

# CUTTINGS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE BOWEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2015

***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

**Tuesday, Sept 15, 2015 Daffodil Order Deadline**  
email Sheila Webster. See details below.

**Monday, Sept 21, 2015 (1pm ) General Meeting and Guest Speaker—at the Art Gallery in Artisan Square.** Guest Speaker - John Folkerts , General Manager, of Linnaea Nurseries Ltd. will speak about native plants and what life is like running a large nursery. Please join us!

**Thurs, Oct 1, 2015** Counting and Bagging of Daffodil Bulb order. Please email Sheila Webster if you can help volunteer for this.

**Saturday, Oct 10, 2015 Visit to Linnaea Nurseries,** see page 3 for details.

**Wednesday, Oct 14 2015**—Volunteers needed with Daffodil bulbs....please let Sheila Webster know if you can help out! (see article below)

**Monday, Oct 19, 2015 General Meeting and Guest Speaker**—details to follow.

**Monday, November 16, 2015 General Meeting and Guest Speaker**—details to follow.

## DAFFODILS

### Deadline for Ordering is Sept 15, 2015

There is still time to order daffodils, orders close on the 15th of September. For the first time this year the Municipality have ordered 2000 bulbs and will be needing help planting on Wednesday October 14th at 9.30 a.m. Anybody willing to assist please let me know as soon as possible, preferably by email to [sheilawebster@shaw.ca](mailto:sheilawebster@shaw.ca).

Sheila Webster

## GENERAL MEETING

&

### SPEAKER SERIES—John Folkerts

#### Propagating Native Plants at Linnaea Nurseries



On September 21, 2015 the Bowen Island Garden Club welcomes John Folkerts of Linnaea Nurseries Ltd. a wholesale plant nursery located in the Fraser Valley.

Linnaea is a 60 acre nursery that grows 700 different species of trees and shrubs specializing in the production of hardy nursery stock and plants native to the Pacific Northwest. John is a graduate in the Biological Sciences with an emphasis on horticulture and has extensive experience in both retail and large wholesale plant and tree growing operations.

He will talk to us about the history and evolution of Linnaea and what is involved in propagating and growing 200 plus species of native plants at the nursery. John plans to bring plants to his presentation for demonstration purposes.

[www.linnaeanurseries.com](http://www.linnaeanurseries.com)

Please join us at the Gallery at Artisan Square on September 21, 2015 at 1 PM. Everyone is welcome.

## PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

The sun is shining as I write this, and we have had a good rainfall, at long last—too bad it had to come Bowfest weekend! I am concerned that a couple of my shrubs may not make it through to spring—their leaves are showing the impact of a very dry summer. The flower buds on one of my rhodos seem to be dry and brown—looks like few if any flowers on that one next spring.

I'm sure you've noticed how gorgeous the Library garden has been all summer. Kelly Smith took over looking after the garden last year. She removed many old and unsightly shrubs and replaced them with new plants. It was a real challenge to keep that area watered over the summer—it is particularly hot and dry as Bowen gardens go, and needs a lot of attention. I did the watering a few times and was amazed at how much time and effort it took! Kelly is unable to continue with the garden next year and we are looking for someone to take it over. Please put on your thinking caps and let us know if you have any ideas. And also, please let Kelly know how much you've appreciated her work this summer. On behalf of all of us, THANK YOU KELLY!

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find anyone to host an Open Garden this fall. I guess too many of us feel as if our gardens aren't quite up to snuff after a long, warm summer. If you might be interested, do let us know. Our members really value these Open Gardens and they are also a way we attract new members to the Club.



Your executive is busy organizing activities for the coming months. In addition to a stellar line-up of speakers, highlights will include our October trip to Linnaea and another grand Christmas party. And don't forget, the deadline for ordering your bulbs from Sheila is almost upon us—September 15!

— Sharon



## EDITOR'S NOTE AUTUMN HARVEST & THE FOOD MOVEMENT ON BOWEN

In Edmonton, Autumn had always been the time of year that my thoughts would shift to getting children back to school, planning the Fall Schedule of Art Classes, and also searching for ways to keep myself busy (during the cold winter months.) For Edmontonians Fall is brief and the onset of Winter comes fast.

But now that I am spending more time on Bowen, I discover that in Autumn I am immersed in celebrating the food that has been grown locally.

I study the Undercurrent, searching for news on what is available. I seek the new posts on the vast number of community groups on Facebook. To date I have found the following Facebook groups: Bowen Island Foodies, Bowen Island Events, Bowen Businesses & Community, Bowen Island Buy/Sell/Trade, Bowen Island Summer Markets, Bowen Island Rentals & FSBO (for sale by owner) , Bowen Island Everything Else, and more.

The current topic in many of these groups is....FOOD and the HARVEST on Bowen. "Where can I purchase local pears, apples, grapes, garlic".... The FOOD movement is getting even bigger with more individuals/farms selling food. Just this past Saturday (at the BICS Farmers Market) I picked up tomatoes, fresh salad greens and ordered my Thanks Giving Turkey and Fall supply of pork from Home Farm Gardens & I purchased blueberry crumble and brownies from the lovely Maureen Sawasy.

I read about people making Bone Broth, Water Keifer and so much more on the Bowen Foodies Facebook Group. When people start to talk, share and celebrate it gains momentum, which is exiting.

I also Signed up to volunteer for the 1st Annual **Bowen Grows—Community Feast**, being held Sept 25, 5-9pm at BICS. Local Chef Mathew Matheson and his team are the masterminds of this FEAST. I am excited to have my small part of Bowens Food Movement and I encourage others to see the potential in this humble, grassroots movement. Hmm ... perhaps next year I might even plant some of my own vegetables amongst my flowers, smile.

