

# Sechelt Garden Club

Newsletter February 2016

## New Project for our Garden Club

Penny Lyle, our Community Development Director has an exciting project in which our SC Garden Club will be involved. The project is the **Sechelt Trail Bay Riparian Restoration Project**. The plan was written by Moonstone Enterprises, in consultation with David Polster and SeaChange Marine Conservation Society. Moonstone, District of Sechelt, and volunteers will plant Nootka Roses and Dune Grass along the top grassy area of the rock wall on the waterfront. The **purpose** of the planting is to soften and diversify this section of shoreline at Trail Bay, Sechelt, as it has been hardened with the use of rip rap (big chunks of rock). The project is also an educational one which will include students, teachers and parents from the Davis Bay Nature School & West Sechelt Elementary Schools.

**Our role** will be to provide some mentoring of students as to where best to plant the roses and grasses—what size of hole to create for roots systems and how to secure the plants.

**Dates are:**

**March 1 (9:30 to 11:30 & 12:30 to 2:00) & March 2 (9:30 to 11:30)**

The project is weather dependent and although a little rain is OK, wind or torrential rain would not be and in that case dates would be changed.

**If you are interested in participating in this exciting project please contact Penny at [penjon539@gmail.com](mailto:penjon539@gmail.com) to indicate your interest and the dates and times that suit your schedule.**

## Next Meeting

Monday, February 29, 2016  
at the Seaside Centre @  
7:30 P.M.

Please wear your name tag,  
bring your coffee or tea cup  
and

**do not park in the Gilligan's  
parking lot!**

## Panel Discussion On Greenhouses

Bill Terry will moderate a panel discussion on **Greenhouses on February 29th**. We have two expert gardeners, Verity Goodier & Karin Tigges, who will provide valuable information and answer our questions about use of greenhouses. Please see page 2 of the newsletter for their bios. See you there!

## Garden Touring in China



**Laurie Creak** presented pictures and commentary at our January 25th Garden Club meeting of his exciting 16 day tour of gardens in China. He pointed out that the two gardens reviewed include a contrast of colours, but they mostly include trees and shrubs, very little of large displays of flower beds. The artistry of using



shadows of plantings throughout the day enhances spaces. The architecture of the buildings and statues add a very unique look to these gorgeous gardens; one very different statue depicted a huge dragon. Note the interesting doorway into the garden in the picture on the right. **Thanks so much Laurie for sharing these beautiful photos.**

## February 29th—Panel Speakers' Bios

**Karin Tigges** Karin has been a permanent resident of the Sunshine Coast since 1995 and she lives and gardens in Roberts Creek. She inherited her passion for gardening from her father. Karin earned her certificate in applied Horticulture and Design at Capilano College and immediately after graduation she and a fellow graduate worked in a program with Canadian Mental Health clients at the old Park & Tilford Gardens. The program closed but Karin continued to be involved in horticulture. She worked at the GVRD compost Demonstration Garden and did some freelance work doing landscaping and design.

Karin presently enjoys working in her own garden and she is an enthusiastic volunteer at the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden.

**Verity Goodier** Verity has stated that she gained interest in gardening as a result of being homebound with infants, although she shared that her mother was a keen gardener in Britain. She has lived in Roberts Creek for 16 years, the longest in any one house ever. Over the years Verity has learned never to return to previous gardens to view what dreadful mistakes she has made and never to view what the new owners are up to. Verity now gardens almost 3 acres of land and finds it takes up a good portion of her life. Verity loves gardening and finds it therapeutic. Her volunteerism is with SC Botanical Garden and she enjoys arranging the adult education portion of their program. She has recently resigned from being an active member of the Master Gardener Association, after 26 years. It was a program that she enjoyed immensely and from which she gained an extensive knowledge of all aspects of horticulture.

Bring your questions on greenhouses for Karin & Verity – see you on the 29th!



