



Newsletter

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March 2007

Picking Up the Pieces Douglas Justice and Cass Turnbull comment on winter tree damage

As the storms of November and December 2006 fade into distant memory, gardeners throughout British Columbia continue to clean up wind and snow damage. This experience has stung us badly, but it's a good bet that we'll be paying closer attention to good arboricultural practices for a few years to come, comments Douglas Justice, botanist and co-author of *The Jade Garden: New and Notable Plants from Asia* (Timber Press, 2005).

“Besides the surprisingly large number of veteran trees that were violently uprooted across Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland and the expected level of branch debris and damage by falling branches from the wind storms, not much damage to smaller ornamental garden plants was sustained,” says Justice, also associate director of UBC Botanical Gardens. “This is not to say that smaller trees weren't damaged—many were—but it was the snow that fell around that time that did most of the damage. And what a snowfall!”

“Clearly, some of these problems could have been mitigated with better early training and subsequent maintenance (removal of co-dominant leaders and so on),” Justice goes on to say, “but such activities have to be balanced against other demands in the garden and the frequency of such meteorological events.”

Cass Turnbull of Plant Amnesty in Seattle witnessed the same effects of winter storms on trees in the Pacific Northwest.

Turnbull reports that Plant Amnesty arborists told her that many and perhaps most of the trees that blew down, lost limbs, or snapped in the stem had some sort of defect. Probably 50 to 70 percent of those tree failures could have been foretold had a full risk assessment been done. Some of the common predisposing factors are: root rots, narrow branch attachments, compromised roots due to construction damage (a patio, a driveway, or new building development within the past seven years), trees newly exposed to wind stresses, and species with certain characteristic weaknesses.

Tree topping is often to blame

Turnbull also blames tree topping as the cause of many broken trees, claiming that tree topping can be a public safety issue. Topping causes trunks to rot

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2007 Update

Cass Turnbull speaks at this month's Update, along with:

- **Michael Ableman**, author of *Fields of Plenty: A Farmer's Journey in Search of Real Food and the People Who Grow It, A Journey to the New Frontiers of Agriculture*
- **Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott**, scientist, Washington State University Master Gardener curriculum director, and horticulture and landscape architect, **Plants Without Problems**
- Panel discussion on the state of the nursery industry with **Cass Turnbull**, **Gary Lewis** of Phoenix Perennials, **John Zaplatynsky** of GardenWorks, and **Gwen Odermatt** of Petals and Butterflies Nursery

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Letter from the Chair

On the sunny winter afternoon that I wrote this letter, freezing temperatures made it easy to sit with garden magazines and dream about spring, but the computer screen beckoned. I knew I had to let you know about where I'm at as new chair of the Master Gardeners Association of BC.

The scary first meetings are done. The Council met and has come together with goals and expectations for me, for themselves, and for us as group. I believe I have a good core group that will help the MGABC grow and accomplish much over the next year or so.

The Council set goals and priorities for 2007. These stem from the changes that occurred by setting up new committees and the information gathering done throughout the last year or so. The priorities set are to finish the projects started in 2006—volunteer hour changes, provincial council setup, skill survey database, and the set up of more educational workshops.

Plans under way

Along with those projects are the other issues that need working on—improving MGABC communications, combining all financial reports into one statement, reducing newsletter expenses, increasing publicity of both the MGABC and the Basic Training course, getting more members involved with the Association, and finding ways to acknowledge more of the members who do the work. I would also like to see us hold another fundraiser for the VanDusen Botanical Gardens Capital Campaign; with our education mandate for the public wouldn't it be nice to have a classroom named after the MGABC?

The Council is going to be busy with the current projects and will have to focus on their own responsibilities if we are to finish them in 2007. As part of improving communications, we will depend on the newsletter, meetings, website, and *mgadmin* email notices to keep everyone informed. Your Council is ready, willing, and able to do the work expected of them but the membership is also expected to take part in making the MGABC a thriving group by reading notices and offering to help when asked.

Update succession

By the time you read this letter the Update will be just around the corner. I hope everyone will enjoy themselves this year but I wonder what will happen next year—we need a Coordinator for 2008 Update. The date is picked, the place is booked, and most of the present committee, who have done their job for the previous two or three Updates, are willing to help in one form or another, but they need a leader. Both the 2006 and 2007 Updates were organized by a Council member in addition to their own council jobs, but that will not work for next year.

I would love to see more people get involved with all committees; more pictures sent in for the picture gallery; more suggestions for speakers, events, tours, and events; more surveys completed when sent out; more participation of more members to make these ideas bloom.