Marie Neys, *Cuttings* Editor

## SEMI-ANNUAL VISIT TO LINNAEA NURSERIES

**SATURDAY, OCT 10, 2015**

Just a heads up on the up coming tour to the Linnaea Nurseries in Langley on Saturday, October 10, 2015. Linnaea is a wholesale 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.

Although I m not the official garden club tour organizer, I will continue to organize the twice a year Linnaea tour, so if you are interested please sign-up on the sheet which will do the rounds again at the next Garden Club meeting.

We'll take our own vehicles, or team up with another Garden Club Member. Most of us take the 9.30 am ferry and expect to arrive at the nursery around 11.

If you like, we could all meet upstairs on the Ferry especially the people who need to link up with their drivers. You may want to take along your lunch if you plan to venture out to other nurseries in the neighbourhood. I can recommend Free Spirit Nursery, or Cedar Rim Nursery (find directions on the internet)

### **Payment with CASH or CHEQUE only.**

In case you cancel or add people to the group, please let me know so I can let John know the final number of people.

**Please let me know if you have room for other people's plants (truck?)**

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Follow Highway One, Take 232 Exit and travel 232 St. South. Drive approx. 6 km Turn RIGHT on 40th then LEFT on 224th Address: 3666 - 224th Street, Langley B.C.

PRICING: 4"pot - \$3.00/ 1 gal - \$6.00/2 gal - \$12.00 3 gal - \$20.00/ 5 gal - \$25.00  
Please note: pricing information is from April and may have changed. Note: Linnaea also has many plants in larger pots and many specialty plants as well. These will be priced individually at the time. Thanks all and see you Oct 10, 2015 rain or shine!!  
Please Note: This tour is for Garden Club members only.

Betty Dhont

[blushrambler@shaw.ca](mailto:blushrambler@shaw.ca)

604-947-9237



### **Tips and Topics from Sheila Webster**

1. When doing fall clean up and division please remember to pot up your division for the plant sale which, although months away, will happen! May, 2016.... The are containers and soil at Sharon Haggerty's driveway - perhaps a phone call or email before you drop by to collect. See the Executive List on page 4 for Sharon's phone number.
2. Coffee Grounds in the Garden—Used coffee grounds make an excellent mulch. They are acidic with a pH between 3.0 and 5.0. BUT when they finish decomposing, they will be neutral so they do not turn the soil acidic. They also contain 2% Nitrogen which can only benefit your plants. (Finished, well made compost tends to be neutral at 5.0). They can be used thinly all over the regular garden as organic matter so you can simply toss your used coffee grounds onto the garden. Unless you are adding inches, you are not going to see a difference in your soil pH, and if you do add a large quantity in one spot, dig it into the soil as the grounds are beloved by worms. Useful for vermiculture as a food source, and if added to your compost bin, they can be considered "green" material similar to grass clippings. Try to dispose of your coffee grounds every day or two as this will stop negative odours and fruit flies. The urban legend that coffee grounds kill slugs is just that, an urban legend.

## MEMBERSHIP

### MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:

#### MEMBERSHIP

As there are less than 4 months until year end, the fee for a new 2015 Garden Club membership is only \$10.00. As do all 2015 memberships, this membership will expire at the end of December. The regular 2016 yearly fee for two family members residing in the same household is \$20.00. However, there will once again be an Early Bird Special. If you renew or join before the end of February, the cost will be \$15.00. After that date, the cost will be the regular \$20.00.

If you are not going to be on Bowen in January or February, I will begin accepting 2016 renewals at the October general meeting. And, if you wish to mail in your renewal, please make your cheque payable to the Bowen Island Garden Club. The mailing address is P.O. Box 271, Bowen Island, V0N 1G0. A self-addressed and stamped envelope should be enclosed. I will send your new 2016 card as soon as it is printed. Please let me know if there are any changes in your e-mail address, home address, or phone number.

Remember to carry your Garden Club card and present it when purchasing any garden related materials at lower mainland nurseries. Many of these businesses will give you a 10% discount on regular priced merchandise.

Pam Miller, Membership Director



## 2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

Past President	Sheila Webster	0114
President	Sharon Haggerty	2244
Vice President	Tamsin Miley	0882
Secretary	Denise Lockett	2587
Treasurer	Marolyn Anderson	0792
Cuttings	Marie Neys	0684
Membership	Pam Miller	2349
Social	Nadyne Hindle	0557
Speakers	Linda Barratt	0631
Open	Diana Kaile	0320
Gardens	Betty Morton	604.910.0765
Publicity	John Lawrence	6953
Tours	Susan Heth	0898
	Virginia Penny	2577
Workshops	Marolyn Anderson	0792
Technical	John Hazell	2441

Editor's Email: [marie@marieneys.com](mailto:marie@marieneys.com)

### 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.
4. GARDEN TOURS in the lower mainland.
5. OPEN GARDEN TOURS on Bowen.
6. SUMMER & CHRISTMAS parties.

### 7. DISCOUNTS ON PURCHASES AT:

Phoenix on Bowen in Village Square,  
 Phoenix Perennials in Richmond,  
 The Flower Shop in Artisan Sq.,  
 West Van Florist in Ambleside,  
 Maple Leaf in Dunderave,  
 Maple Leaf in Lynn Valley,  
 Mandeville Gardens in Burnaby,  
 David Hunter Garden Shops, Vancouver  
 GardenWorks in North Vancouver  
 Natural Gardener W10, Vancouver &  
 2 trips to Linnea Nurseries in Langley  
 NOTE: ASK if discount is given before shopping, you may need to show your membership card and register.