

Sechelt Garden Club



HAPPY NEW YEAR

A note from our President

January greetings, everyone! We're looking forward during the coming year to more freedom from the health "angst" of the last few.

We have some interesting speakers lined up for 2023, and hope you'll be able to join your fellow members on the last Monday of each month at the Seaside Centre.

In addition to our monthly meetings, planning includes a visit to the evolving Cascade Green Butterfly Garden on Earth Day April 22, a spring tour of our Botanical Gardens, as well as a June Garden Party. This summer will see another series of Drop-in Garden Tours at the homes of members; initiated last year, we enjoyed very positive feedback from you, both on the gardens and the sociability!

Upcoming Speakers

January 30 Cheryl Topping, a local arborist, will talk about pruning.

February 27 John Yue from Coastal Sun will present on 'Starting transplants and planning a vegetable garden'

Please let us know your ideas and provide us with feedback on our programs. This month's meeting will focus on pruning and propagation, a topic suggested by a few of our members. We're better able to enhance your membership with input from YOU.

Here's to an encouraging 2023 in the Garden Club! Cheers, Gerri

Go Native!

Our monthly contribution about native plants submitted by Suzan Essiembre

Trailing Snowberry

Symphoricarpos mollis

Trailing Snowberry is a deciduous native ground cover that grows 1m-2m (3-6ft) tall and wide. It forms a dense thicket that spreads by rhizomes throughout the landscape.

The small white to pinkish flowers bloom from May to August and are a rich source of nectar that hummingbirds and other pollinators love to feed on. It then forms white fruit berries that look like tiny snowballs in September and October and can sometimes persist throughout the winter. Wildlife may eat from the plant but berries are non edible for humans.

For winter colour, plant with red twig dogwood or Oregon grape.

Growing requirements are sun/part shade. It is drought tolerant, cold hardy, and works well as an understory plant if protected from direct sunlight during hot summer months. It's a great hillside plant to prevent soil erosion. Deer resistant, but don't quote me on that. Once mature, prune in early spring by removing the largest heaviest canes right to the ground.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Marg Acton and Pat Kolterman, who are our new directors for community projects, are looking for volunteers to help with prepping pots and planters in the downtown area, as well as for planting in March. Please contact Marg or Pat by email (see list on p.5)

Sechelt Garden Club visits the Van Dusen Gardens Festival of Lights

Fifteen members of our club car-pooled to the Van Dusen Gardens on December 7, 2022 for the twilight visit to see the spectacular light show. The event was enjoyed by all and will be repeated next year.



Photo by Gerri Randall

Cascade Green Park Butterfly Garden Fundraiser

Suzan Essiembre is at it again with her boundless energy, raising funds for on-going work at the Cascade Green Butterfly Garden. There will be a draw in May with tickets going on sale at our January meeting.

1st Prize: Butterfly Plate

Donated by Claire Folstad
Sun & Sea Warm Glass Art
Value: \$175

Hand made 12" metallic embossed fused glass butterfly plate. Hand rolled pigment. Food safe, hand wash only. Unique, one of a kind, made special for the Cascade Green Park Butterfly Garden fundraising efforts.



2nd Prize: Pinewood Butterfly House

Value: \$42

A deluxe Air-Bee-n-Bee for butterflies and other winged insects. All natural, made of real pinewood. Habitat measures 16.14" x 5.7" x 5.1" (41cm x 14.5cm x 13cm). No construction required, ready to paint or decorate. Hanging hook pre-installed.



3^d Prize: Huckleberry Plant & Pot

Value \$30

Huckleberry (*Vaccinium*) is a common native perennial shrub that grows 61 to 91.5cm (2-3ft) tall when grown in full sun. In woodland areas with some shade can grow up to 3m (10ft) in large patches. The delicious fruit can be eaten fresh or made into jams. Birds find the berries hard to resist.



4th Prize: Surprise Prize

Value: \$45

TICKETS

1 ticket \$2

3 tickets \$5

7 tickets \$10

20 tickets \$20

The draw will be held at the SGC meeting May 29th, 2023 at the Seaside Centre.

Good Luck!

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