

# CUTTINGS

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE BOWEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

NOVEMBER 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.***

## 2015 UPCOMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

**Monday, November 16, 2015 General Meeting and Guest Speakers Wynn Nielsen & Scott Stevenson**

**Monday, December 7th, 2015—Annual BIGC Christmas Party ...details to follow but save the date!**

## GENERAL MEETING & SPEAKER SERIES

**MONDAY, NOV 16, 2015**

### Landscaping and Gardening Over Septic Fields

On November 16, 2015 the Bowen Island Garden club welcomes two guest speakers, Wynn Nielsen, landscape/garden designer on Bowen Island, and Scott Stevenson, who owns and operates Bowen Island Septic Services. Both Wynn and Scott will bring their respective expertise to this presentation topic of gardening with a septic system, something that presents challenges to many home owners on Bowen Island.

Scott, a registered on-site Waste-water (septic systems) practitioner and fully accredited expert in the installation and repairs of septic systems, will discuss the technology associated with septic systems. He will inform us about the differences between old and new systems, installation, maintenance, recognition and consequences of malfunction. He will also discuss Provincial and Health regulations that govern the installation and maintenance of septic systems.

Wynn, a landscape/garden designer who specializes in naturalistic gardens will focus on the challenges and aesthetics of landscaping and gardening with septic fields.

She will discuss how you can transform a septic field into a landscape asset without compromising the septic field. Although there are challenges and more don'ts than dos Wynn hopes to broaden our knowledge of the potential that exists for us to improve the aesthetics of our septic fields. Yes, they don't have to be a simple piece of lawn! Specific no risk and low risk plants will be identified as safe to use as well as references for us to use in the future. Wynn will also touch on some cautions and limitations of gardening and land use with septic fields (e.g., growing edibles). Also, specific plants that should never be planted near or on a septic field will be identified.

This is a golden opportunity for all Bowen Island newcomers who have never had a septic system to acquaint themselves with both the technology of septic systems and how to garden effectively with them. And for those who are not new to living and gardening with a septic system this is an opportunity to update your knowledge with the technology and perhaps motivate you to re landscape your septic field in a more pleasing way.

**Please join us at the Gallery at Artisan Square on Monday Nov 16, 2015 at 1PM. Everyone is welcome. Members no cost and guests only \$ 3.00.**

Linda Barratt, Speakers Director



***Lest we forget!***

## PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

Autumn is certainly upon us. The leaves are mostly off the trees, my fruits and veggies are pretty well finished (except for the kale and potatoes), and only a few flowers are still blooming. The bearded iris I mentioned last month has opened and is still blooming—the first bud opened the day of our October General Meeting so I brought it along to cheer us all up! My Pink Dawn Viburnum and my winter blooming Mahonia are in bloom as well—seems to me that's a bit early?

Are you busily potting up your contributions for our 2016 Plant Sale yet? This is really ideal time of year for potting up those biennial seedlings and for dividing overgrown perennials. There's a lovely pile of topsoil and a good collection of pots, especially the one-gallon size, waiting for you on my drive-way—486 Melmore Road.

Every spring Bowen is awash with brilliant daffodils along our roadsides. This year, for the first time, the Muni has joined in on our project. So yet again we thank Sheila Webster for coordinating a very successful daffodil and bulb sale! I have to confess my bulbs are still sitting in bags in the shed—time to get planting! Many years ago I gardened in Saskatchewan where gardening shuts down for several months in the winter. Here we are blessed (or is it cursed?) with winters that usually make it possible to garden most of the year. Last year it was January by the time I got my bulbs in—must do better this year!

Meanwhile, happy gardening to you all.

Sharon  
BIGC President

## A NOTE OF APPEAL FROM SHEILA WEBSTER PAST PRESIDENT & NOMINATIONS CHAIR

After appeals from both our President & Editor of Cuttings, plus my own appeal at the last meeting, we have not been inundated with nominations or volunteers for the coming vacant positions on the board. In fact, nary a one, not a single person wishing to become more active in the Garden Club!

At the very least we need a new Secretary and Membership Director. The former is not onerous & requires typing minutes of 10 meetings per year. Membership is more onerous & involves keeping track of memberships attending monthly meetings & open gardens (if we have them). If the Director is unable to attend they can appoint an alternate to sit in.

In addition, both the Social & Speakers Directors would like to have somebody to train up for 2017. As well, both incumbents of Open Gardens wish to retire. All of these positions are important to the running of the club. We love offering Open Gardens and the Speaker Series. We would hate to see them fall by the wayside.

Participating in the Board & active running of the Club is rewarding on many levels I know it made moving to Bowen & meeting people very much easier for me as a complete newcomer & opened interesting doors for me. Please let Sharon, Pam, Nadyne or myself know if you are interested or know anybody whose arm is available for twisting...please call us ... our phone numbers are on page 4.



## OFF ISLAND TOURS

We are planning a tour for February or March to help lighten the winter. More on that in the new year. In the meantime, we want to get a bit more information on what Garden Club members like to do on our tours.

### Please Take our Survey

We have prepared a short survey to find out what you want for off-island tours. The survey is located at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P5VPJD3>

Please use this link to complete the survey.

Thanks so much!