## Counting Down to Potting Up!

### What you can do in the next month before potting up:

**What plants can you share?** Check your garden to see what plants you could donate.

**Plant at home**—Use 1 gallon pots as your smallest size of pot. When you are preparing the pots for planting be sure to fill the whole pot with soil to ensure healthy roots. Plants with a good sized root ball are preferable as that will allow the plant to grow bigger for the May sale. If you need potting up soil mix you can pick some up at Ardath Hoole's— just bring a bucket to fill. Please phone Ardath at 604-740-5774 before you go to pick up soil.

**Be sure to identify what plants you are donating-** Labels will be made at the potting up regarding the type of plant; if they bloom - what colour is the flower, are they sun or shade plants, are they drought tolerant and how tall will they get. Any information you can provide about your plants will be most helpful for making the labels on potting up day.

**Pot donations**—1 to 2 gallon pots or bigger are needed and can be dropped off at Ardath's—please phone first at 604.740.5774.



More information will  
be in the  
March Newsletter

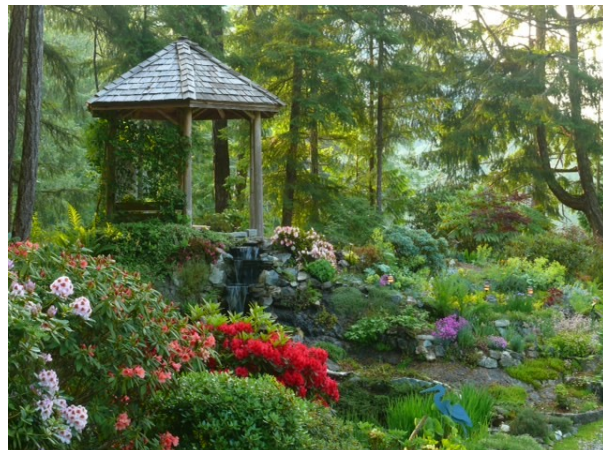
Please reserve March 22 & 23,  
Tuesday & Wednesday from 9:00 to 1:00 P.M.

## How to Install Drip Irrigation in Your Garden

A workshop sponsored by Sechelt Garden Club

Wednesday, April 13th, 9:00 to 12:00 P.M.

This workshop is being presented by **Ron Knight at Caron Gardens**, a beautiful rhododendron display garden on the north shore of Hotel Lake. The gardens cover a full acre and all shrubs, trees, rock gardens, potted plants, hanging baskets, and flower beds are watered automatically by drip irrigation. It's inexpensive, easy to install, saves hours of hand watering, and is exempt from SCRD watering restrictions up to and including Stage 3.



Ron will show you how to design, price, install, and maintain your own drip irrigation system, based on his 20 years of experience. In the classroom, you'll watch colour slides and practice putting together system components. Then you'll tour the garden to see how different kinds of fittings can be used to irrigate every imaginable garden situation. The course will include emailed "handout" sheets, a draw for free plants, an instruction booklet, and coffee and goodies.

**Location:** 4622 Beaumont Road (off Irvine's Landing Road) in Garden Bay

**Course Fee:** \$25 (members)  
\$45 (non-members) including free Sechelt Garden Club membership which is a \$17 value

**Registration:** Completed and paid before April 9th at a SGC meeting  
or by contacting Carol Corbet at: ccorbet@eastlink.ca

**Please bring:** Clipboard, pencil and eraser, rainwear if necessary, and a sketch map of your garden showing house, outside taps, concrete areas, paths, fences, and the different types of planting areas.

**Register now as class size is limited to 18 gardeners**



### Super Volunteers

**Frances and Niels Ostergard** have been **major contributors** to the Annual Garden Club plant sale. They are Lifelong Members of our Garden Club and have belonged to the club for over 30 years. Frances and Niels have been providing tomato plants for our plant sale for over 10 years and Frances shared that all the seeds they plant are harvested by them. Some of the tomato plants that have been big sellers include the *Arne* tomato plant, *Early Anna*, *Beefsteak*, *Bullock*, *Big Red*, *Early Girl* and *Yellow Pair*. Frances and Niels have planted upwards of 300 tomato plants from seed for our sale and the Gibson's plant sale! They are moving out of their Roberts Creek property and will not have the room to continue their annual sale planting. **Sechelt Garden Club applauds their hard work and dedication** for providing us with beautiful and healthy plants every year!

