. Google “Ecosia” or “the search engine that plants trees” and read what they do (spend their earnings on planting trees across the planet). Then dump Google and use Ecosia instead of Google. Every time you search, click, browse – they make money – just like Google would – but that money goes to reforestation. I would prefer that to giving Google and Alphabet even more money. I mean, how much do these billionaires need? So whyever not?

Lynn Valley Garden Club Proposed 2023 Budget

Please note that this is a proposed projection of income and expenses for 2025. Your executive recommends the following 2025 Budget for approval at the November 2024 AGM. The budget is again based upon a number of assumptions including: full membership, a plant sale in 2025

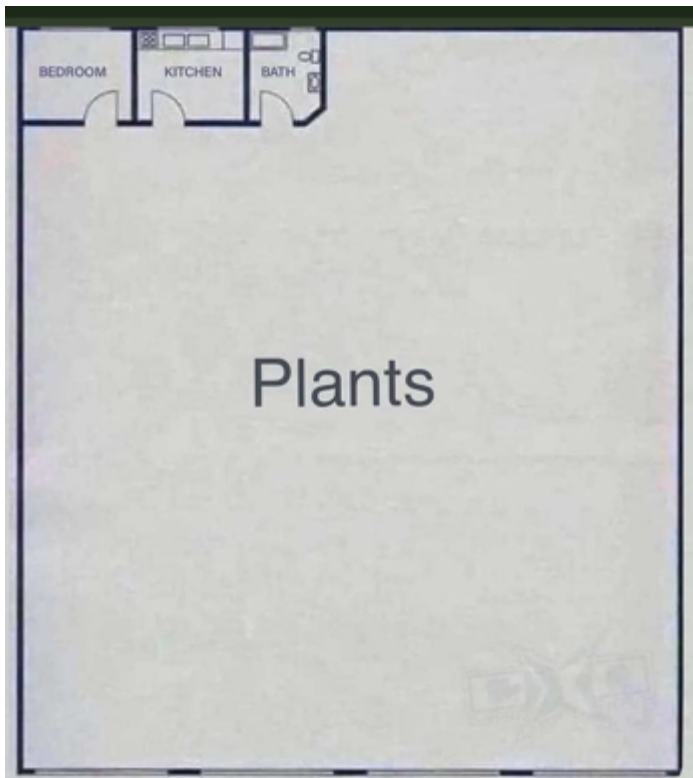
	Budget 2024	Budget 2025
Income		
Membership	3500	3400
Guests	50	50
Plant Table	50	50
Plant Sale	7500	7500
The Dig	500	500
Sundry Revenue		
Total Revenue	11600	11500
<hr/>		
Expenses		
Accounting review	100	100
Bank Charges	140	140
BCCGC	540	540
Christmas Party	400	400
Discretionary Spending	2000	2000
Donations	4250	3050
Door Prizes/Sunshine	625	550
Field Trip	500	500
Hospitality	450	450
Members Garden Tour	200	200
Newsletter	150	150
Office Supplies	150	150
Plant Sale Expenses	2200	2400
Property, Equipment	200	200
Rent	1200	1200
Speakers	2250	2250
Tech Support	550	675
Total Expenses	15905	14955
<hr/>		
Net	-4305	-3455
<hr/>		

Donations for 2024

Amount available for donation

4,037.00

Organization	Amount	Non-Profit	Impart Knowledge of Gardening	Impart Love of Gardening	Our Community
North Van City Library (seed library)	300.00	✓	✓	✓	✓
North Van District Library (gardening books)	300.00	✓	✓	✓	✓
North Shore Hospice (Lions Gate garden)	300.00	✓			✓
Wild Bird Trust (Maplewood Flats)	600.00	✓	✓	✓	✓
YWCA rooftop food garden	700.00	✓	✓	✓	✓
Backpack Buddies	500.00	✓			✓
Earth Bites	500.00	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sharing Abundance	500.00	✓			✓
North Shore Neighbourhood House	337.00	✓			✓
<i>Total Donations</i>	<i>4,037.00</i>				



<<< More on green architecture....





Lynn Valley Garden Club Membership Form

*Entered in Prize
Draw if completed
and paid by Nov. 24*

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Membership for 2025 Renew New

Member Information

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____ (to receive newsletter and club communications)

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Membership Fee For 2025: **\$20** **E-transfer** Cheque Cash

- Fill out and email completed membership form to lvgc.membership@gmail.com
- **PREFERRED: E-transfer to LVGC.Treasurer@gmail.com. Add note: 2025 Membership Fee**
- **OR bring membership form and cheque to first club meeting OR mail to:**
LVGC Membership c/o Ann McKinnon, 979 Shavington St, North Vancouver, BC V7L 1K6
- **Make cheque out to Lynn Valley Garden Club. Cash is accepted but least preferred.**
- **Deadline: Must be received by Dec. 31, 2024 in order to maintain your membership status.**

Member Directory *(distributed to and for use by members only for club communication)*

Permission to use phone number in Club Directory Yes _____ No _____

Permission to use email in Club Directory Yes _____ No _____

Permission to share home address with Plant Sale Committee Yes _____ No _____

Can you:

Help with a committee Yes Committee _____ No

Serve on the executive Yes Position _____ No

Committees: Plant Table, Hospitality, Sunshine (Door Prizes), Website, Newsletter, Donations
Executive Positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer**, Membership**, MALS** Members-at-Large (MALS run the Plant Sale). **Actively recruiting now to **.**

I'd like to suggest speakers and garden topics _____