Susan Heth and Virginia Penny

BIGC Tour Co-ordinators

## SOCIAL NEWS

First off we would like to thank all those who have volunteered to bring baking to our General Meetings. We really appreciate those members who take the time to help out in this way.

Horrors! Last month we erred in the date for our Christmas Party—it will not be on a Thursday! The date should be **Monday, December 7**, so please ensure that you have the correct date in your calendar. It would be a shame if anyone missed it! As in the past, the Party will be at the Tunstall Bay Clubhouse from noon to 2 p.m. And also as in the past, members are asked to bring either a savoury or a sweet (finger food only, please) to share. Nadyne will also need a few volunteers to help with the set-up and clean-up. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at the November General Meeting, but volunteers are also invited to phone Nadyne (0557) to offer assistance. Thank you all!

It seems to be inevitable that every time we have these parties one or more party-goers forget to take home their serving dishes.

Maybe some people leave early and forget to arrange to pick up their dish? Nadyne has a collection of unclaimed plates from both last year's Christmas Party and the 2015 Summer Garden Party. She would love to find the owners! Any chance you are one of the forgetful ones?



### Annual Christmas Party -Monday, Dec 7

**(12noon to 2pm) -Tunstall Bay Clubhouse**  
**Pot Luck—bring a savory or sweet dish.**

### Co-Ordinator Needed for Annual May Plant Sale

We are all familiar with the Bowen Garden Club Plant Sale held each spring. Most of us are planning ahead and potting up our contributions to the 2016 Sale—right?

Your executive is also looking for volunteers to help coordinate both the Plant Sale and the accompanying Raffle. We have detailed manuals that lay out the jobs that need to be done. We just need a couple of volunteers to implement it all! If you have any questions, suggestions or wish to help out, please contact any member of the executive for further information.

Thanks everyone,

– Sharon

## MEMBERSHIP

This is a friendly reminder that all Garden Club memberships will be due for renewal January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Early Bird discount of \$15.00 will apply until the end of February. After that time, the dues will become \$20.00, which is the annual cost of a membership for two family members residing in the same household.

I am now accepting renewals from those members who will be away between now and the end of February. If you wish to take advantage of the Early Bird rate, please fill in the membership form attached to this newsletter, and either bring it to the next general meeting or mail it, along with your cheque made out to the Bowen Island Garden Club, to P.O. Box 271, Bowen Island, B.C., V0N 1G0. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope so that I can send you your card and receipt.

Thank you, in advance, for being prompt with your renewal.

Pam Miller, Membership

### 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  
GardenWorks in North Vancouver  
2 trips to Linnea Nurseries in Langley  
NOTE: ASK if discount is given before shopping, you may need to show your

### 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
<i>Cuttings</i>	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

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[www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca](http://www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca)

[www.facebook.com/bowenislandgardenclub](https://www.facebook.com/bowenislandgardenclub)



**Come  
and Join  
the BOARD!  
of the  
BOWEN ISLAND  
GARDEN CLUB**

**We'd love  
to have you!**



The **Board** consists of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

In addition, the Past President and several Directors sit on the Board. The Directors are responsible for: Membership, Speakers, Open Gardens, Tours, Publicity, Hospitality (Social), Technical Services and Editing *Cuttings*, our newsletter.

**The following is a very brief summary of the major responsibilities of each position:**

**Membership:** soliciting new members and renewing memberships for those returning; reminding us when our membership fees are due; keeping track of members and their contact information and informing the *Cuttings* editor and Technical Services Director of any changes; as well as any other Board member who may need contact information for a member; attend General Meetings and Open Gardens.

**Speakers:** seek out potential speakers for our eight General Meetings; contact them to see if arrangements can be made; present ideas to the Board for feedback; prepare and submit for publication information on the speakers and their topics; assist speakers with arrangements for travel to Bowen; introduce speakers at the General Meetings.

**Open Gardens:** seek out potential Bowen gardens that may be of interest to the members and other Bowen residents; present ideas to the Board for feedback; assist the hosts to prepare for the Open Garden of name tags for members.

**Editor *Cuttings*:** in addition to compiling, editing and distributing monthly issues of *Cuttings*, the Editor maintains the Club Gmail account, [bicuttings@gmail.com](mailto:bicuttings@gmail.com), and is responsible for updating both the Club Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/bowenislandgardenclub>, and the Club website: [www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca](http://www.bowenislandgardenclub.ca).

**Tours:** seek out gardens and other appropriate locations off Bowen that may be of interest to the members; present ideas to the Board for feedback; make all arrangements for the tour, including travel arrangements, funding, etc.

**Publicity:** be the contact person for advertising various Garden Club activities that may be of interest to residents at large.

**Hospitality (Social):** arrange for refreshments at General Meetings, Open Gardens, the Christmas Party and Summer Garden Party, and where necessary, at other Club functions.

**Technical Services:** this person is a jack of all trades and is responsible for technical assistance for presentations at the General Meetings; for preparation and posting of signs for Club activities, including the Plant Sale and the Open Gardens; preparation .

**Should you wish to submit your name for a position President, Vice –President, Secretary, Treasurer or one of the Directors (as above) please feel free to contact any of the Board. The vote will take place at the 2016 January Annual General Meeting.**

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?**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_