



CUTTINGS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE BOWEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB



The Mission of the Bowen Island Garden Club is to promote the love of gardening, encourage sound horticultural practices through education, & enhance civic beautification.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 An Off Island Tour:
A visit to a Rhododendron Specialist—Fearing's Farm Nursery. (Please see page 4 for details)

Monday, April 24, 2017 General Meeting & Guest Speaker— 1pm at the BIAC Gallery, Artisan Square. A year of Gardening on Bowen Island & How to Deer Proof a Garden featuring Anna-Marie Atherton & Su Rickett. (see page 1 for details)

Saturday, May 6, 2017 Annual Plant Sale and Raffle Fundraiser. Please donate plants if you have some to offer! (see page 5 for details)

Monday, May 15, 2017 General Meeting & Guest Speaker. 1pm (location to be announced) Shelagh Smith, a professional gardener and registered horticultural therapist, will give us a presentation on the physical and psychological effects of being engaged with "nature" and garden design elements that contribute to health and well-being. Stay tuned for more details about this presentation.

Tuesday, June 6, 2017—Hosting the Gibson's & Sechelt Garden Clubs. See page 5 for article.

July/August, 2017 - Annual Summer Garden Party. Please consider hosting....much thanks!

A YEAR OF GARDENING ON BOWEN ISLAND & HOW TO CREATE A DEER PROOF GARDEN

General Meeting and Speaker Series:

On April 24, 2017 The Bowen Island Garden Club will showcase two local women, Anna-Marie Atherton and Su Rickett. Anna-Marie will reignite our gardening spirits

with a visual retrospective of Gardening on Bowen Island in the past year and Su will offer us practical yet vital information on how to create a beautiful deer proof garden.

As Anna-Marie says " After a long winter of little gardening...and no, shoveling snow is not considered a gardening activity" it is refreshing to review our gardening highlights. Via a power point presentation Anna –Marie will highlight many of the club's gardening activities in the past year such as garden tours, open gardens, our plant sale, off island tours and speakers as well as Island projects such as the Gateway project and the People, Plants and Places tour summer 2016.

Su, a Bowen Island Garden Designer and Consultant, will discuss how to create a deer proof garden. She will share her experience and expert knowledge of plants that attract bees, birds and butterflies and that deter deer from favouring your garden on their buffet tour. She will address the best and most esthetically pleasing deer fencing to keep deer out of your garden and how to create privacy with plants that deer don't like. She will also suggest products that deter deer. This discussion will be a "question and answer" format so please bring your questions to our meeting.

Please join us at The Gallery at Artisan Square on April 24, 2017 at 1 PM for this both inspiring and educational presentation. "The activities, gardens and the people are what makes 'grown on Bowen' so special"- Anna-Marie Atherton. Members no charge, guests only \$3.00.

Linda Barratt
Speaker Coordinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We are finally on the edge of real spring. Between the April showers, we have enjoyed some sunshine and some gardening periods albeit chilly at times despite the light. One thing I really like about my garden is that I don't even have to plan what to do next. Just entering the garden offers a pruning job or some kind of clean up.

All can be proud of our Island with the daffodils in all sorts of large and small displays, including nooks and crannies. They brighten up a cloudy day and in the sunshine they almost sparkle. Wordsworth wandered and exclaimed, "all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils". He would be proud of Bowen, I'm sure.

We are down to the wire with preparations for the Plant Sale on May 6th. You will probably feel put upon with all the reminders to "pot up" and bring your merchandise to the Plant Sale. Please try and do a few pots. There is more about the sale in other areas of Cuttings. Suffice to say now a sincere thank you to Monica McKinley and Marolyn Anderson for volunteering to coordinate the Plant Sale. Their capacity and diligent attention to details is great. John Hazel is producing the familiar orange and green signs to distribute about the Island including near postal boxes and at other places. And there are many others involved. Feel free to give Monica (monicamckinley@gmail.com) or Marolyn (marolyna@gmail.com) an email should you have opportunities or questions. Don't feel left out.

At our recent Executive Meeting we discussed communication with members. Cuttings is now 4 times per year and we have a web site. In addition when we have special notices we can do an "email blast". Marie Neys has given me a lesson on our systems but I continue to have much to learn. Please let us know if you get too much information or not enough or if it's just right. We hope to have effective stream lining of work and maintain helpful interactions with members.

