

Over The Garden Wall

Issue #4

April, 2018

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President's Message

Spring is Sprung!!

Well almost – my daffodils are up and some cherry trees are in blossom – even though there is still a chill in the air and just too many grey and rainy days. I just returned from Australia, enjoying their heat. Even though it is the end of their summer, it was still in the high thirties some days! It was wonderful to see the tropical plants everywhere.



I particularly loved this “lipstick” bamboo with the colourful stems. There was actually a floral art show the day I was at the Cairns Botanical Gardens and they had such interesting arrangements because of the wonderful plants they had to work

with. But it is nice to be home in my own little corner of the world, enjoying the beautiful west coast plants. That is one thing about travelling – it is always nice to come home and be thankful for what we have here in Canada both physically and socially. We are so lucky to live here!

Plants for the Sale

We can look forward to more plants emerging



over the next month, seeing what survived and what has come back in spades. If you have some plants that are out-growing their space, be sure to grab a pot and dig some up for our plant sale. They need time to settle in the pot, so now is the time to do it. Mary is busy making plans for our annual

Plant and Bake Sale and she needs our help to provide plants and helping hands.

Stepping Out

We also have the car-pooling trip to the Bradner Show on April 13 to look forward too. They have the most stunning display of daffodils you will ever see. It is hard to imagine there can be so many different types – from white to all shades of yellow and orange. If you need a ride, just let us know. I hope to see you there.

Spring Show

Now I'm home I have to get to work on my arrangement for the Spring Mall Show. The Floral Art Group are racking their brains to come up with just the right things to put into their Dish Gardens. Come and help out on April 28 or drop by to see what our group created.

*Melanie Rantucci,
President*

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Sheila Lovatt

1925-2018



We have lost a very dedicated friend in our Garden Club. Sheila joined us in 1988 and was a faithful worker in many ways. Becoming an honorary life member was a thrill for Sheila who was our treasurer for 9 years, bake sale supervisor for 5, and sunshine convenor for 4, plus an ardent gardener who loved sharing her plants. Very active in

flower shows, Sheila was a constant winner and was always available to help beginners. Also a talented artist, who painted several lovely pictures for raffles in our club, as well as a really thoughtful donation of one for a raffle with proceeds to Fort McMurray during their recent disaster. It was a great thrill for her to receive a thank you from them.

A celebration of life is to be held on April 23rd, at 2 pm. This was to be Sheila's 93rd birthday, and will be held in the chapel at Evergreen Baptist Home, 1550 Oxford St. White Rock.

Donna Lawson, Parlour Show

Schedule Reminder

New Forms

Please remember to use the new entry forms for our Spring Show at the April meeting. Entry lists must be handed in to the Secretary no later than 1:30 and Judging will begin at 1:45. Also use the new entry tickets to be placed under your exhibit. Entries will be marked 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, and Rosettes and Trophies will be awarded at the meeting. Thank You.

Donna Lawson, Parlour Show

Plants Plus

April Donations

We never know what will take someone's fancy.... **April donation**

suggestions: Tools, watering cans, pea netting, stakes, rakes, garden art, seeds, herbs like parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme, garlic, plant stands, garden mirrors, garden windows, decorative pots, spring bouquets and arrangements, dahlia tubers.



Garden Mirrors

Plant & Bake Sale

A poster advertising our Plant and Bake Sale is attached and we ask that members forward the poster to all your friends and acquaintances in Surrey, Delta, Langley, etc. We're always pleased and surprised how far people will travel to see us.

At the April meeting on the 10th, there will be a sign-up sheet for you to indicate how you would like to volunteer for the sale (on May 19th) this year..... Bring plants, bring baking, bring flowers and greenery, bring garden decor, **Bring Money**, help set up the hall, arrange flowers, sell raffle tickets, price plants, organize plants on the selling tables, help in the kitchen, help clean up...lots to choose from.

Mary Openshaw, Plants Plus

Land Art Project

Share Your Ideas

For those members who missed the March meeting, this is a brief explanation of our Land Art project. We will display these designs when the Gibson's Garden Club visits us on July 25.

Land Art is the creation of artistic forms using materials found in nature, i.e. leaves, any cones, twigs, pebbles, sand, shells, driftwood, bark, rock, etc. These forms can be statues, wreaths,

wind chimes, planters, anything decorative, but must be made from nature.

If you are interested in a get together in May to share ideas, and then a couple of workshops in June, please let me know as soon as possible (lawson.g@telus.net 604-538-8858).

