

Over The Garden Wall

March, 2019

Patti Wolczuk, President 778-574-1188 Linda Martin, Secretary 604-541-6315 Lorna Bury, Treasurer 604-531-0216

President's Message

Snow??

Wasn't the snow lovely.when it first fell? So light and fluffy! Wasn't the cold air crisp.....for the first few days? How quickly 'snow' and 'cold' became unwelcome! But on the bright side, it's almost over. The daffodils and tulips are up several inches. The camellias and rhodos are budding up; even the irises and day lilies are above ground, sun seeking. It is going to be a very different spring; all the plants will be growing rapidly to make up for lost time, once the temperatures rise a bit. And we on your Executive are getting ready for spring, too.

Show Schedule

Donna has the Show Schedule ready. Given the late spring, that was probably quite a challenge to know what plants might be ready to be featured in April. She also has some great ideas for a special event this year, too.

Plants +

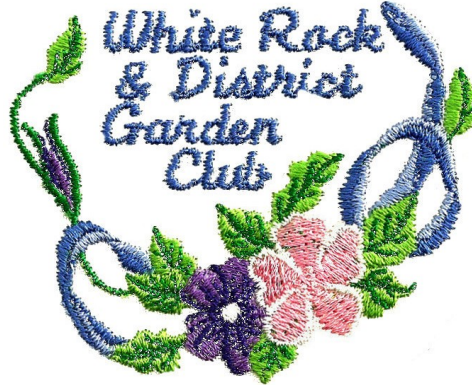
The Plants Plus corner will be going **Green** for the March meeting. Mary tells me that she has started her tomato seeds. Do you have any plants started yet? It is only 10 short busy weeks until our giant plant sale and we will need some 'giant' plants to sell.

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Lorna, our Treasurer, says our financial position is good due to all your hard work. A special thanks to Linda Bradley who completed the audit for 2018.

Club Promotion

We are looking for some new avenues to



publicize our Club and our Plant Sale, fresh signage and new places to promote the sale and our Club. All suggestions are welcome. As the Club is without a Publicity person, I am asking you all to help a bit. Word of mouth is still best; please invite your friends to join us. I had an opportunity to promote our Club at the White Rock

PROBUS meeting and was pleased that a few people came up after asking for more information about us. With luck, possibly some more gardeners to welcome.

Speakers +

Margrit has a special speaker planned for March from Wild Birds Unlimited and an interesting bus trip on June 27th. Hold that date for more fun. There are many other garden related events such as the Master Gardeners Spring Affair on March 31st. Collene, our vice President, also lets us know about events like Seedy Saturdays, as she is involved with the Seed Bank. A quick tip from her is to choose seeds labeled OP for open pollination to attract bees to your garden.

Busy Meeting

March is going to be a busy and interesting meeting. Due to our February meeting cancellation, we will conduct the Website vote in March (renew your proxys with Collene if necessary); we have a speaker, Plants Plus, new members to welcome and some new events

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and business to discuss so looking forward to seeing you there on Tuesday, March 12th.

Patti Wolczuk, President

Plants +

What to donate to Plants Plus this month:

Books (best sellers), jewelry,
seeds, house plants
Seeds
St. Patricks Day décor
Jewelry (150 pieces already
received, all new)
Books, best sellers please
Seeds, bouquets.



Plant Sale Coming May 11th

- Bring extra pots (clean) to meeting, 2", 4", 6"
- Donate baskets, cellophane, ribbons, and gifties for the Mothers' Day baskets
- Time to plant seeds for plant sale

Shamrock Plant



Shamrock Houseplants: How To Grow A Potted Shamrock Plant
<https://www.gardening-knowhow.com/houseplants/shamrock/growing-shamrock-plants.htm>

(Oxalis regnellii)