Lynn McArthur, President



SUMMER GARDEN PARTY NEEDS A HOST!

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED HOSTING THE SUMMER GARDEN PARTY but are daunted by the prospect of entertaining a group? The good news is that the set up, refreshments, and clean up are all done for you. It isn't necessary to have an amazing view, or a perfect garden – just a welcoming attitude. All you have to do is to select a convenient date in July or August, put on a sun hat and welcome everyone to your garden. How can you resist?

Please contact me if you would like to offer your garden as our venue for the 2017 Summer Garden Party. Sheena at 604-947-9835 or email sre@athomewestvancouver.com

EDITORS NOTE

We are keeping you up to date

LOOK US UP ONLINE.... ANTIME!

www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca

www.facebook.com/bowenislandgardenclub

Missing back issues of the Cuttings?

We keep them on the website...

www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca

Marie Neys, Cuttings Editor

NEWS FROM CLUB MEMBERS

UPCOMING LINNAEA NURSERY TOUR:

Just a heads up on the up coming tour to the Linnaea Nurseries in Langley on Saturday, April 22, 2017

Linnaea is a whole sale nursery and as many of you know, specializes mainly in indigenous trees, plants, ferns, shrubs and grasses, but also carries a great variety of other flora of excellent quality. We always have a fantastic time finding all kinds of very special treasures. I'm sure Wendy will host us with hot coffee and her famous muffins. Especially for new members it will be a wonderful experience to see such a beautiful nursery.

I will continue to organize the twice a year Linnaea tour and by now most of the garden club members who want to go have signed up.

This tour is for Garden Club members only.

Specific details will be emailed later to the participants.

Betty Dhont
blushrambler@shaw.ca

ANNUAL PLANT SALE:

May is usually the month for our Annual Plant sale! Keep this in mind. We appreciate all who donate potted plants.

WE HAPPILY PROVIDE THE POTTING SOIL!

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING SOME PLANTS!

Potting Soil for the plant sale is now available at the home of Dale and Lloyd Harding 1050 Harding road. The soil is down by the road, next to an old black truck and covered with a blue tarp. Please recover the soil when you have take so that it is not mud for the next takers. Thank you Dale and Lloyd for giving us the space. SEE PAGE 5 FOR FULL ARTICLE!

DRIVERS NEEDED FOR GIBSONS/SECHELT VISIT TO BOWEN: Tuesday, June 6, 2017

We are organizing a tour of Bowen Island gardens for the Sechelt and Gibsons Garden Clubs. We need a number of drivers to take visitors around touring beautiful Bowen gardens.

This event will run from 10 am until about 3.30, you will visit all the gardens on the tour along with our visitors, and you will have lunch at the Tunstall Bay Club House. We ask that you be able to take at least 3 additional people in your car. If you can drive a group of visitors on June 6, please email either Susan or Virginia. We will be in touch with further particulars closer to June 6. *It promises to be a fun day!*

Susan Heth: sheth@shaw.ca

Virginia Penny: vpenny@gmail.com

ANNUALS:

When buying your annuals, it is worth taking the drive to Leongs at 7487 Meadow Avenue, Burnaby. They have a great selection and are also starting on a few perennials. Overall quality is good and pricing below average. Please mention to the cashier (probably Anna) that you are from Bowen Island Garden Club. They also support our Raffle.

Continue on Meadow to the end and turn left, a couple of blocks up is Thorne Avenue, TURN RIGHT AND at the end is WIGS who are also great for annuals and particularly succulents. Their address is 6151 Thorne Avenue, Burnaby. Prices are reasonable.

Sheila Webster

While we don't run general advertising we do encourage stories that help out fellow garden club members . Enjoy this new section!

Marie Neys, Cuttings Editor

ON ISLAND OPEN GARDEN TOURS

**OPEN GARDEN AT THE HOME OF
MURRAY & ANNA-MARIE ATHERTON
SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH (1 TO 3 P.M.)
1477 CLEATOR ROAD (EAGLECLIFF)**

Anna-Marie writes:

My gardening on Bowen started in 1999 with the first entry in my journal dated February 14th – tested soil PH – needed to add aluminum sulphate to drop the alkaline level – it was a sunny day! Three journals later, I am still trying to raise the level of my garden.

Over the years, the garden has evolved: the roadside (shady) garden, fenced deck garden for container plantings, and finally, a long-time dream of building access to the ocean-front with plantings along the way.

