



Vernon & District Garden Club

NEWSLETTER

June, 2011 www.vdgc.ws

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Trish Robinson

Regardless with our unpredictable late spring weather, we have successfully achieved two of our major events all in one month! The Plant sale was held in mid May and the Flower show at end of the month. Thank you to all the people who participated in the Flower Show at the various levels. This successful event could not have happened without the dedication, time and commitment from some of the members and (their) spouses. A special thank you goes to Verna for her time & effort in organizing the Flower Show each year.

I received a thank you email from our previous month's speaker Gordon Heibert, expressing his appreciation with all the thoughtful questions and responses at his presentation. If you think we should consider inviting Gordon again sometime in the future to help educate us with his vast knowledge, do send me a quick note or a phone call.

The offer of purchasing the Garden Ties are being ordered and expected to be made available at our meeting on June 28th.

The next special event will be the Garden Club Picnic on July 26th at Coldstream Park. Everyone is welcome to attend this fun event. Gloria will provide the details regarding the picnic at our meeting on the night of June 28th.

COFFEE CUPS

Don't forget to bring your own coffee cup!

GOODIES

Thank you to Marion Wilson, Marilyn Brodie and Marg Murison for bringing the wonderful food at the last meeting.

MEETING INFORMATION

Next Meeting:

June 28, 2011

7:30 pm

Room 2D, Arts Centre

**Parlour Show entries tabled by
7:10 pm**

**Please table your Parlour Show entries between
6:50 and 7:10 to allow for judging before the
meeting.**

MONTHLY REMINDERS

*Sign the Welcome Book at the door to get in on the door prize draw.

*Remember your name badges, library books, and coffee mugs.

*Bring along your grocery sales receipts for
BUTCHER BOYS AND COOPERS.

EXECUTIVE 2010

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Co-Presidents | Trish Robinson | 558-4262 |
| | Janet Stoll | 545-4273 |
| Vice-President | Verna Kelso | 503-0168 |
| Secretary | Elisabeth Reymond | 549-1148 |
| Treasurer | Gloria Tymrick | 548-9275 |
| Director | Darlene Whitbread | 547-2155 |
| | Leah Humphreys | 558-5717 |
| | Pat Bayliss | 542-4926 |
| | Rose Sorochuk | 558-2940 |
| | Laurie Kirkness | 542-6505 |
| | Linda Andrews | 778-475-4455 |
| Past President | Vince Edwards | 549-2189 |
| Newsletter | Janet Stoll | 545-4273 |
| Refreshments | Laurie Kirkness | 542-6505 |
| | Margaret Murison | 545-0313 |
| | Linda Andrews | 778-475-4455 |

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Div "B" Bench | 40 |
| Div "C" Potted Plants | 16 |
| Div "D" Arrangements | 37 |

Congratulations to all the award winners & a big thank you to all the participants.

SPEAKER

Our June Guest Speaker will be Gwen Steele. Gwen is the Executive Director for the Okanagan Xeriscape Association (OXA). The OXA is a not for profit organization which provides xeriscape information for those living in the Okanagan.

HOSPICE HOUSE

There was a great response from club members at the last meeting when Roger Prodanuk was looking for people to dead head the roses at Hospice House. The whole summer roster has been filled except for 1 space left at the end of August. If you would like to volunteer for this last slot please contact Roger Prodanuk at 250-542-0248 .

FLOWER SHOW RESULTS

The Flower Show was a great success despite the cool spring. As a result we had fewer entries than in previous years. However as you walked around the display tables it was certainly very colourful. The results of the Flower Show are list below.

Best Iris: Susan Mann
 Best Flower of the Show: Verna Kelso
 Best Potted Plant: Faithe Prodanuk
 Best Arrangement: Alicia Paradzik

Most Points in Bench Div. A & B:

1st Janet Stoll
 2nd Susan Mann
 3rd Vince Edwards

Most points Potted Plants

1st Faithe Prodanuk
 2nd Rose Sorochnik
 3rd Janet Stoll

Most Points Arrangements

1st Gloria Tymrick
 2nd Barb Hartley
 3rd Ruth Carrie & Verna Kelso

Total # of Entrants 17
 # of club members 12

of non club members 5
 Total # of entries in the show 114
 Div "A" Iris 21

TWIST TIES

The twist ties will be available for purchase to those who ordered them. Extras ties were ordered so if you would like to purchase some they are available. The price for the ties are \$11 for a 55 foot roll. Please have the exact amount available if paying in cash. Cheques will be accepted as well.

