

GARDEN CLIPPINGS MINI

In the Spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt. — MARGARET ATWOOD



MONTHLY MEETINGS

St. Mark's Anglican Church

12953 20th Avenue

7:00 pm, 4th Wednesday of each month, except December and August.

NEWSLETTER

The *Garden Clippings* newsletter will be published six times this year:

Full Issues: March 15, July 15, November 15

Mini Issues: January 15, May 15, September 15

Submissions from the membership are welcome and subject to editing. Submissions must be non-commercial in nature and must be word-processed. A style guide is available upon request. The deadline is the 1st of the month, 2 weeks prior to publication. Send inquiries to: owg@shaw.ca.

MAY SPEAKER

By Linda Stanley Wilson

Our May speaker, Dr. Luis R. González Torres, is speaking on the topic of plant conservation. González Torres completed an M.Sc. in botany and a Ph.D. in biology in 2010. He holds an International Diploma on Plant Conservation Strategies from Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and University of



Cambridge, UK, and has taught plant sciences courses at the Faculty of Biology, University of Havana. In 2014, he won the Whitley Award, an international conservation prize, for his work promoting the conservation of Cuban plant life.

I was interested in learning more about our speaker and had the opportunity to ask him a few questions about how he juggles life between Cuba and Canada.

González Torres splits his time between teaching in Canada and the conservation projects that he and his team are running in Cuba. He teaches Conservation Biology to fourth-year students at UBC and Principles of Biology I and II to first and second year students at Douglas College. While in Canada, he volunteers for Planta! Plantlife Conservation Society. As he explains, "Planta! is a charitable organization that promotes the conservation and sustainable use of plants and their habitats. Planta! supports the projects we are running in Cuba.

"Cuba hosts one of the four richest island floras in the world and the richest flora of the Caribbean Biodiversity Hotspot. Cuba supports

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SSGC EXECUTIVE

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7,500 species of flowering plants—more than half of the whole Caribbean flora, and the most diverse mosaic of plant communities in the Caribbean in about 100,000 km². Fifty-three percent of all Cuban plant species are endemic to the country.”

“The conservation of Cuban outstanding flora faces two major challenges that hinder its preservation and sustainable use. The first challenge is poor awareness about the importance, value and perilous situation of this outstanding flora. The second major challenge for plant conservation in Cuba is the lack of skill among conservation practitioners at local levels.

“Planta!, in partnership with the Cuban Botanical Society and other local organizations, runs the initiative Planta!—the Cuban Plant Conservation Initiative. The Planta! Initiative addresses these conservation challenges by (1) educating Cubans to develop pride in their plants, teaching them the importance of the native Cuban flora and committing Cuban citizens to the conservation of Cuban native plants and habitats; (2) building the capacity for developing local conservation actions; (3) connecting conservationists to expedite and exchange resources and experiences, and (4) implementing local conservation projects that engage people in active conservation, contributing to increased local welfare. This strategy and approach have proven to be successful. In the last year alone, Planta! provided direct education on plant life and habitat to 20,000 people, training to 250 conservation practitioners (park rangers, graduate students) and ran 16 conservation projects that impacted directly threatened plant species populations (magnolias, cactus, legumes, conifers), habitats (rainforest, dry forest, and thickets) and the well-being of local people.”

For more information about Planta!, visit: www.planta.ngo or their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/planta.ngo.

NEWS BITS

PLANT SALE - PLEASE RETURN SIGNS

The Plant Sale was a great success! Thank you to the many volunteers who potted up plants in preparation, came to set up the hall, volunteered on Saturday, and especially those who helped with clean-up. In our online version of the newsletter, you'll find photos of the propagation team shared by Paul Odermatt on page 10.

If you checked out one of the signs to advertise the event, please remember to bring it back to the club on Wednesday evening.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Kathy Starke

Open Gardens Coordinator

Carole Wood

Door Prize

Karen Ewing

Monthly Plant Sale

(Table Reservations)

Mary Dunn

Master Gardeners' Desk

Carol Wong

Sunshine Gardeners & Darts Hill Weeders

Karen Ewing

Lost & Found

Lee Bolton Robinson

Phoning Committee Sunshine Greetings

Note: If you know someone in need of a little sunshine, please contact Lee

Lorna Fraser

Awards

Dick Logie, Ernie Gray, & Bryan Williams

Set-up

Parents, Peace Arch Cubs

Clean-up

Karen Ewing

Presentation Assistance

Lorna Fraser

Nominating Committee

Ruth Sebastian

Goodies Coordinator

May Mini Issue Newsletter

Team: Linda Stanley Wilson,
Marilyn Bryson, Pam
Robertson, Lucina Perkin,
Paul Odermatt

SHOW WHAT YOU GROW

By Cindy Tataryn and Gillian Roberts

MAY

1. Iris, peony, rhododendron, or azalea
2. Any other flowering exhibit
3. Rhubarb, herbs, or vegetables

These are only suggestions; if you have something that you have grown that you would like to share, please bring it to the meeting. Please remember to label your treasures, if you know the name.

FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

Floral Design Division: The **Flower and Garden Show** is on June 28 this year. You must preregister early to reserve your space (24" w x 36" h). Please phone 604-585-6786 before June 14 to ensure your space. The theme this year is celebrating Canada's 150th Anniversary.

Please be sure to check the Club's website for the show schedule, rules, and other related information. You'll find additional information throughout this issue.

A - NOVICE

- 101 - Let's Party - A design of your choice
- 102 - Celebration - A design of your choice
- 103 - Oh Canada - A design of your choice, including red and white components

B - AMATEUR

- 104 - Glowing Hearts - A design of your choice
- 105 - Fireworks - A vertical design
- 106 - Glorious - A design of your choice
- 107 - True North - A design of your choice

C - MEN ONLY

- 108 - Stand on Guard - A design of your choice

D - YOUTH DIVISION

- 109 - Our Home - A design of your choice

NEWS BITS

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATE CHANGES

As a reminder, we have returned to publishing six issues per year to provide better coverage of the **Plant Sale** and the **Flower and Garden Show**. We will have three full issues per year and three special feature mini issues. This is our first mini issue, so you will not find all of our regular submissions, such as the President's Message, Book Review, and other features.

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE - JULY 1

The next issue will be published on July 15. Members are welcome, and in fact, encouraged to submit articles and photographs. Please send them in no later than July 1, preferably sooner. Send items to: owg@shaw.ca.

PHOTO SECTION

On the last pages of the electronic version of the newsletter, you'll find photos of preparations being made for our recent plant sale. If you have the printed version of the newsletter, you can always see the photo section on our SSGC website. All issues of the newsletter are available in the newsletter section: www.southsurreygardenclub.ca. If you would like to contribute event photos, please send them to me!

HORTICULTURE AWARDS DINNER

Karanveer Singh received a \$1,000 scholarship at the recent Kwantlen Polytechnic University Horticulture Awards Dinner. Below is a photo of Karanveer from the dinner with our treasurer James Good, and our president, Melodie Brandon.



FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW - VOLUNTEERS

This year, the Flower and Garden Show is scheduled for June 28. The success of our show is due in large part to the many volunteers who bring the show to life. Please read through the descriptions below and see where you might be able to lend a hand. Volunteers can sign up at the May meeting or by contacting one of the organizers: Cindy Tataryn and Gillian Roberts.

Hall and Staging Area Set-up: 7 people

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Set up the tables and table coverings, place the plant category cards, place schedules and paper plates for fruits and vegetables. Set up 1–2 tables outside the kitchen door, set up the canopy covers, fill watering cans for exhibitors.

Kitchen: 4 people

3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Help with the volunteer potluck dinner, make tea and coffee, put out water and juice, set up the buffet tables for the potluck dinner. Clean the kitchen.

Registration: 1 person

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Exhibitor Helper: 2 people

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Volunteer Potluck Dinner

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Our traditional potluck dinner is a time to celebrate the work put into getting the show ready. Volunteers and judges are invited to attend.

Outside Clean-up: 4 people

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Take down the canopies, take down the tables, collect and empty the watering cans.

Recording Secretary: 4 people

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Record and tally the exhibitors' scores.

Ribbon Clerk & Judges Clerk: 8 people

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Assist the judges, take the winning entry information to the recording secretaries, place the ribbons with the appropriate entries.

Inside Clean-up: 8 people

9:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Collect the class cards, collect the wood blocks, remove the table coverings, fold the tables. Put the church tables away, stack the rental tables by the back door. Sweep all the floors, wash all the floors. Make sure the kitchen and bathrooms are clean. Collect lost and found items.

QUICK CLASS LIST

CLASS	CLASS NAME (Please check the club website for the show schedule, rules, and exact specifications as to number of blooms, spikes, pieces of fruit, etc.)	# (blooms, etc.)
201	Peony - Any peony	1
203	Poppy	1
204	Iris - Any iris	1
208	Dahlia over 4" diameter	1
209	Dahlia under 4" diameter	2
210	Gladiolas	1
211	Vase of garden flowers and foliage - Small	1
212	Vase of garden flowers and foliage - Medium	1
213	Vase of garden flowers and foliage - Large	1
301	Hybrid Tea - any colour, including blends - Specimen	1
302	Floribunda - any colour, including blends - Spray	1
304	Shrub rose - any colour (not David Austin)	1
305	Old garden rose (prior to 1867) - any colour	1
307	Climbing rose - rambler or otherwise, any colour	1
308	Rose - Any other rose	1
309	Bowl of roses - all one variety or a mix	5 +
310	Rose - to be judged for fragrance only	1
402	<i>Pelargonium</i> (geranium)	2
403	Sweet peas - any one colour or mixed	3
404	Any other annual not listed - any colour	1 - 3
405	Most unusual (uncommon) variety of annual - any colour	1
501	<i>Hemerocallis</i> (daylily) - any colour	1
502	<i>Lilium</i> (lily) - any one cultivar	1