Our garden while interesting, seemed to lack the WOW factor! This past fall, we enlisted the assistance of Su Rickett to transform the roadside garden into a mini semi-Japanese garden and to add more interest into the Seaside garden. We have also built a large planter box half-way down the steps to the Seaside garden which will hopefully be the home to a magnolia tree, rose bushes and clematis.

Parking: at the Eagle Cliff mailboxes.

Please do not bring your vehicle down Cleator Road. If you are mobile, please walk down – a ride up will be provided. If you have mobility issues, please call Murray @604-312-1102 and he will be pleased to provide a lift.

Hope you can join us for our first Open Garden of the 2017 season. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and an afternoon of gardening chatter.

Thank you,
Pam Miller
(604) 947-2349
p&jmiller@telus.net

OFF ISLAND TOURS

**A VISIT TO A RHODODENDRON SPECIALIST
FEARING'S FARM NURSERY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017**

I have contacted Harold and Ginny Fearing about visiting their garden and nursery in Abbotsford. Here is their description:

We are a small nursery specializing in rare and exotic rhododendrons and azaleas, mostly species.

Most are grown from seed, which we get from the American Rhododendron Society seed exchange, from the Rhododendron Species Foundation, or from the Royal Horticultural Society seed list.

We try to get wild collected seed, identified by collector's numbers. Failing that we take hand pollinated seed from selected sources. We do not knowingly use open pollinated seed.

Thus we are able to offer rare varieties never available in ordinary nurseries, possible new species, and plants not previously in cultivation.

As our own collection grows - now some 1500 plants, 1100 of which are species - we expect to offer more and more plants grown from cuttings from especially nice individuals in our garden.

You can find out more at: <http://www.fearing.ca>

This is a self-organized tour. You will arrange your own transportation and food. I googled their address and it is about one hour from Horseshoe Bay. If we take the 9.30 ferry we should be there about 11am. If you need a ride let me know and I will try to organize that. There are a number of other nurseries in the area which can make this excursion really worthwhile! Please let me know if you can join me by April 10. It promises to be a special day.

Virginia Penny: vpenny@gmail.com
Susan Heth & Virginia Penny

Off Island Garden Tours



ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND DRAW

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 11 AM-12NOON

Notes from Marolyn and Monica
— your BIGC Plant Sale Coordinators

The plant sale date is looming closer—**MAY 6th 11:00 A.M. —12:00 P.M.**

PLANTS – As you know we are getting a rather late start this year and we need all our members to make **an extra effort** to bring in as many plants, large ones and little ones, to make our **ONLY** club fund-raiser successful. Perhaps talk to 3 of your friends and suggest that they donate ‘that plant that no longer works in their garden’. Or, if they are revamping their gardens due to winter kill, those plants that need to be removed could be potted up and donated. In the past, we have asked that plants be well established in their pots. However, this year we will make exceptions. **DROP-OFF TIME 9:00 – 10:00 (10:30?)**

DRAW – Volunteers are needed to man the draw sale tables at the The Ruddy and The General Store. The shifts are short (2 hours), starting at 10:00 until 4:00 p.m., April 29, April 30 and May 5th. There will be a sign-up sheet at the next General Meeting in April or please feel free to email Marolyn (marolynag@gmail.com) or telephone Monica at 604 947 2318 to pick a shift that works with your schedule.

PLANT SALE DAY – Volunteers are definitely needed on sale day. There will be lots of fun with just a ‘little’ bit of work! The ‘jobs’ that need filling are:

Set-up 8:30–9:00 (6 persons)

Receivers 9:00–10:30 (4 persons)

Pricers 9:00–10:30 (4 persons)

Table packers 9:00–10:30 (6 persons)

Talliers 10:00–12:00 (2 shifts of 4)

Cashiers 10:30–12:00 (2 persons)

Draw Sales on sale day 9:00–12:00 (2 persons)

Reference/Plant I.D. 9:30–11:30 (2 shifts of 1)

CLEAN-UP – This requires at least 8 people and the job gets done faster.

THANK YOUS – All registered volunteers will have the opportunity of purchasing ONE plant at 10:30 before sale actually opens. We should all ensure we thank our raffle prize donors and frequent their businesses.

There will be refreshments and goodies available for a nominal charge.