VDGC APPRECIATION TO DARLENE

Darlene Whitbread & her husband Peter have put a lot of time into organizing the Plant sale for the last 4 years. As well as time, they have also invested their own money into the plant sale. They have sold their dahlias, tomatoes and other vegetables and then gave the money from the sale of these plants back to the garden club. The garden club would like to show their appreciation to Darlene & Pete for their generosity, by giving them a 1 time gift of \$300 of soil for their use.

DIFFERENT LOOK TO NEWSLETTER

If you noticed the newsletter looks a little different this month (no pictures). It is because Janet Stoll is away and I, Linda Andrews, volunteered to put together the newsletter. You will receive your regular newsletter next month when Janet is back.

TOMATO & VEGETABLE TIPS

- Use tomato cages for cucumbers & zucchini as well as tomatoes
- Causes them to grow upward & not outward
- Prevents vegetable from lying on the ground where they are more susceptible to damage from insects & rot
- Peppers require heat & as much sun as possible so they are best planted in June
- Vegetables planted in pots dry out quickly so give them a good deep soaking every time you water
- Staking tomatoes exposes their leaves to sunlight & results in increased fruit production
- Erratic watering causes tomatoes to split & blossom end rot
- Toward the end of August, prune the top off the main stem to stop growth & encourage fruit to ripen
- At the end of the season defoliate tomato plants leaving clusters of tomatoes fully exposed to sun. It makes a difference to how the tomatoes ripen.

MINUTES

Vernon & District Garden Club

General Meeting - Date: May 25, 2011 at the Vernon and District Arts Centre
Janet Stoll presided and welcomed everyone. We had over 40 members and guests. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as printed in the Newsletter.

Correspondence: Bulletin from the BC Council of Garden Clubs.

We now have prices for the twist ties and will send a sign up sheet around.

Plant Sale: we had a great turnout of helpers. We took a photo of members with our sign and in front of the RONA store. Please sign as it will be displayed on RONA's board. This is one of their community projects.

Garden Tours: Leah informed us that the first tour will be on June 7 to Lila Hirsch in Armstrong. Meet at the Bay's parking lot near gas station at 6 pm. Need to confirm tour on June 21 to Runzer's Rose garden in Kelowna.

Treasurer: Gloria reported the total balance

on hand at the end of April. Report accepted. Decision was made by the board to top up community fund to \$500 accepted by members.

Hospice House Roses: Rodger Prodanuk informed us that he and Faithe have volunteered to look after the roses at Hospice House since Fred and Julius are retiring. This is a continuous maintenance of deadheading from June to September. He is looking for more volunteers and will send a sign up sheet around. This would be twice a week for about an hour. Bring snips, a bucket, knee pads and gloves.

Scrap Book: Lila Hayhurst will put a scrapbook together for our 85th Anniversary. Please take pictures of your garden throughout the year and give to Lila or e-mail to Janet.

Flower Arranging Workshop: Jeanette will teach a workshop on transparency on June 14, at the Prodanuk's in Lavington.

Flower Show: Verna informed the members that the doors to the Village Green Centre will be open in the back at 7 am. Bring whatever you have blooming in the garden. A tip to transport irises is to stick them in a piece of foam in a bucket so that they cannot fall over. Displays have to be ready at 9:30 am as the judges will need two hours, from 10am to 12 noon, for their task. If petals show on iris, try to force them and put in warm water in a warm room.

Sale Table: There are some grasses for sale, blue green, curly and yellowy. Also one vase.

Plant of the month: Marilyn talked about peonies and the various species available. More information can be gleaned from Wikipedia, Canadian Garden Magazine Website and American Peony Society.

Q & A: Bob was wondering why he had no blooms on his plum tree. Fruit trees need a rest and sometimes they have lots of blooms and none next year.

50/50 Draw and door prizes: \$21 was won by Marg Murison, door prizes by Marg Murison, Amber Kusmer, Manfred, Rose Sorochuk, Elisabeth Reymond, Elaine Hawthorne

Parlour Show: Barbara Hartley and Verna Kelso did the judging and Barbara explained why some of the flowers got a better rating than others. Verna gave tips for the upcoming flower show.

