

Sechelt Garden Club

Newsletter May 2016

PLANT SALE a Super Team Success

The Seaside Centre was a hub of activity on Saturday, May 7th. Volunteers converged at the crack of dawn to deliver and to set up for the garden club's main fund raising event of the year— our Garden Club Plant Sale. All was ready by our 9:00 opening and the waiting line up of customers were allowed to browse the tables and grounds to pick out their favourites to carry home. We had competition in town with a nearby church and the Sechelt Market also selling plants that day, plus there were 2 plant sales prior to our own. This resulted in our sale not making as much as we normally would. However, the upside was the great team effort!

Our Sechelt Garden Club members were certainly front and centre on Saturday. The sale would not have happened without **all of you**, including volunteers who prepped and fostered plants prior to the sale. **Well done everyone!!**



*I can no other answer make
but thanks,
and thanks; and ever thanks
—William Shakespeare*

The list of volunteers working to make this event happen were many. The **Plant Sale Committee** consisted of Ruth Rodgers, and Ardath Hoole, our Co-Chairs, Rae Anderson, Sandy Friedman, Verna Kelso and Carol Corbet. Our **2016 plant sale volunteers** included drivers who transported plants from their holding area to the Seaside Centre, the set up crews who transformed the grounds to a sales venue, volunteers who tallied customer's purchases, sales people, cashiers, clean up crew, a children's table offering free give a ways, security, plant holding area, those who helped customers take plants to their vehicles, kitchen crew and bakers, who kept us happy with coffee/tea and treats! Saturday volunteers included:

Peter Kosof, Penny Lyle, Nattanya Wardell, John Duff, Charmaine Harris, Susan Egerman, Mira Grabowski, John Lyle, Christi Blackman, Janet Crowe, Ali Thompson, Karon Kosof, Pat Kolterman, June Meyer, Mark Crowe, David Thompson, Kay Ogawa, Lester Harris, Barb Peters, Lana Wightman, Sharon O'Brien, Lorraine Gallant, Carol Steedman, Gail Cron, Bill Cron, Chris Chandler, Stan Butcher, Mike Hoole, Richard Corbet, Sally Markham, Edwin Leung, Dan Fivehouse, Maureen Lister, Pat Smit, Linda Maxwell—If I have missed your name, I apologize.

Next Meeting

Monday, May 30, 2016

at the Seaside Centre

@ 7:30 P.M.

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

SPEAKER

Marcel Koller owner of Stream Works Design will be the speaker at our next meeting. This company designs and installs water features for residential gardens and commercial properties. These include waterfalls, ecosystem ponds, and fountains.

Check out their web site at
www.streamworksdesigns.com



Getting Ready for the Plant Sale



Pictures from the Plant Sale



Go to the web site to view more pictures

Sechelt Indian Band Plant Sale—April 30

Saturday, April 30th was the first ever SIB plant sale. Sechelt Garden Club paid for and attended a table to promote our Club and to sell a few of our plants prepared for our own plant sale. Nattanya Wardell created a beautiful floral arrangement which became one of the prizes throughout the day and Friends of the Library donated gardening books which were another Sechelt Gardening Club prize draw. The Club's executive took shifts on the table throughout the day. It was felt that the experience was very positive and the intent is to attend in 2017 if SIB decides to continue with this event.



Irrigation Workshop on April 13th

Participants in the drip irrigation workshop were very pleased with the day they spent with Ron Knight in Garden Bay learning how to install drip irrigation in their own yards. Folks went away with the knowledge required to be successful in proper installation of the system—how to design, price, install and maintain their own system.



Ron Knight (holding papers), showing an attentive group the irrigation system on his property, and how different fittings can be used for various garden situations.



Ron teaching the theory portion of the course. Participants will be ready to deal with a summer in their yards and gardens that may be long and hot. Perfect for drip irrigation!

Arbour Day—Friday April 29th



Pianka Leung and Penny Lyle, at our Sechelt Garden Club table



Pat Kolterman and grandson, plus Edwin Leung volunteering at Arbour Day.

Penny, our Community Development Director and volunteering SGC members supported the District of Sechelt's first annual Arbor Day held in Mission Point Park. Invasive plants were removed and replaced with native trees and plants provided by the Shoreline Naturalization Program. Their volunteers gave community and SGC volunteers plus Davis Bay Nature School classes knowledge to create natural habitat for the return of healthy shoreline life. Our table provided information about our education and community involvement and promoted our upcoming plant sale. Check the District of Sechelt website to see if your "favorite tree story" made the website!

Submitted by Penny Lyle

Progress Report on the Aqua Wall at the Sechelt Aquatic Centre

Sechelt Garden Club worked on a community project organized by our Community Development Director, Penny Lyle at the end of October 2015 to beautify the huge rock wall behind the Aquatic Center in Sechelt. There were many volunteers to plant the many plants donated by our club members which filled the spaces above, and between the big rocks. We worked in concert with the District of Sechelt—Parks. These pictures were taken recently by Edwin Leung, one of our Club photographers —this is 6 months after planting, and shows the beauty of colour that is added to the rock wall. It is great to see the wonderful results of work completed.



Project Ideas to Beautify Sechelt (and area)

Have you noticed a place we could beautify to make our town a little prettier? It may be on private property but it must be located so it's open to public use or viewing. We'll work with willing partners or on our own if the project is viable. You, or we can check on property ownership, if they'd like it to be done, would they help, would they or others (neighbours, businesses, clients) be willing to help maintain it in the future.

We plan, get donations, plant, create, but don't maintain.

