

Sechelt Garden Club Newsletter

www.secheltgardenclub.com

NOVEMBER 2012

President:	Charmaine Harris
Past President:	June Meyer
Vice President:	Mardie Campbell
Secretary/Webmaster:	Lilli McGinn
Treasurer:	Lorraine Blakeman
Newsletter:	Sandra Friedman
Membership:	Mary Rowles
Speakers :	Sandra Markley
Tours:	Moira Leishman
Directors at large:	Christi Blackman, Carol Steedman

Next Meeting: Monday, November 26th at 7:30pm in the Seaside Centre

Christi Blackman, Lorraine Blakeman and Nattanya Wardel will demonstrate their Christmas Crafts Surprise. All three women are not only creative but they are also very entertaining.

Reminder: please wear your name tag and bring your coffee/tea cup to the meeting!

Membership: We now have 159 members which includes 152 members and 7 Lifetime Members. You are invited to **renew your membership now** for the 2013 calendar year. To avoid line-ups, drop your cheque off at the check-in table at the meeting or mail it to Mary Rowles, Your membership card and receipt will be ready for you at the January meeting. If you want them mailed to you, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Cheques for \$15 for individual or \$20 for family membership should be made out to the Sechelt Garden Club.

Rental of Equipment: For information about our rental policy and fees for our digital Power Point projector, contact Sandra Markley.

Volunteers needed to set up and/or put away chairs. Come early and leave late!

Annual General Meeting Elections

November is our Annual General Meeting. We will be electing a President, Vice-President and Treasurer. While Mardie Campbell and Moira Leishman are currently standing for President and Treasurer, any member can run for one of the three positions. Please contact Charmaine Harris if you would like to put your name forward. According to Roberts Rules of Order we will bring this procedure up again at our AGM, so there will be time for answers to any questions you might have.

**The Sechelt Garden Club
invites you to attend our
Annual Christmas Luncheon
at the Sunshine Coast Golf Club
3206 Highway 101
on December 16, 2012
12 p.m.**

Members: \$15.00 Guests: \$30.00

Buffet – Fun – Prizes AND Surprise Entertainment!

Tickets are available at our November meeting or from Lorraine Blakeman

Potting-Up

Twenty-four people attended the two Potting-Up sessions that were held in October. Many, many thanks to Moira Leishman for hosting the event, to the people who helped her set up her garage for the sessions, those who provided the refreshments and those who came out to Pot-Up. They are: Moira Leishman, Christi Blackman, Anita Paulin, Carol Steedman, Kay Ogawa, Mardie Campbell, Charmaine Harris, Sharon Shorter, Sandy Friedman, Connie Chapman, Pam Richmond, June Meyer, Edwin and Pianka Leung, Joan Milina, Sandy Markley, Sherri Laine, Lorraine Blakeman, Susan and Bill Birch, Ardath and Michael Hoole, Ed and Pat King.

We will be holding another Potting-Up session in the spring. **We still need more plants!**

UBC Apple Festival

	<p>23 members attended the UBC Apple Festival in October. They tasted 65 out of 68 apples, wandered through the incredible vegetable gardens and brought apple trees home with them.</p> <p>The Sechelt Garden Club Award for Courage goes to Anita Paulin who attempted and completed the Skywalk! Nice Going, Anita!!!</p>	
		

November Garden “To Do” List

- Still time to plant trees, shrubs and perennials and to divide or move peonies. Remember to mulch. If you are dividing perennials, please save some for the plant sale!
- Bulbs will do better if you get them in before December. Add a little Organic Bone Meal.
- Fertilize trees and shrubs once the leaves have turned colour and/or fallen off.
- Water evergreen trees and shrubs really well before the first frost.
- Stop fertilizing your indoor plants since they now use less water because of the low light.
- Delay all unnecessary pruning until late winter or early spring, just before bud break.
- Rake up leaves, run over them with the lawn mower and use them as mulch.
- Clean, repair and sharpen all your gardening tools.
- Empty and wash hanging baskets with soap and mild bleach before storing for winter.

(Thanks to Bob Tuckey from *The Natural Gardener*)



Tips From the Garden Shed

So Easy to Compost by Elizabeth McNeill

November is a good time to start composting as fallen leaves make excellent brown material for a compost pile. Mixed with green material (vegetable and fruit kitchen scraps) you can get a good mix of the required brown and green material needed. Add shredded paper (which is considered brown material).

Sometimes people are reluctant to have a compost pile because it can attract unwanted animals and insects. Don't use meat, fish or seafood which would make your compost pile a buffet for critters. If you turn your compost often, animals will be even more discouraged. And by turning more frequently, you add more oxygen to the pile thereby creating top soil more quickly.

Many of our neighbours don't know how to or don't want to compost for a variety of reasons. If you compost, invite them to drop their fallen leaves into your compost pile. In that way, they won't burn them, causing air pollution, or have them carried away in plastic bags to the land fill. What is garbage today is top soil tomorrow.

Some neighbours might be interested in composting but don't know how to get started. Be a good neighbour (and a good gardener) and help them. By composting, we're closer to zero waste, and we're gaining lots of free top soil.

These websites offer good composting information:

www.howtocompost.org

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZAMy_ZJ0Xa8

www.compostinstructions.com/

Mulching

Mulching is the term used for layers of organic material added to the soil. Mulching materials range from compost, grass clippings, manure, leaves, wood chips (not cedar or treated wood), pine needles, straw, hay, coffee grounds and even weeds with no seeds. A three-inch (7.5 cm) layer of mulch is usually applied.

Mulch your garden beds every fall, immediately after the final weeding, cut-back and clean-up is done. It's the last thing to do in the garden before 'putting it to bed' for the winter. Before you mulch, replace plant labels so you know what plants are where.

(From *A Year on the Garden Path* by Carolyn Herriot)

If you would like to write an article or contribute information to the newsletter please email Sandy Friedman.