All these ideas rush through my mind as I sit in front of the computer screen on a winter afternoon dreaming about spring. I am looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish this year.

—Lynne Christmas

Writers' Group

The Council has requested the resurrection of the Writers' Group with various objectives in mind, including the MG Newsletter, the MG website, and for outside organizations on request.

If you are feeling in a creative writing mood, please volunteer your services to Barry Roberts at roberts_bn@yahoo.ca.

Speakers' Group

The MGABC occasionally receives requests from garden clubs and community organizations to provide speakers for their meetings and events. If you are willing and able to speak to small groups about your favourite gardening topic, please volunteer your services to Barry Roberts at roberts_bn@yahoo.ca.

Certified Arborists Can Help with Tree Assessment

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and the new limbs that result are often weakly attached and will break many years later when they are heavy and can do damage.

“Tree topping is never a sensible practice,” agrees Douglas Justice. “There’s plenty of evidence that shows topped trees are more prone to blowdown and breakage. Healthy (untopped) small trees that have been toppled by high winds or heavy snow often have a good chance of re-establishing themselves if root damage isn’t extensive—and roots are evenly distributed on all sides. The key is righting the tree quickly, burying roots at their original level, and making sure that air pockets are eliminated. Improving drainage will usually prevent recurrent blowdown, since the combination of high winds and saturated (hence, slippery) soils lead to instability of the entire root ball.”

Hire an arborist

Both Turnbull and Justice recommend hiring a certified arborist in early winter before the storms, or in the summer lull from August to September to evaluate hazard trees on your property.

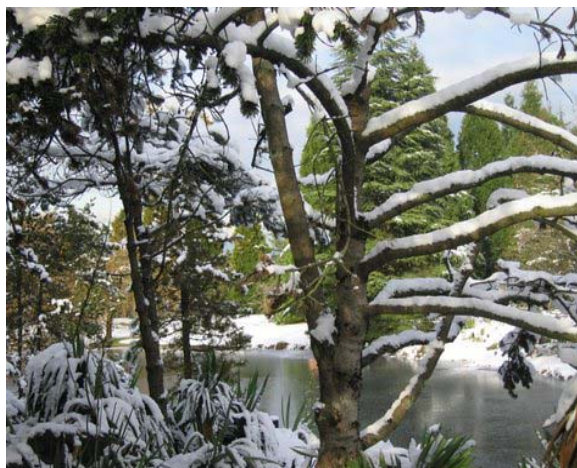
“If you live far away from qualified arborists, get together with some of your neighbours to hire an arborist to travel to your area and do several evaluations in the same day or days and put them up in a nice bed and breakfast nearby while they’re in your area,” Turnbull says.

And be willing to pay \$80 to \$100 per hour for regular tree work, twice that for hazard tree work such as is done after a storm, and \$100 per hour for assessments.

“Tree work is among the most dangerous of professions,” she says, and we should be prepared to pay an experienced arborist, one with sound judgment and training, the fees they are worth.

Ask Cass Turnbull your questions about pruning and winter damage following her presentation on Taming the Overgrown Garden at the 2007 Update, to be held on Sunday, March 25.

—Ann-Marie Metten



Photos: Sally Maclachlan



It is clinic signup time again. As your new Overall Clinic Coordinator I want to assure you that there will be very few, if any, changes to the signup procedures that Lynne Christmas has used for the past several years.

By the time you read this newsletter, email signup will be complete and the clinics signup binder will be at VanDusen Botanical Gardens. At VanDusen until March 23, the clinics signup binder will be at the reception desk in the Admin Office during the week and with the shop cashier on weekends. The signup binder will then be at the Update on March 25. That will be the last opportunity to make changes.

As in previous years the signup binder will be a white three-ring binder that is divided into colour-coded areas. Each area begins with a header page listing nursery addresses. Then each clinic in that area is listed on a separate page and shows the number of Master Gardeners required for the clinic.

Neatness counts

Please print your name and phone number clearly when signing up for a clinic. Getting the Master Clinic List made up correctly depends on being able to read your handwriting.

A calendar appears at the front of the signup binder, but please make sure you have your personal calendar with made in the signup binder anytime up to the Update. After that date, you will be responsible for finding your own replacement and notifying both Area and Overall Clinic Coordinators about any changes you make.