Mary Openshaw, Plants Plus

BC Council of Garden Clubs

Report on Visioning Workshop

On February 23rd, Mary Openshaw and I attended a Visioning Workshop hosted by the BC Council of Garden Clubs. The intent was to bring together a group of people from member garden clubs, and explore their ideas on what the BC Council of Garden Clubs should be as an organization. There were 17 people attending from around the province, including Castlegar, Quadra Island and areas in and around Vancouver. The President of BCCGC, Lorna Fraser, hosted the session, and

second Vice President, Eric Hees, lead the group through the various activities over the day. We broke into groups to do a SWOT analysis, considering Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats. We then did an exercise where we imagined what a newspaper article about BCCGC might say about accomplishments, awards, programs, etc. in 2025, which resulted in some interesting ideas about what the organization could become. The next activity was coming up with a Vision Statement for the organization and a list of values that it represents. This resulted in a statement that will be presented at the spring meeting of BCCGC for members to consider. It also lead to some ideas on initiatives that BCCGC might take on, such as developing a list of resources that members could share with each other's organizations, which I agreed to start developing. Eric did a wonderful job bringing all attendees along to contribute and come to agreement. All in all, Mary and I found it an interesting and invigorating day. At the workshop, Lorna Fraser, the President of BCCGC also put out a plea for a secretary for BCCGC and I agreed to fulfill this role. If any WRDGC members are interested in learning more about this session, or about BCCGC, Mary or I would be welcome to discuss it.

Melanie Rantucci, Past President

An Invitation To an Affair

Vancouver Master Gardeners invite all gardeners to their yearly Spring Affair, March 31st, 10-4 at M.J. Fox Theater, Burnaby. A day long event with a marketplace with plants and sea soil plus four well know speakers. For more information call Collene 778-294-7339.

Collene Ford, Vice President

Volunteer Needed

Publicity Director

Sadly our Publicity Director has resigned and so we need a new person to fill this role and join the Executive. The duties of this position in our constitution are as follows:

"The Publicity Director shall be proactively responsible for all advertising required in the local newspaper, and various magazines and websites. Advertising shall be prepared as needed for monthly meetings and for functions and annual fundraisers. They shall also arrange for the making and distribution of posters for display at any sales and events held in the year. They shall give a Report to the Vice-President for the December Meeting." ' "

This requires a little time setting things up for the year, as well as being part of the club Executive, participating in discussion and decisions in the running of the club, meeting on the last Tuesday of each month (August to May). Of course if you have new ideas for promoting our club that would be an added bonus. Each of our members have something to contribute, depending on their skills and interests. If this might be an area you are interested in, please join the Executive. The whole Club will Thank You.

Melanie Rantucci, Past President

Website Vote

Proxy

If anyone cannot attend the General Meeting on March 12th, they can call or email Collene Ford (778-294-7339 cclfd@shaw.ca) and state who will be their designate for the Website Vote.

Collene Ford, VP

Juicy Bit

What's a Rhizosphere

Think of the rhizosphere as a plant's biochemical footprint: It's the region of soil immediately surrounding the roots, typically extending out about 1 millimeter in all directions. But the rhizosphere's exact dimensions can vary by species and even climate, reflecting the roots' activity. As they soak up water and nutrients from the surrounding earth, the roots also secrete compounds such as amino acids and sugars into this active zone. Microorganisms living within the rhizosphere feed off those secretions, and in exchange, provide the

plant with additional nourishment.

Lacy Schley, Discover Magazine, March 2019

Submitted by John Davidson, Newsletter

Your Newsletter

Make a Contribution

It's easy. Give me any information, verbal, written, pictures or email. You can contact me at our meetings, by phone 604-538-0496 or by email john@greycastle.net.

John Davidson, Newsletter

Marketplace

Advertisements

Club Members can place an ad in our newsletter or send an email ad between newsletters to our members for only \$5. Non members can also place ads or email ads for \$10. Non members must be vouched for by a club member. This space will let members know you have something to sell that may interest them. If the item is free, then there is no ad fee. Any sales are private between the seller and the buyer since our constitution does not allow sales for private profit at our meetings. All ad fees go to the club.

John Davidson, Newsletter

Next Meeting

March 12th, 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. Remember to bring your own cup to save money and the environment.