I want to give a shout out to those who send me articles! I am receiving many generous notes and thus have created a new section in the Cuttings for announcements. Feel free to send me photos of your flowers in bloom or your veggies that are thriving! I will be happy to include them in Cuttings or on our Facebook page. With thanks Marie Neys

<https://www.facebook.com/bowenislandgardenclub/>



Please donate plants to the
Annual Plant Sale...
it's fun to share our gardens!

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to all members who have already renewed their memberships. Your promptness in paying your dues is very much appreciated. For those members in arrears, the easiest way to renew is to write a cheque payable to the Bowen Island Garden Club and mail it to our club mail box at P.O. Box 271, Bowen Island, BC V0N 1G0. The regular yearly membership fee for two family members residing in the same household is \$20. As some members may be away on extended vacations I will keep all 2016 members on the list until the end of April. If you are not planning to renew, please let me know at hollytim2014@gmail.com.

Remember that membership has its privileges including the quarterly Cuttings newsletter, guest speakers at the monthly general meetings, open garden tours on island, occasional garden tours off island, summer and Christmas parties, and a spring and a fall trip to Linnea Nurseries in Langley. As well, some garden shops/nurseries in the Lower Mainland provide a discount to our members so carry your membership card and ask before paying.

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome to the following new members who have joined since January: Paula Alucema, Diana Mason, Susan and Peter Matthews, Renita Neys, Joanna Quarry, Janet Sims, and Tanya and Chris Sorrentino.

Holly Cleator,
Membership Director

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

1. Monthly CUTTINGS NEWSLETTERS, delivered to your inbox. Those who do not have email will receive in regular mail.
2. Bi-monthly BC GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTERS, delivered to your inbox.
3. GUEST SPEAKERS.

2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT	LYNN MCARTHUR	604-290-3245
VICE-PRESIDENT	ANNA-MARIE ATHERTON	604-947-0333
SECRETARY	LEA ALLEN	604-947-9933
TREASURER	DAVID WRINCH	604-947-9639
CUTTINGS	MARIE NEYS	604-947-0684
MEMBERSHIP	HOLLY CLEATOR	883-984-7124
OFF ISLAND TOURS	SUSAN HETH & VIRGINIA PENNY	604-947-0898 604-947-2577
SPEAKERS	LINDA BARRATT & BECKY DAWSON	604-947-0631
TECHNICAL	JOHN HAZELL	604-947-2441
PUBLICITY	JOHN LAWRENCE	604-947-6953
SOCIAL	SHEENA ENGEHART & DALE HARDING	604-947-9835 604-947-9946
OPEN GARDENS	PAM MILLER ANNA-MARIE ATHERTON	604-947-2349
PAST PRESIDENT	SHEILA WEBSTER	604-947-0114

Editor's Email: marie@marieneys.com

4. GARDEN TOURS in the lower mainland.

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES cont'd:

5. OPEN GARDEN TOURS on Bowen.
6. SUMMER & CHRISTMAS parties.
7. DISCOUNTS ON PURCHASES AT Phoenix Perennials in Richmond, The Flower Shop in Artisan Sq., West Van Florist in Ambleside, Maple Leaf in Dundarave, Maple Leaf in Lynn Valley, Mandeville Gardens in Burnaby, David Hunter Garden Shops, Vancouver.



MEMBERSHIP FORM AND VOLUNTEER INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Name (s) (1 or 2 per household): _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing address: _____

Everyone is welcome to become a member of the Bowen Island Garden Club. However, in order for the Club to exist, volunteers are needed. Many of our members already contribute. We urge all of you to help out, even a small amount of your time is appreciated.

Below are some of the areas requiring volunteer time. Please check off any that you might be able to assist with and return to the Bowen Island Garden Club. The mailing address is P.O. Box 271, Bowen Island, BC V0N 1G0.

Executive positions:

President _____
Vice-president _____
Secretary _____
Treasurer _____
Newsletter _____
Membership _____
Social _____
Tours _____
Speakers _____
Open Gardens _____
Publicity _____

Plant sale:

Sale organizer _____
Sale day helper _____

Raffle:

Prize co-ordinator _____
Ticket seller _____
Pick up prizes _____

Visits by other garden clubs:

Visit co-ordinator _____
Baking for visit _____
Driving for visit _____
Offering garden _____

Beautification projects:

Planting daffodils _____
Other projects _____

General meetings:

Baking _____
Set up/take down chairs _____

Hosting an Open Garden:

Are there any garden-related topics of particular interest to you? _____