### Thanks so much Frances and Niels

If you would like to **volunteer to plant**, perhaps not 300, but a dozen tomato plants for the sale, several members volunteering to plant will soon add up. Contact Ruth Rodgers, Chair of the Plant Sale committee at ruth.rodgers@gmail.com to indicate your interest and we will get you started with pots that Frances and Niels are contributing.

## FEBRUARY GARDEN 'TO DO' LIST

### -Thanks to Bob Tuckey from the Natural Gardener

- Lift and divide perennials as long as ground isn't frozen
- In case of a late cold spell watch that your pots don't freeze and then collect water on top
- Start seeds of Statice, Dusty Miller, Pinks, Ornamental Peppers, Lobelia, Geranium, Gerbera, Heliotrope, & Petunia etc.
- Increase light and water to geraniums and fuchsias that were brought indoors and went dormant.
- Start seeds of lettuce, spinach, radishes and corn in cold frames
- Start tomato seeds indoors
- Bring in potted bulbs of hyacinths, tulips and daffodils for a splash of early spring colour
- Prune back miscanthus and pennisetum grasses to about 1 foot from the base
- Prune fruit trees
- Prune winter flowering shrubs and vines right after flowering
- Prune roses when forsythia is blooming
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees, roses and deciduous shrubs and trees
- Plant new trees and shrubs as long as the ground isn't frozen
- Watch out for aphids. If you find any either squish them or spray with Safers soap
- Keep an eye out for any weeds that are starting to grow. If you pull them now while it is still easy to do so you will have much less of a problem this summer.

## Discounts for Garden Club Members

June Meyers did some research for the Garden Club to determine what nurseries would give us a 10% discount on purchases of plants to those with a Garden Club membership card. Her findings were as follows:

- Sunshine Coast Nursery — 1826 Sunshine Coast Highway, Roberts Creek 604-886-2796
- Deluxe Landscape Supply & Garden Centre—6037 Sechelt Inlet Road, Sechelt 604-885-9070
- B and K Garden & Supply— 629 Pratt Road, Gibsons 604-886-0924
- Quality Garden & Pet—325 Pratt Road, Gibsons 604 886-7527
- Jardin de Flores—3483 Stellar Place, Roberts Creek 604 741-9871 is closed until Spring but we can check if we purchase plants there.

Thanks June

**More information about the club can be found at:**

**[www.secheltgardenclub.com](http://www.secheltgardenclub.com)**

## Board Members

<b>President</b>	Cathy Belfry	604.989.1529
<b>Secretary</b>	Edwin Leung	604.885.0100
<b>Treasurer</b>	Lorraine Gallant	604.885.6495
<b>Co-Communications</b>	Carol Corbet	778.458.2287
	Karon Kosof	604.885.1935
<b>Membership</b>	Sharon O'Brien	
<b>Speakers</b>	Ardath Hoole	604.740.5774
<b>Web Master</b>	Karon Kosof	604.885.1935
<b>Community Development</b>	Penny Lyle	604.740.9819
<b>Directors at Large</b>	Nattanya Wardel	604.885.2271
	Verna Kelso	604.747.9048

## Membership Fees Due for 2016

We are now collecting membership dues for 2016—\$17 for individuals and \$25 for families. Please bring your cheque made out to the Sechelt Garden Club to the check-in table at the next meeting or contact Sharon O'Brien to arrange payment. We will be reviewing the membership list at the end of April and those individuals who have not paid their dues will be removed from the list.



Call Karon 604.399.9889 for more information and to get started