



2022 Monthly Speaker List

January 31, 2022: Heidi Grant from Coastal Invasive Species Committee

The Coastal Committee is part of the Invasive Species Council of BC, and focuses on Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and the Sunshine Coast. Their mandate is to Educate, Protect and Prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

They can be contacted at info@coastalisc.com

There is also a very informative website managed by the Invasive Species Council of BC, bcinvasives.ca

February 28, 2022: Dianne Gaines on “Roses”

Dianne’s background includes 25 years working at Van Noort Bulb Company and 30 years in the Langley Garden Club. She brought some stunning pictures of all the beautiful roses she is recommending, and gave us some basic rose information and gardening tips. Judging by the number of questions, this was a popular topic and a very well received presentation.

March 28, 2022: Kristen Miskelly - “Turn Your Lawn into a Wildflower Meadow”.

Kristin is co-owner of Satin Flower Nursery in Saanich. She is a trained biologist with specialty in the botany and ecology of Southern Vancouver Island and is passionate about conservation, ecosystem restoration, native plants and native plant propagation.

The plants from the Satin Flower Nursery are exclusively native and are grown without irrigation, tilling, pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers. As well as providing seeds and plants, they provide consulting services and education and have been involved in some large scale conservation projects on public and private lands.

Kristin’s presentation to the Garden Club focused on the topic of converting lawns into wild flower meadows. There is detailed plant information on their website: www.satinflower.ca , and Kristin also recommended www.eflora.bc.ca, and books by Nancy Turner, a botanist who has done extensive work with local indigenous people.

April 25, 2022: Paul Spriggs - “Vertical Rock and Crevice Gardens”

Paul is a landscape artist, mountain man and passionate collector and propagator of alpine plants. His talk featured slides of many beautiful plants and explained some of the design principles of rock gardening. Paul’s designs feature rocks cut and arranged to emulate natural patterns, mostly vertical and repeated, and placed to create drama and healthy ecosystems for the unique alpine plants to survive and flourish.

Facebook - Modern Crevice Gardens, Instagram - paulspriggsrockgardener

Alpine Garden Society - website + facebook

North American Rock Gardens- website + facebook

May 30, 2022: Linda Gilkeson - “Where have all the Insects Gone?”

Linda has an impressive resume including a Phd in Entomology, executive positions in Government environmental oversight agencies, and is recognized and awarded for expertise in her field. She is the author of several well received books and training manuals and is an active consultant and teacher. She made a very good case for us all to do everything possible to protect our precious insects, with some practical tips on how to help. It was a zoom presentation, with Linda joining from her home on Saltspring Island. Check out Linda’s website to review some of her excellent gardening newsletters www.lindagilkeson.ca.

September 26, 2022: Rand Rudland - “Butterflies in the Garden”

Rand graduated from UBC and McGill Universities where he studied Biology, Forestry and Medicine. His experiences as a physician included time in the Canadian Arctic, numerous trips to Antarctica as a ship’s physician and 40 years as a family physician on the Sunshine Coast. His interest in Natural History and a passion for birding and wildlife photography has taken him to 31 countries so far, often as a tour leader and educator. He has worked as a Natural History tour leader in Canada and Central America and a White Water Rafting guide in BC and the Yukon. His presentation to the Garden Club was on the Butterflies of the Sunshine Coast - there are 41 species, and Rand seems to have managed to photograph them all! Information is available on the Sargeant Bay Society website: www.sargbay.ca

October 31, 2022: Catherine Dale - “Restoration of 3 Heritage Properties by The Land Conservancy of BC”

Catherine spoke about her time as a gardener with The Land Conservancy of BC and 3 heritage gardens that she worked on during that time. Catherine has 44 years experience as a gardener and teacher and owns a property in Halfmoon Bay. The 3 gardens featured in her slide presentation and talk were The Eagles Estate, The Baldwin House (both at Deer Lake in Burnaby) and The Joy Kogawa house at 1450 W 64th St Vancouver. These properties were rescued from redevelopment with the help of the Land Conservancy of BC, a non-profit organization working

to preserve properties of cultural significance. The 2 Deer Lake properties are now owned by the City of Burnaby and can be accessed by walking paths around Deer Lake Park.

November 27, 2022: Koess de Jager - Christmas Wreath and Centrepiece design demonstration.

Koess brought a wide variety of fresh plant materials and made several interesting and decorative arrangements. He used blueberry stems, moss, evergreen boughs, gnarly magnolia branches, holly, variegated euonymus, pine cones, and even some persimmons, oranges and garlic bulbs. The materials were woven into dried grapevine frames and wired with florist wire and tape to keep them stable. Everyone was invited to participate and get in close to see the magic and get inspired.