503	Phlox - any colour	1
504	Salvia	1
505	Hosta (leaf only) - any one variety - Giant	1
506	Hosta (leaf only) - any one variety - Large	1
507	Hosta (leaf only) - any one variety - Medium	1
508	Hosta (leaf only) - any one variety - Small	1
509	Hosta (leaf only) - any one variety - Mini	1
510	Astilbe - any one colour	1
511	Fern - any one variety	1
512	Woodland plants	1
513	Native plant - must be native to the Pacific Northwest	1
514	Perennial from bulb or corm - e.g. Calla lily	1 - 3
515	Ornamental grasses	10
516	Rare and unusual	1
518	Delphinium	1
519	Any other named composite	1 - 3
520	Any other perennial or biennial	1 - 3
601	Any flowering tree, shrub or vine	1
602	Clematis - any one variety	1
603	Hydrangea - any colour other than pink or blue	1
604	Hydrangea - "Lacecap" - smaller varieties	1
605	Most colourful foliage (annual or perennial)	1
606	Hydrangea - Pink	1
607	Hydrangea - Blue	1
701	Cactus or succulent	1
703	Succulent collection	3 +
802	Any flowering house plant	1
803	Any foliage house plant	1

901	Outdoor container grown plant - 1 plant	1
902	Outdoor planter - must contain at least three (3) different varieties of plants	3 +
1001	Apples - stem on	3
1003	Blueberries - bloom on, no stems	6
1006	Currants - stalk on	1
1008	Gooseberries - stem on	6
1013	Plums - stem on	3
1014	Raspberries - stems and cores removed	6
1015	Strawberries - stems left on	6
1016	Any other fruit not listed, should be named	3 - 6
1101	Beans - any variety, stem on	5
1102	Beets - tops trimmed to 2" - 3"	3
1103	Broccoli - any variety	1
1104	Cabbage - red or green; round, flat, pointed or savoy	1 Plant
1105	Carrots - any size, ¼" stem left on	3
1107	Chard - any variety	1 Plant
1108	Cucumber - any variety	3
1109	Garlic - any variety, 2" stem left on	3 Bulbs
1111	Kale	1 Plant
1114	Lettuce - head, leaf or romaine	1 Plant
1115	Onions - any onions	3
1118	Peas - shelling type, stems left on	5
1119	Peas - edible pod, stems left on	5
1121	Potatoes - any variety	3
1122	Radish - stem on, do not scrub	5
1123	Rhubarb	3
1125	Squash - short stem left on	1
1126	Tomatoes - any variety - stem on	3

1128	Any root vegetable not listed above	1
1129	Any other vegetable not listed	1 - 3
1130	Vegetable oddity - "deformed"	1
1131	Collection of garden herbs - named	5



SHOW & TELL

By Anna Burian

MARCH

Camellia sasanqua 'Quintessence'

- Once camellias are established, they have low water requirements. They need care and watering during periods of drought, during the early years in the garden.
- This cultivar is very slow growing and makes an ideal container specimen. Its habit is low and tends to cascade in pots. A sheltered, partly sunny location would be ideal.
- Blooms are pale pink to white. It starts blossoming in February and continues into April. Flowers are scented (musk-like).
- Prune to give it shape and provide good air circulation.

Cyclamen hederifolium

- Ivy-leaved or sowbread cyclamen.
- Tubers can reach 10" across.
- Roots appear at the top and sides of the tuber, but the base is bare.
- Leaf shape is variable, as is the colour.
- Blooms late summer to autumn.
- One of the hardiest and easiest of the cyclamen to grow.

Cyclamen coum

- Tuber can reach 2 1/2" wide
- Leaves are round or kidney-shaped, smooth or gently toothed, but never hard-angled, as *C. hederifolium* is.

- Blooms late winter–early spring in shades of pink to a white, with flowers that are short and round. One of the hardiest species.

APRIL

Primula sieboldii 'Snowflake'

- Creeping deciduous plant makes large clumps.
- Flowers range from white through pink to rose forms (over 100 varieties, but few are available).
- Native habitat includes light woods to wet, grassy meadows.
- Easily propagated by division, but rarely sets seed.
- Does well in shaded to partially shaded sites.
- Does not need winter protection.
- Goes dormant in early August.

Cardiocrinum giganteum

- Native of China.
- Blooms in May and June.
- Seedlings are always larger than offsets.

Rhodohypoxis baurii

- Native to mountainous areas of southern Africa.
- Soils should be well-drained, but retain moisture during growing season, then dry out after dormancy.
- Easiest way to succeed is to keep it in pots and water generously during the growing season.
- Once dormant, in the fall, put in a frost-free environment and only water once or twice during the winter. They do not like winter wet!
- Flower colour is from pinks to red to white.



PLANT SALE PROPAGATION WORKSHOP



All photos submitted by Paul Odermatt