



CUTTINGS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE BOWEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

MARCH 2016

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:

Monday, March 21, 2016 General Meeting & Guest

Speaker— 1pm at the BIAC Gallery, Artisan Square .
Speaker - Jennifer Zuk

Sunday, April 3rd, 2016 Open Garden Tour—at Pam & John Miller's 685 Windjammer, Bowen Island, BC

Monday, April 18, 2016 General Meeting & Guest

Speaker— 1pm at the BIAC Gallery, Artisan Square .
Speaker - TBD

Saturday, April 23, Visit to Linnaea Green House -
11 am (details to follow)

Saturday, May 7, 2016 Annual Plant sale—start
potting your plants now, consider volunteering.

Monday, May 16, 2016 General Meeting & Guest

Speaker— possibly an evening meeting. Location &
Speaker - TBD

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 -we will visit the private
garden of Ted Staunton.

Monday, June 13, 2016 - we have been invited to visit
Sechelt gardens by the Sechelt Garden Club. Details to
follow.

**July/August: Open Gardens & Summer Garden
Party** - details to follow

Monday, Sept 19, 2016 General Meeting & Guest

Speaker— 1pm at the BIAC Gallery, Artisan Square .
Speaker - TBD

Monday, Oct 17, 2016 General Meeting & Guest
Speaker— 1pm at the BIAC Gallery, Artisan Square .
Speaker - TBD

Monday, Nov 21, 2016 General Meeting & Guest
Speaker— 1pm at the BIAC Gallery, Artisan Square .
Speaker - TBD

December, 2016 Annual Christmas Party



GENERAL MEETING &

SPEAKER SERIES

Monday, March 21, 2016

**A Year in the
Life of a Dahlia**

On March 21, 2016 the Bowen Island Garden Club welcomes Jennifer Zuk of the Vancouver Dahlia Society. Jennifer has been a member of the society for 30 years and is a senior dahlia judge as well as a trained rose floral designer, horticultural judge and Master Gardener. She will give us a presentation that includes the classification and types of dahlias, planting information, summer care of dahlias and how to store tubers for the winter.

Jennifer's passion for the beauty of dahlias will be reflected in the photographs she will use as adjuncts to her presentation. She will also bring a variety of dahlia tubers for purchase.

Please join us at The Gallery at Artisan Square on March 21, 2016 at 1 PM. Everyone is welcome.

Please join us at The Gallery at Artisan Square Everyone is welcome. Members no charge, guests only \$3.00.

Linda Barratt, Speakers Director

Please Note: Each year the BIGC endeavors to have 1 or 2 evening meetings so that members who can not attend during the day have the opportunity to enjoy our speakers. PLEASE ...feel free to let us know that you would like to attend evening meetings. Contact us via

marie@marieneys.com or bicuttings@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

Every issue of *Cuttings* conveniently provides a list of the Garden Club Board Members, along with our telephone numbers. Everyone can see who among us is responsible for what, but easily overlooked are a number of other members who regularly contribute to various aspects of our Club activities and who seldom get the recognition they deserve. This month I'd like to remind all of us of what some of these people do for us. I'm going to list them in alphabetical order as I cannot rank them any other way. If you think of others who should be recognized, please let me know.

Holly Cleator has taken over the job of being responsible for setting up and putting away the chairs and tables for our General Meetings. For a long while **Leslee Wake** did that job, and before her it was **Dee MacCarthy**. It's a very important task: that person comes early and leaves late, hauling all that furniture around. Fortunately, people often pitch in to help, but it's still a big responsibility and Holly can use all of the help she can get. In particular, we are looking for 2 or 3 people who can be "on call" as back up for times if Holly is not available. **THANK YOU, HOLLY!**

Don Heth volunteered to design and create the gorgeous Garden Club website:

<http://www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca/> Have you looked at it? If not, why not? It is gorgeous, and Don spent many hours putting it together for us. Marie Neys is now keeping it updated. **THANK YOU, DON and MARIE!**

Last year our Bowen Beautification Project was the Library garden. **Kelly Smith** took on responsibility for cleaning up the old messy garden, replacing tired, worn out plants and shrubs, and keeping a beautiful new sunny garden alive and well during that long and very dry summer. Be sure to tell Kelly how much you appreciate her efforts. **THANK YOU, KELLY!**

I hope to see you at our March 21st meeting.



Sharon
BIGC President

EDITOR'S NOTE



A Hearty **THANK YOU** to ALL who make
THE CUTTINGS a great Newsletter! Bravo
Marie Neys, Cuttings Editor



PLANT SALE COMING MAY 7th, 2016

Now that the gardening season is upon us, I hope you're all thinking about what plants you can contribute to the Garden Club Plant Sale. Seedlings left over from last year? Perennials ready to be divided? Put on your thinking cap and see what you can come up with. Remember, it's far better to do this well ahead—don't leave it until a few days before the sale. I know, we've all done that now and then, but it really makes a difference if you can get at it now! Scads of pots plus a nice big pile of lovely potting-up soil await you in my driveway at 486 Melmore Road (just around the corner from the Catholic Church). Don't let them go to waste!

-Sharon

ON ISLAND TOURS 2016

Ah, spring! That most beautiful of seasons. So full of hope and promise after such a dreary season as winter. I have never been a winter person. Oh, I like walking in winter if it isn't too cold. But snow----Brrr---- no thank you! No, my season is spring, when I can start to see my garden stretch. I always marvel at the difference even a day makes. When I come outside and see a daffodil flower where there were previously only tight green buds. And the scents! Not the heavy aroma of summer roses but the quick, clear scent of hyacinths or daffodils or Mahonia. Then I know that it is spring or very close to it.