You will find a lot of ideas if you Google Land Art, or Garden Art. Hope to hear from you soon.

Donna Lawson, Parlour Show

Winners

Name Tag Draw

Lee Blackmore was wearing her name tag and, in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day, won a Oxalis or Flowering Shamrock.

The Oxalis is a great houseplant, easy to care for, and one of the few houseplants that actually blooms all year long. It has clover shaped leaves that fold up at night. The 5-petaled flowers appear on tall stems above the foliage and may be white, pink or red, depending on the species. They will grow to 6"-12" in height.

Light - Oxalis prefer bright indirect light. They can tolerate some direct sun.

Water - Allow the surface of the soil to dry between waterings. This plant does not like "wet feet" or soggy soil.

Temperature - Cool to average (55-65°F) nighttime temperatures are good, and not warmer than 75°F during the day.

Fertilizer - Oxalis are not heavy feeders. You can feed every 2 weeks in the spring and summer with a balanced liquid fertilizer diluted in half.

Pinch off any and all spent flowers by reaching into the foliage and carefully pinching (not pulling) the stem off the plant. By removing the spent buds, you encourage the plant to send up more flowers and leaves.

Shamrock plants may go dormant from time to time. If a perfectly healthy plant that you have had for a while seems to be dying back- don't despair. Reduce the watering and let the plant dry out and die back on its own. Let the plant

rest for a month or so and let it dry out completely. As soon as you begin to see it starting to sprout again, begin to water and resume normal care. Soon you will have a new mound of foliage and a new plant.

Iris Peacosh, Member

Other plants were won by members who were wearing their name tags. I was pulling the names and when I pulled my own name, I got excited and failed to keep track of the winners - my apologies.

John Davidson, Newsletter

50/50 Raffle

Ken Parker won \$52.

Marilyn Gillan, Raffle

Plant Sale

Rhododendron Society



PLANT SALE

RHODODENDRON and COMPANION PLANTS

APRIL 21 2018

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Langley Mennonite Fellowship Church
At
20997 40th Ave, Langley

Sponsored By:
Fraser South Rhododendron Society

The poster features a small image of yellow and orange flowers on the left and a large, detailed illustration of a yellow and orange rhododendron flower on the right.

Submitted by Ken Parker, Equipment

Marketplace

Gardener Wanted

Part time gardener wanted for a commercial building in the village of Crescent Beach. Excellent opportunity for someone who wants some extra pocket money. Requires you to use your own tools. The basics have been planted,

just need to prune and weed when needed and water when required. Set your own hours. I did this job for five years but due to a back problem, I am unable to continue. If interested, call me for more information. Collene Ford WRDGC member 778-294-7339.

Corporate Ads



Art Knapp

Phone: 604.596.9201
 Fax: 604.596.9240
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 Surrey, BC, V3Z0L2

reduction in gun violence, burglaries and nuisances, with the latter two falling by 22 percent and 30 percent respectively

- In neighborhoods below the poverty line, the transformed lots reduced overall crime by more than 13 percent and gun violence by nearly 30 percent
- Residents also reported significant benefits, including feeling 58 percent less fearful of going outside due to safety concerns

You can find the full article using this link:

<https://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2018/03/13/greening-vacant-lots-reduces-crime-violence.aspx>

Submitted by John Davidson, Newsletter



Cedar Rim Nursery
 Purveyors of Unique Horticultural Specimens
 ESTABLISHED 1978
 PO Box 175, Milner, BC V0X 1T0
 (Location: 7024 Glover Road, Langley)
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 sales@cedarrim.com • www.cedarrim.com

John Davidson, Newsletter

Bragging Rights



Submitted by Jan Zimmerman, Treasurer

Juicy Bits

Gardens Reduce Crime

- In U.S. cities, about 15 percent of land sits vacant or abandoned; these spaces are associated with increased crime and stress to residents, especially in low-income neighborhoods
- Researchers "greened" abandoned lots, cleaning up trash and debris, grading the land, planting grass and trees to create a park-like setting and installing a low wooden fence around the perimeter to signal that the lot was being cared for
- Significant benefits were reported due to the greened lots, including a significant

Next Meeting

April 10th, at 2pm

Doors Open at 1pm

Cranley Place Hall, 2141 Cranley Drive, Surrey.

Feel free to bring home made goodies to spice up our tea/coffee break for the members.