Watch for your clinic package

You will receive the Master Clinic List before the end of April. Please check that your information is correct. If you have been designated as the Clinic Coordinator, please review the job description. It will be your responsibility to call the other MGs listed for the clinic; to speak to the host; and ensure the pink form is completed and submitted within the timeframe. You will receive the Clinic Information and Who Does What form with the Master Clinic List; please read it through to refresh and prepare yourself for the coming season.

If you have any questions, send them to me by email at mgsecretary@gmail.com. **Please do not use the telus.net address that you will see in last year's membership list.** Do feel free to use the phone number you will find on the membership list.

Thank you for your attention to the details set out here. They will make this process flow smoothly.

—Diane Hartley
Overall Clinic Coordinator

Plant Information Line

Changes Mean More Phone Calls Each Month

In September 2006, the Plant Information Line changed the way it operates. Instead of having to call in between one and three o'clock on Tuesdays and Thursdays, gardeners can now get advice from Master Gardeners at any time of day by calling the phone line and leaving a message at 604-257-8662 or by sending an email to plantinfo@bcmastergardeners.org or through the website at bcmastergardeners.org.

Numbers were down

Changes were made in September because, with so much gardening information available over the Internet, the number of queries coming to the Plant Information Line had fallen significantly over the past few years. Even in 2000, the first year shown the Plant Information Line Calls table, the number of phone calls was high, even though this was the year of the city

workers' strike when we were not available for several weeks; nevertheless, we still received more than 900 queries.

Email queries have averaged nine per month between March and October 2006, not as many as in 2005. Encouragingly, the number of phone-in queries has increased since we changed the voicemail format. We had 45 queries in October, the highest number since 2001. We continued to receive queries through November and December and on into January and February, with about five calls coming in each week. Many questions are about finding reliable tradesmen, but questions turned to the topic of winter storm damage in November and December.

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“Now it is a whole lot easier to volunteer for the Plant Information Line.”

A steady trickle of queries continues to arrive directly at the gardens, averaging two or three a month over the past four years. A volunteer checks for these questions twice a week. Most are requests to identify a plant or a plant disease.

Okay to leave a message

The reaction of our clients to the new schedule is good. Many people found the four hours per week that the Plant Information Line was previously available to be too restrictive, and in our heyday callers could not always get through. Leaving a message now seems to be acceptable, and it is usually possible for the volunteers to call back for a live conversation.

The reference library that Plant Information Line volunteers once used was sold at the January general meeting. Staff at VanDusen Gardens tell us that they miss our presence on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, and they look forward to seeing some of us in the library doing our research. In the meantime, the space we occupied has become a long-wanted storage area.

Back in the day

Working on the Plant Information Line in the years when we were busy was always interesting. We responded to a wide variety of questions and always had the opportunity to compare notes with our partners. But recently there have been many days when no calls came in, and many volunteers found it hard to justify their driving time as well as an afternoon spent away from their own gardens.

Every week now a team of Master Gardeners works from home to answer incoming questions. Team members are encouraged to contact each other to discuss thorny questions. During the busy spring and summer months, the size of our Plant Information team needs to increase. If you are comfortable working under these conditions, please sign up to take a turn this year.

—Sheila Watkins

Year	Number of Queries
2000	900
2001	935
2002	582
2003	529
2004	520
2005	447
2006	367

One MG's point of view

For Bowen Island MG Bonnie MacNeill, the changes at the Plant Information Line have made volunteering a whole lot easier. Bonnie has a disability that made her former travel to the phones at VanDusen Botanical Gardens an arduous trip each month.

“I really like researching answers to the variety of questions that comes in over the Plant Information Line, but I am an MG with MG (myasthenia gravis), which means my muscles don't work all that well and I don't often go out. I have volunteered on the Plant Information Line since qualifying as an MG in 2004, but had to get my husband to drive me to VanDusen Gardens to earn my volunteer hours,” Bonnie explains. “Now I pick up phone messages using my home phone, research responses using my home library of gardening books, and then respond by phone from home.”

“I think it is so exciting when you're disabled and isolated that you can still make a strong contribution to the Association,” Bonnie says.

Giving Credit Where Credit Is Due

Volunteer Hours Committee Report

After an extensive review, a report on volunteer hours with 11 recommendations was presented at the November general meeting by Kathy Shynkaryk and Robyn Rance. Strategies for implementing were then discussed, amended, and accepted by Council as follows.

Recommendation 1

The number of volunteer hours required should not change. Certified MGs are required to complete a minimum of 15 volunteer hours plus five education hours in each year and a minimum of 70 hours over two years for students.

Recommendation 2

Be sure to recognize volunteers.