I would like to see some more people volunteer their gardens for the club and others to see. I would especially like to have a vegetable garden for the summer slot. So, all of you vegetable gardeners, I would like to see how you approach pests, lack of water and companion planting, especially corn, beans and squash together.

The first garden for this year will be Pam and John Miller's. It is on Apr. 3rd from 1 to 3 and is on the Westside which has different deer from the rest of the island with their own particular tastes in plants. Pam will be telling you how to get to her garden and a little bit about it in her write-up.

My email is sallyonbowen@hotmail.com or my phone number is 604-947-6904.

Sally Fitz-Gibbon
Open Garden Tour Co-ordinator

OPEN GARDEN-SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD

1:00-3:00 P.M.

AT THE HOME OF PAM AND JOHN MILLER

FROM PAM—When we built our house in 1996, the decision was made to live in harmony with the deer and not worry about a garden. Then, we tried to establish a rockery in front of the house, covered by fish netting, and put in a couple of fruit trees surrounded by cages. We soon found both netting and cages were inadequate when dealing with the infamous "West Side" deer population. So much for living in harmony!!

We are keeping you up to date

LOOK US UP ONLINE.... ANTIME!

www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca

www.facebook.com/bowenislandgardenclub

It wasn't long before the cages and the netting were replaced by two fenced areas. However, the majority of the yard remains unfenced. As it is surrounded by hemlocks and cedars, the garden has been an ongoing challenge. Lots of shade and lots of tree root invasion combined with lots of deer have made an unfenced garden nearly impossible. Even so called "deer resistant" plants have not done well.

The garden has evolved with no preconceived design in mind. Many visits to favorite nurseries have resulted in all kinds of "I need one of those" plants coming home even though there was no place to plant them. Consequently, a new little area of yard just had to be dug up. As a result, there are small plant beds all around the yard, some of which have done better than others.



I have always said that my garden is not a gardener's garden full of exotic plants, the names of

which I would never remember. My garden is a place where I like to "play in the dirt" and enjoy the tranquility offered by Mother Nature. It is at its best, and very park-like, in the spring when all the daffodils are in bloom and are surrounded by the beautiful new growth of the natural vegetation.

Parking can be somewhat problematic. We are at 685 Windjammer, which is the second driveway on the right past Bowen Bay Beach as you are heading towards Bluewater. Parking is available at the beach, and there is also parking past our house on Malkin Creek Road. If you park at the turn-around on Malkin Creek Road, you can walk a few yards along Amelia Lane and turn right at the trail. This trail will allow you to access our property from the rear. We are the third property on the right---the only one not deer fenced. The house is a gray-green and there is a green tarp covering my husband's "junk" pile that is visible from the trail. Or, you can come in from the front and walk over our thirty-two foot bridge. For those people with mobility issues, there is room for a couple of cars to park in the yard. The gravel driveway is fairly steep so please use lots of gas once you are over the bridge. Please DO NOT stop on the hill. There is plenty of room to turn around at the top. Hope to see you on April 3..... Pam

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to the 117 members who took advantage of the Early Bird membership special. Now that the time has passed the regular fee of \$20.00 now applies. If you would like to continue to receive the benefits of the Garden Club please let me know you will be renewing so I can keep your name on the major list. Membership fees not renewed by the end of May will have their names removed. If you are not planning to renew, please let me know at lupin-lady@telus.net. Your name will be removed and you will not receive any further emails from the Garden Club. Thanks so much.

Shelley MacDonald,
Membership Director

A special welcome to our new members:

Chris Farah, Cillia Kots, Craig Pearman and Holly and Ian Mackintosh

2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

Past President	Sheila Webster	0114
President	Sharon Haggerty	2244
Vice President	Tamsin Miley	0882
Secretary	Lea Allen	9933
Treasurer	David Wrinch	9639
<i>Cuttings</i>	Marie Neys	0684
Membership	Shelley McDonald	604-816-8479
Social	Nadyne Hindle	0557
Speakers	Linda Barratt	0631
Open Gardens	Sally Fitz-Gibbon	6904
Publicity	John Lawrence	6953
Tours	Susan Heth	0898
	Virginia Penny	2577
Technical	John Hazell	2441

Editor's Email: marie@marieneys.com

OFF ISLAND TOURS 2016

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 Dundarave, Maple Leaf in Lynn Valley, Mandeville Gardens in Burnaby, David Hunter Garden Shops, Vancouver.

Be sure to show your membership card and ask if you receive a discount.

Our visit to Van Dusen Garden on February 29th was a great success. Even the weather cooperated—given the wet spring we've been experiencing. Thanks to all the participants for helping to make it a very enjoyable excursion.

The BIGC visit to Linnaea is next.....Thanks to the efforts of Betty Dhont, on Saturday, April 23 we will enjoy our spring visit to Linnaea Nursery. This opportunity to buy from a wholesaler and visit this fascinating place is open to members only. Arrange your own transportation and arrive at 10.30 that morning.

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 we will visit the private garden of Ted Staunton. This garden has been hand-built over the last twenty years. More details to come. Reserve your place at our April 18th meeting or later.

Finally on Monday, June 13, 2016 we have been invited to visit Sechelt gardens by the Sechelt Garden Club. We are currently still finalizing this tour, but wanted to give you the date now. More details to come. Reserve your place at our April 18th meeting or later.

Tour Co-ordinators

Susan Heth & Virginia Penny

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

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing Address: _____

BOWEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM & VOLUNTEER INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE

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 would be appreciated.

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

Executive Positions:

President _____
Vice-President _____
Secretary _____
Treasurer _____
Newsletter _____
Membership _____
Social _____
Tours _____
Technical _____
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
of Chairs _____

Hosting an Open Garden:

Is there any garden-related topic that is of
particular interest to you?