We'd like a variety of potential projects to choose from. Please keep your eyes open for creative places. Those not chosen are kept for future consideration. Our committee will check out the following:

- Who's involved: government, business, homeowners, neighbours, Sechelt Indian Band
- We'll meet stakeholders to determine their commitment to work with us to make it happen.
- Can we realistically get what's required donated, do the work with our volunteers in reasonable time and make a great job of it?
- When an project is accepted by committee and executive members will get progress reports.
- If a project won't be done in the near future, a seed has been sown and others may make it happen, furthering the beautification of our town.

Thank you so much for keeping your gardening eyes open and helping us to make an inspired difference in Sechelt.

Please call or email your ideas to Penny Lyle, Community Development Director

Penny @ penjon539@gmail.com or 604-740-9819

Submitted by Penny Lyle



Sechelt Garden Club is 50 Years Old in 2017? IMPOSSIBLE!

The thought of the garden club actually being 50 years old seemed so incredible that Cathy Belfry, our President, checked into our records to see what might support that statement. She found that *"the Sechelt Garden Club came into being in November 1967 with 4 founding members"*. And further that the 40th anniversary was celebrated on November 25th 2007 at an anniversary/ Christmas lunch at the Sunshine Coast Golf Course. A member or members have kept records through the years—which we will be sharing with you over the next year.

SO WE ARE IN FOR A BIG CELEBRATION!!!

We need your help to plan the best party ever. Do we have a barbeque—celebrate with champagne—have a dance—plant a tree—WHAT do we do to commemorate this special year?

Please put your thinking hats on and send your ideas to us by:

- Sending a message through our web site
- Emailing Carol Corbet at ccorbet@eastlink.ca
- Putting your ideas in our suggestion box at our next meeting

We know we have creative people in our garden club so we look forward to your ideas!



Diane Sanford's topic on April 25—"Eelgrass and Forage Fish, two key players in the big picture."

The Seagrass Conservation Working Group, of which Dianne is a member, have been working on mapping the very important Eelgrass beds in our Coastal waters. Dianne shared that Eelgrass is the only true plant in our ocean and one of its functions is to provide food and shelter for juvenile salmonids before they head out to sea. Sechelt Inlet has been mapped and there are many eelgrass beds in that area.

Other forms of sea life lay their eggs in the eelgrass beds. The conservation group strongly urges people not to take seaweed that washes up on shore in February and March as the eggs are then lost. She reports that 8 beaches on the Lower Sunshine Coast have proven positive for Sand Lance eggs. Their group works summer and winter and once they have mapped an area for Eelgrass, if the area lacks the beds, they employ divers to transplant small Eelgrass plants into the water using washers to anchor the grass to the bottom. At shorelines, salmon also find food from overhanging plants, which has led to the planting of Nootka roses and Dune Grass at the water's edge. Dianne is passionate about the work she is doing in the oceans and we applaud the Conservation Group's efforts.



Diane Sanford—
speaking at our April
General Meeting.



May Checklist from *The New Twelve Month Gardener*

Annuals, perennials and bulbs

- Buy bedding plants and plant out after the middle of the month. Plant up tubs, hanging baskets and window boxes
- Thin out annuals that were sown earlier, retaining the best and strongest plants.
- Pull up spring bedding plants, such as wallflowers and forget-me-nots, and add to compost pile. Sow seeds of these biennials now for next year.
- Pinch out growing tips of chrysanthemums, and asters to promote bushy growth.
- Stake tall perennials, such as delphiniums.
- Lightly shear back early spring-flowering perennials, such as aubrietia, arabis and perennial alyssum
- Plant out dahlia tubers, making sure to drive in the stakes first to avoid damage to tubers.

Fruits, vegetables and herbs

- Continue successive sowings of lettuce, carrots, spinach, radishes, bush beans, pole beans, peppers and potatoes
- Start winter crops of cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbages, and pumpkins. Start main crop of potatoes. Plant asparagus.
- Feed tomato plants, remove side shoots and plant out after the middle of the month. Also plant out peppers, eggplants and squash, including zucchini.
- Sow corn, cucumber and squash at the end of the month. Plant corn in blocks for better pollination.
- Keep vegetable garden well weeded and keep a lookout for signs of pests and diseases. Slugs are a particular problem with tender young seedlings.
- Cut off strawberry runners.
- Take cuttings of rosemary, sage and thyme.

Authors: Elaine Stevens, Doris Fancourt-Smith, Dagmar Hungerford, Jan Mitchell, Ann Buffam —Publisher is Whitecap Books, Vancouver/Toronto



Call Karon 604.399.9889 for more information on volunteering and to get started

More information about the club can be found at:

www.secheltgardenclub.com

Board Members

President

Cathy Belfry 604.740.9877

Past Co –Presidents

Charmaine Harris & Christi Blackman

Vice-President

Vacant—looking for a volunteer

Secretary

Edwin Leung 604.885.0100

Treasurer

Lorraine Gallant 604.885.6495

Co-Communications

Carol Corbet 778.458.2287

Karon Kosof(&Webmaster) 604.885.1935

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Ardath Hoole 604.740.5774

Community Development

Penny Lyle 604.740.9819

Directors

Nattanya Wardel 604.885.2271

Verna Kelso 604.747.9048

Correspondence

Janet Crowe 604.885.3366

Sechelt Garden Club

Paraphernalia, Stuff, Bits & Pieces.....

No matter what you call it, there are always belongings that get scattered hither and yon when good folks are working hard to make a club operate successfully!! We are doing an inventory of what the club owns and wonder if anyone has any stuff stored at their place— in a garage, attic, or shed that we need to include in the inventory. If you do, please email Cathy Belfry at:

cathybel2@gmail.com

We will be happy to hear from you.