HISTORY

CHALLENGE CUP FOR 10 GARDEN VEGETABLES

Received by Vernon & District Horticultural Society – Tulip Display Planned

The Vernon and District Horticultural Society is the recipient of another trophy annual competition. This week the Secretary received a beautiful challenge cup from the Triangle Chemical company of New Westminster. It will be offered at the August show for the best collection of ten garden vegetables.

Negotiations are being carried on for a tulip display and lecture, a well known grower has consented to furnish blooms of many varieties of tulips as soon as weather conditions permit excellence of development. It is expected the display will take place in about two weeks time. It will be open to anyone interested in floriculture and much interesting matters in connection with bulb growing will be explained.

The climate and soil conditions of the Okanagan are such that it is believed to be unexcelled on the American continent for the commercial raising of bulbs of many kinds and already one grower is said to be well on the way toward a planting of one half million tulip bulbs.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

This information comes from Wikipedia, Canadian Gardening Magazine website, and the American Peony Society

There are 3 types of peonies. They are: herbaceous, tree and ITOH. The herbaceous peony forms a bush, dies back in the winter and regrows in the spring. It is hardy, easy to grow, produces large and often fragrant flowers, is drought resistant and may be deer resistant.

The tree peony loses its leaves in the winter but it maintains its woody stem year round. There are only 8 tree peony species.

The Itoh peony is a cross between the tree and herbaceous types. It is named after Toichi Itoh, a Japanese nurseryman, who first made the cross in 1948. It was years before these hybrids bloomed (after his death) and more years before they became available to the public. Their blooms are larger and in more colors than ever seen in peonies. The plant may produce a second bloom if the plant is pruned after flowering,

Plant your peony where it will receive at least 6 hours of sunlight a day. Plant it away from competing tree and shrub roots. Peonies prefer rich, well drained soil. Peonies don't like being moved and if moved they may skip a season of blooming.

Peonies figure largely in Oriental and Asian culture. The herb known as Paeonia (comes from the root of paeonia lactiflora) gives off a variety of compounds used in the traditional medicines of Korea, China and Japan.

Peonies are very long lived. Many gardeners boast a treasured specimen that has been passed on from the garden of a friend, parent or grandparent.

PARLOUR SHOW

Just a reminder, please make a special effort this month at the general meeting on June 28th to enter in the Parlour show. It is the easiest month to do so with so many plants in bloom in the garden. Look forward to seeing many entries.

DEADLINE

Please have information for the newsletter submitted to Janet by the second Friday of the month. You can contact Janet at fredjan@shaw.ca or at 250-545-4273

PARLOUR SHOW

JUNE BENCH

Roses named if possible

- 1) Hybrid Tea bud-1 stem
- 2) Hybrid Tea Rose-1 stem
- 3) Floribunda Rose-1 spray
- 4) Miniature Rose-1 spray
- 5) Any Rose, not listed-1 stem
- 6) Fragrant Rose-1 in a container sealed with plastic wrap
- 7) Clematis-1 flower
- 8) Lily- 1 stalk (not day lilies as they are not true lilies)
- 9) Peony-1 stem
- 10) Collection of flowers—anything not listed, minimum 5 different flowers
- 11) Hosta leaves—2, same variety
- 12) Open Class: anything of interest (not to be judged)

* Special award for the BEST rose in Bench Class

DECORATIVE CLASS (No Commercial Flowers this month)

- 13) "Budding Beauty," exhibit not over 5" (any flowers may be used)
- 14) Monochromatic exhibit (use flowers in shades of one colour-green leaves allowed)
- 15) Elegance of a rose (exhibit using 1 rose and any foliage)
- 16) Bouquet of flowers
- 17) Open Class exhibit (Hope to see some Transparencies). (Not to be judged.)

VEGETABLES

- 18) Green onions-3
- 19) Strawberries-2
- 20) Raspberries-4
- 21) Peas, in their pods-3
- 22) Open Class: Bring what you grow. (Not to be judged.)

PHOTO CORNER

Lots of flowers in bloom by now so how about pictures featuring a particular flower.