Action:

- List names of members who have given 100 hours or more of service in a year in the first newsletter of the following year. The Membership Chair will forward the names to the newsletter representative to present to Council and to relay to the newsletter editor for publication.
- Send a letter of thanks from Council to all those who gave 100 hours or more.
- Look for better methods of tracking volunteer efforts for long-term service awards.

Recommendation 3

Advice and nonadvice hours will no longer be categorized and will carry equal weight when counting toward volunteer hours. A new record form will be available at the Update in March 2007.

Recommendation 4

Strongly encourage members, both students and qualified MGs, to diversify the ways in which they accumulate volunteer hours.

Action:

- So that students feel comfortable making a commitment, representatives from Community Projects, Speakers Group, Writers Group, Education Committee, Plant Information Line committees should be given adequate time to present during the Basic Training course, when they will come prepared with materials that clearly outline the duties, process, and time commitments involved.
- The Writers Group and Speakers Group need to be revitalized and encouraged to reach out to their local communities.

- General meetings should feature a brief report from representatives of all committees on a regular basis.

Recommendation 5

Provide opportunities for coordinators of various committees to speak at general meetings and to provide information on the website and in the newsletter about the diverse ways of obtaining hours.

Action:

- Emphasize volunteerism before, during, and after the Basic Training program.
- Each committee and group should have written requirements similar to that of clinics in terms of time, people involved, contact numbers, and specific obligations.
- Written procedures for all volunteer activities are necessary.
- Method of presentation should be addressed, with graphics demonstrating the activity, charts, days, and time involved.
- All the various options for volunteering should be available on the website as a graphic, set out concisely and clearly.
- The newsletter could feature the experiences of different MGs at clinics, community projects, and so on, written by the participants.

Recommendation 6

Review clinic sign-up procedures so that students always have a qualified MG to work with them.

Action:

- Ask MGs as they sign up for clinics if they would be willing to work with students.
- Emphasize mentorship as a key part of volunteering as an MG and the need of students for mentors at every opportunity.
- Change Record of Event form so it focuses on student participation.
- Emphasize the responsibility of a MG who is booked to work with a student to provide an alternate if unable to do the clinic. No-shows inconvenience students and the host clinics and give our association a poor public face.

Recommendation 7

Include students who have completed Basic Training in all requests for MG services.

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Island Report

The Vancouver Island Master Gardener Association continues a period of rapid growth and transition.

Foremost is our successful Mentorship Pilot Program, which was put in place for the September 2006 class. We have received feedback that, among other benefits, mentorship strengthened the students' understanding of the volunteer nature of the program on which they are embarking.

No Basic Training course this year

Despite this positive development, VIMGA found it necessary to ask Malaspina University College to not offer the MG course in January 2007. Over the past few years the number of people taking the Master Gardener program has been greater than we could accommodate in terms of providing quality clinic experiences and ensuring students were always teamed with a certified MG.

The VIMGA executive feels that it needs time to mentor and strengthen its current students and membership, to improve the quality of its volunteer opportunities, and to make sure the program is a quality one, honouring its public service roots, all without the influx of new students twice a year.

In 2006 we participated in an Advisory Committee with Malaspina. Even though no Master Gardener program sanctioned by VIMGA is currently being run, the Advisory Committee will continue discussions with the University.

We need to ensure that intakes match the number of fledgling MGs that we can handle in terms of offering valuable clinic experience. We also need to ensure that those entering the program are committed to the level of volunteerism required.

Moving ahead

Despite the difficult decision to ask Malaspina to cancel the next classes, we have positive achievements to report. We have an enthusiastic Executive and District Planners in place, and plans are under way to offer workshops in the spring as well as to repeat the highly successful disease and insect workshops of last year.

Several committees are working toward strengthening and making more consistent the whole clinic infrastructure. Further, we were fortunate to have Richard Hebda as one of our more recent speakers.

No doubt a sizeable group of Vancouver Island MGs will make their way to the Update in the spring. We look forward to seeing our Lower Mainland colleagues there.

—Gael Ackroyd and Eleanor Voysey

MG Donations

MGABC treasurer Karen Shuster hand-delivered a cheque for \$1,000 to the Vancouver Park Board on January 12 as a contribution to Stanley Park Tree Fund to ensure that the deadline for the matching funds would be met.

At the February council meeting executive approved an additional donation of \$1,000 to the cleanup campaign at VanDusen Botanical Gardens. Membership approved the donation at the general meeting.

