

Sechelt Garden Club Newsletter

www.secheltgardenclub.com

NOVEMBER 2014

Co-President:	Christie Blackman	740-6821
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Membership:	Barbara Peters	885-9831
Speakers :	Ardath Hoole	740-5774
Correspondence:	Carol Steedman	741-0833
Webmaster:	Karon Kosof	

Next Meeting: Monday, November 24th at 7:30pm in the Seaside Centre.

Horticulturists Maggi Thors and Jill Hemmings from Deluxe Landscape will talk about *How to make Indoor and Outdoor Winter Containers*. Maggie will demonstrate winter décor in outdoor pots and Jill will make an inside centrepiece for the table.

Please wear your name tag, bring your coffee/tea cup and *don't* park at Gilligans.

Membership: We are now collecting membership dues for 2015—\$17 for individuals and \$25 for families. Please bring cheques made out to the *Sechelt Garden Club* to the check-in table at the meeting or mail them to Barbara Peters at Box 2236, Sechelt, V0N 3A0. If you want your membership card and receipt mailed to you, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

**It is with sadness that the Sechelt Garden Club mourns
the passing of Sharon Shorter and Donna Pretty.**

Our condolences to their families.

Christmas Lunch

Our annual fabulous Christmas Lunch will be held on Sunday, December 14th
at the Sunshine Coast Golf and Country Club.

Cost is \$15 per member and \$25 per guests.

Tickets for the event will be available at our meeting on November 24th.

To reserve tickets contact Carol at 741-0833 or carol.steedman@gmail.com
until December 6 and Lorraine at 740-5918 or blakemanlb@telus.net after
December 6.

POTTING-UP



Ron Knight

Many thanks to Ardath Hoole for hosting the Potting-Up. It was a great success:
Thanks to Ruth Rodgers, Penny Lyle, Carla and Ron Knight, Gesa Reid, Rae Anderson, Cathy Belfry, Phyllis Argyle, Christi Blackman, Charmaine Harris, Ardath Hoole, Edwin and Pianka Leung, Pat Smit and Jackie Thompson for coming out in the rain.



Christi Blackman, Charmaine Harris



Kay Ogawa, Cathy Belfry, Pat Smit

Thanks to Ron and Carla Knight, Penny Lyle, Frances Ostergaard, Mary Rowles, Lorraine Gallant, Jackie Thompson and Michael and Eugenia Stephenson for donating plants and to Charmaine and Christi for digging most of them up, to Ruth Rodgers for taking these photos and to the 'foster parents' who will care for the plants over the winter.



Carla Knight

NOVEMBER Gardening 'TO DO' List

- There is still time to plant trees, shrubs and perennials. Mulch them well once they are planted. This is also an excellent time to move or divide your peonies.
- Get those bulbs in. Your bulbs will do much better if you can get them in before Christmas. Don't forget to add a little organic Bone Meal with each bulb.
- Apply a good organic lawn fertilizer such as Gaia Green Turf & Lawn Blend.
- Fertilize your trees and shrubs once the leaves have turned colour and/or fallen off.
- Water all your evergreen trees and shrubs really well before the first hard frost. Even a few days without rain will dry out your evergreens and can lead to 'winter burn' or even death.
- If you saved your amaryllis bulb from last year now is the time to bring it in, replot it, water it well and place in a bright room. You should have wonderful blooms by Christmas.
- Stop fertilizing your indoor plants. They use less water and fertilizer due to the lower light levels.
- Delay all unnecessary pruning until late winter or early spring, just before bud break. Your plants will heal faster when your plant is growing the most vigorously.
- Rake up leaves. For a great mulch for your garden run over them with the mower first then spread them over your garden beds.
- Clean, repair and sharpen all your gardening tools.
- Hanging baskets should be emptied and washed thoroughly with soap and mild bleach solution before being put away for the winter.



Tips From the Garden Shed.

Cultivating a Garden Club

Every month this newsletter contains an article on tending and cultivating our gardens. There have been articles on improving soil, planting seeds, on cover crops, on companion planting and on what plants to put in and when and how to divide them and on fertilizers and manure. Just like our gardens, our Garden Club also needs to be tended, cultivated and nurtured.

The Sechelt Garden Club is made up of the Executive consisting of the Co-Chairs, Secretary and Treasurer, four Directors and over a hundred members. The Past President serves in an advisory capacity. As you can see by the mast head of the newsletter, every Director and Executive member has a 'job'. When times are good and there are lots of volunteers, the Garden Club flourishes. Just look at last year's Christmas lunch, the Plant Sale in May and the Strawberry Tea in June. When we run out of volunteers, the Directors and members of the Executive end up doing most of the work and subsequently end up with burnout. The Garden Club wilts. Instead of running to Salish Soil or to the nurseries on the Coast as we do to nurture our gardens, we turn to our members to volunteer to nurture our Garden Club.

The benefits of volunteering are enormous. If you are new to the Coast or new to gardening, volunteering is a great way to meet new people with shared interests. It can also be scary. The first time we go to a meeting it's hard not to have those niggling fears: What if I have to sit by myself, what if no one talks to me? Volunteering for specific jobs like potting-up makes it easier to bridge the gaps because working together provides us with the opportunity to get to know someone else over time.

Volunteering allows us to build on skills we already have, share our existing skills and/or learn new ones. The Sechelt Garden Club is made of diverse gardeners of different levels of experience and expertise. We have Master Gardeners, long time experienced gardeners and beginners on what for someone like me can be a long learning curve. What we have in common is our love of gardening and our willingness to share our skills and knowledge and to continuously acquire new knowledge.

While volunteering can provide a healthy boost to our self-confidence, self-esteem, and life satisfaction, we all come with self-doubt. What if I do it wrong? What if I make a mistake? How can I take on being on the committee of the Christmas lunch if I've never done that before? Sometimes our self-doubt wipes out all of the other things we have done well in other areas. When we can move beyond the self-doubt and the need to do everything perfectly even if we have never done this before, we can open the door for learning, growth and excitement. We don't have to be the chair of the committee, we can start off being a member.

TAKE A RISK — PUT YOUR NAME FORWARD AND VOLUNTEER!

Sell raffle tickets at the meeting. Contact Charmaine Harris at daylily@live.ca or Christi Blackman at chris_blackman@dccnet.com.

Set up and take down chairs. Contact Charmaine or Christi.

Join the Refreshment Crew. Contact Pat Smit at psmit.smit@gmail.com or 741-9791.

Become a part of the Audio/Visual Crew. Set up the PowerPoint presentations and take charge of the sound. Instructions provided. Contact Sandy Friedman at ssfriedman@dccnet.com or 885-5998.

Join the Christmas Lunch Committee and learn from the master mentor, Carol Steedman. Two volunteers are needed. Contact Charmaine or Christi.

Help Barbara Peters at the Membership table at our meetings. Contact Charmaine or Christi.