MG Sally Maclachlan, who volunteers in VanDusen's Adopt-a-Tree program, reports that 60 of the over 500 trees damaged in the garden were adopted trees. "Many of our Himalayan birches (*Betula utilis* var. *jacquemontii*) were damaged, possibly because they had pre-existing disease brought on by the bronze birch borer," she says.

MG Janet Sawatsky of Parksville reports a lot of wind damage in the Parksville-Qualicum area. "Many trees came down in areas where a lot of development is going on, resulting in just a few trees left standing or a fringe of trees bordering the development," reports Janet.

Master Gardeners should be prepared to advise concerned gardeners that trees planted near the house provide shade and reduce the need for air conditioners in summer. This advice may be enough to allay fears that trees need to be removed for safety reasons before next winter.

—Ann-Marie Metten

Encouraging MG Volunteers

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Recommendation 8

Significantly improve communications within the MG association.

Action:

General Meetings

- Keep business reports short and concise.
- Respect everyone's time.
- Brief presentations from members.
- Host speaker every other meeting.
- No speaker at AGM.
- Consider changing meeting format to encourage people to stay for business part of the meeting.

Council Meetings

- Have committee chairs attend a meeting and report directly.
- Discuss changes with people involved before publicizing to general membership.

Membership

- Celebrate being an MG by joining in, volunteering, participating, and supporting.
- Project volunteers make the association great.
- Realize and respect the fact that we are all volunteers.
- Act responsibly by showing up when expected and communicating when you are unable to make it to clinics and meetings.

Recommendation 9

Students are required to complete a minimum of 70 hours over two years before they receive certification, with a minimum of 20 hours in each year

Recommendation 10

Remove the reference for three hours of preparation time for presentations.

Action:

- When revitalizing the Writers Group, Speakers Group, and Education Committee, each group should prepare their own criteria for volunteer hours credited for preparation time.

Recommendation 11

Maintain the minimum five-hour education hour requirement and encourage all members to attend education programs.

You will find many of these recommendations already under way, encouraging plenty of volunteer participation in the Master Gardener Association of BC.

—Susan Lazar



MG students Rosanne, Bobbie, and Marilyn answer sample questions at a mock clinic last spring.

2006 Members Extraordinaire

Members who have contributed over 100 volunteer hours in 2006:

Christine Allen
Jacqueline Baker
Joan Bentley
Lynne Christmas
Doug Courtemanche
Sue Damm
Doreen Godwin
Jack Grant
Ann Kent
Alice Kilian

Susan Lazar
Andrea Lebowitz
Wendy Macintyre
Sally MacLachlan
Colleen Martin
Katie McIntosh
Ann-Marie Metten
Marguerite Miller
Trich Miller
June Pierson

Robin Rance
Karen Shuster
Kathy Shynkaryk
Pat Taylor
Jo Toon
Margaret Walwyn
Lorraine Waring
Judy Zipursky

Your Overabundant Garden

Quest Food Exchange Welcomes Food Donations

Master Gardeners love a good recycling story and this is one. Last year, Vancouver's Quest Outreach Society salvaged over 6.6 million pounds of food; diverted 3,300 tons of food waste from landfills; fed 45,000 people per month with the rescued food; and composted anything that didn't make the grade or shipped it to local farms as livestock feed. The success of this non-profit organization was recently recognized when it won the annual \$1 million award from Vancity Credit Union.

Quest Outreach has three principles: (1) reverse the waste of tons of good food—over half of it is fresh produce; (2) redistribute this food to those who need it either directly or through meals cooked in their industrial kitchen; and (3) recycle any leftovers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Products come from large and small suppliers who have understood the wisdom of donating the food rather than sending it off to the landfill. The food rescued by Quest Outreach literally ranges from soup to nuts and over 50 percent of the produce is organic.

Timely recognition

The Vancity award comes at an opportune time. Quest Outreach's warehouse is bursting at the seams, and the capacity to feed more people and rescue more food is stalled by lack of space. However, with the \$1 million award they will now be able to build or buy new storage. The publicity from the award has generated a great deal of interest and architects have indicated willingness to be part of the team that designs or finds the new space. Quest executive director Shelley Wells feels that with the new facility over 150,000 people per month can receive good food.

Fundraising and Special Events

As a Council Member I have been given responsibility for organizing fundraising events and special events in 2007. As anyone who has been involved in these tasks before will appreciate, it is more than a one-man job. I am therefore looking for helpers.

We already have numerous special events and field trips in mind, but if you could contribute your ideas and help in managing some of the details, please let me know.

—Barry Roberts
roberts_bn@yahoo.ca

Quest Outreach is trying to address fundamental problems of our society where vast quantities of food are wasted at the same time as many go hungry. Overall in BC, 290,000 children do not have a secure source of food, 11 percent of food assistance goes to families that are employed, and 25 percent of seniors suffer from a lack of access to proper nutrition.

Wanton waste

Yet tons of good food wind up in landfills. Overstocked items, mislabelled or near-expiry date products or food deemed otherwise unsaleable are all junked. Quest Outreach diverts this waste in order to feed people in need.

But as Wells says: "We are at capacity, and we're still only capturing one percent of the existing food surplus." The hope is that with the new warehouse, this figure will increase tenfold.

Naturally, like all non-profit organizations, Quest Outreach needs help—people and donations. To volunteer, see the opportunities at questoutreach.org. Or make a contribution to P.O. Box 2156, Station Main Terminal, Vancouver, BC V6B 3V3. Every dollar donation generates \$12.51 worth of food and feeds six people.

Coming and going, Quest Outreach is certainly a great recycling story.

—Andrea Lebowitz

How you can help

Individual gardeners can contribute excess produce from overabundant backyard plots. Either harvest the food yourself or call in the Fruit Tree Project (fruit@vcn.bc.ca) to handle the picking.





Newsletter

of the
**Master Gardeners' Association of
British Columbia**
Affiliated with VanDusen
Botanical Gardens Association

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Master Gardeners' Association of British Columbia is to provide information about gardening to the community and to educate people about environmentally responsible gardening practices.

Please send all **contact information changes** to Kathy Shynkaryk, membership chair.

All other **newsletter correspondence** can be sent to the editor, Ann-Marie Metten, at ametten@telus.net.

Newsletter layout by Wendy Jones Carere.

The MG Newsletter is published in March, June, September, and December. **Deadline for submissions** to the June newsletter is April 15, 2007.

www.bcmastergardeners.org
gardener@bcmastergardeners.org



MG Calendar

No monthly meeting in March

Sunday, March 25, 9:00 a.m.

Update 2007

Energize Your Gardening Passion:

Plants, Pruning, and Working the Land

Michael J. Fox Theatre

Burnaby South High School

5455 Rumble Street, Burnaby

Tuesday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.

General meeting

Derry Walsh

Apple Maggot

Shirley Rainey

A Travelogue of Cornwall Gardens

June Pierson

*Table display showing samples
of insect damage*

Tuesday, May 8, 9:30 a.m.

General meeting

Jack Grant

Focus on the Education Committee

Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tour of lesser-known nurseries
in Surrey, Langley, and Delta

Tuesday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.

General meeting

Jessica Dawe

Bugs Build Better Gardens

Bring bugs for identification.

Saturday, June 23, 1 to 4 p.m.

2007 MG Summer Garden Party

Master Gardeners' Association of British Columbia Contact List 2007

Please refer to your current MG member list for full contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses.

Chair	Advanced Training	Finance	Plant Sale Coordinators	Web Master
Lynne Christmas	June Pierson	Karen Shuster	Joan Bentley	Deb Dorey
Past Chair	Basic Training (BT)	Fundraising/ Special Events	Loretta Barr	David Watkins
Jack Grant	Doreen Godwin	Barry Roberts	Publicity	Welcome Table
1st Vice Chair	Bylaws	Membership	—available—	Shirley Mason
Barbara Bowers	Doug Courtemanche	Kathy Shynkaryk	Selection (BT)	Writers Group
2nd Vice Chair	Clinic Coordinator	Newsletter Editor	Doreen Godwin	Barry Roberts
Jenny Newman	Diane Hartley	Ann-Marie Metten	Speakers Group	VIMGA
Secretary	Coffee Convenor	Nominations	Linda Shulman	(Vancouver Island)
Diane Hartley	Judy Zipursky	Mel Felker	Telephone/Email	Chair
Treasurer	Community Projects	Picture Library	Colleen Martin	Bob McTaggart
Karen Shuster	Alice Kilian	Barry Roberts	Linda Wright	Secretary
Members-at-Large	Andrea Lebowitz	Plant Information	Update Seminar	Linda Rehlinger
Susan Lazar	Database Manager	Line	Barbara Bowers	SMGA
Barry Roberts	Pat Taylor	Sheila Watkins	Website Committee	(Summerland)
Janet Sawatsky	Education Committee	Zoe Wise	Karen Shuster	Program Coordinator
Linda Sears	Jack Grant			Linda Sears