



# Newsletter

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September 2006

## Two Books Revisit Organic Gardening

***Fields of Plenty: A Farmer's Journey in Search of Real Food and the People Who Grow It***  
(Chronicle Books, 2005), 256 pages

***Gardening When It Counts: Growing Food in Hard Times*, Mother Earth News Wiser Living Series**  
(New Society Publishers, 2006), 360 pages

Though it happened more than 30 years ago, I still have a vivid memory of clawing in the soil at dusk, my friend Ken telling me to just keep digging, eventually I'd find a potato. We were digging for dinner and there was an urgency as we kept plunging our hands deep into the loose earth before the light completely faded. Up until that moment I didn't realize it was possible to pull a potato out of the earth with my bare hands.

Ken had done what a lot of people did in the 70s—bought land with the idea of becoming self-sufficient. Growing the food that would feed you all year. The desire to be self-sufficient drew many people to the land, in Canada and the United States. Some never left.

Michael Ableman started small-scale farming in central California more than 20 years ago and, for the past four years, he has farmed on Salt Spring Island. Though Ableman refers to himself as a farmer, he is also a writer, photographer, public speaker on behalf of organic and sustainable small-scale farming, and founder of the Center of Urban Agriculture at Fairview Gardens



which “has become an international model for small-scale urban agriculture.”

In the summer of 2003, Ableman took a three-month journey across North America to visit organic farmers, looking for answers to some big questions: How do we make sure pure food is available to all, not just those who can afford it? How do we grow food without depending on vast amounts of energy and foreign oil? How can we reduce the distance food travels? What scale is appropriate for farms? How do we grow with less water and fewer outside inputs? How do we protect biodiversity? How do we attract young people to farming? The chronicle of this journey and how

organic farmers are addressing these issues forms Ableman's book, *Fields of Plenty: A Farmer's Journey in Search of Real Food and the People Who Grow It*.

The book is a delightful read. Ableman is a good writer, easily bringing you along as his traveling companion. The BC reader has the advantage of starting the journey in familiar territory as Ableman leaves his farm on Salt Spring Island and makes his first stop at a farm in Keremeos.

Ableman's photos of the people and the land he visits illustrate the book throughout, and recipes featuring the farmers' produce close each chapter. Each chapter also provides a reassuring answer to the question of protecting biodiversity. All the farmers Ableman visits take great pride in growing unusual varieties, often from heirloom seed. The most extreme example is Hilario

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With September comes the end of another year of clinics. All clinic paperwork needs to be sent in to my attention, care of VanDusen Botanical Gardens, by October 31.

As you finish up the year and get ready to send in the yellow volunteer hour sheet, please double-check all your books to make sure a pink record of event or question and answer sheet isn't hiding there. If you find one, please send it in. Please make sure all forms sent in list your name, the date of the MG clinic, and the venue where it was held.

A few changes in clinic venues happened this year: we tried some new venues and we have lost some old favourites. Some venues had fewer clinics, others had more. Although the master list is the way we keep track of all the venues, remember that the list is constantly changing. Throughout the year we are contacted by many venues asking if we can help them sponsor an MG clinic. Some we can help and others we can't. Sometimes we keep the contacts for next year's master list.

As we reflect on the past year of gardening and clinics, one of the most important things to remember about clinics is communication. We must communicate with each other, with the venues, and with the public in order for the clinics to run smoothly and benefit all concerned.

Another thought about clinics is that they provide us with a way of educating both the public about good gardening practices and ourselves as we research the answers to the many questions. Education can benefit everyone if you use your research to write articles for the newsletter or to present at general meetings as part of the show and tell program.

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## Letter from the Chair

### **Fast forward to January 2008, location: VANCOUVER**

The inaugural meeting of the council of the College of Master Gardeners is being held in rented headquarters on 41st Avenue in Vancouver. Present are Dahlia Marigold, newly appointed part-time Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the College and Lynne Christmas, *pro tempore* Chair and representative from Zone 10 (North Shore-Bowen Island, Sechelt, Powell River), along with representatives from each of the active zone chapters in BC.

The meeting convenes for two days and the agenda is full, presaging much discussion and debate in the hours ahead. Representatives will elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, and directors of Education, Public Outreach, Certification, Finance, and University/Horticulture, to name a few. This will be followed by a Committee-of-the-Whole discussion centred on the skeleton Constitution and By-Laws to be amended and ratified.

The College's mandate as suggested in the aforementioned will consist of certifying all MGs in the province, overseeing all Basic and Advanced Training Education, and negotiating and drafting affiliation agreements with institutions in the province, as well as with like organizations throughout the world. Doreen Godwin and Linda Sears (Summerland) will conduct a session on Day 2 outlining the expansion of Basic Training to include an online component and restructuring of the program incorporating an intensive four-day annual seminar at Burnaby South Secondary School mandatory for current student MGs throughout the province. College Council will be approving a \$20 per member fee (required for ongoing certification) to cover administrative and other costs of the new structure.

The zone structure proposed in the lead-up to this two-day event is as follows: Zone 1 will encompass most of the northern half of the province, including Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Fort Nelson, and parts west to Atlin and Dease Lake; Zone 2 covers Prince Rupert and the Charlottes east to Smithers; Zone 3 covers Prince George from Houston east to McBride, including Quesnel; Zone 4 covers all of the Cariboo south of Quesnel and west to Bella Coola. Without naming them all, the picture becomes clear that the entire province is covered and chapters in each zone will be created in areas of interest and numbers. Zone 7 (Okanagan-Kelowna, Summerland to Osoyoos/Boundary) will be designated the Interior "hub" as an education centre.

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# Letter from the Chair

The Lower Mainland/Vancouver Island zones remain the most contentious and currently organized chapters are all represented at this gathering. The College will have to deal with changes as time goes on. Zone 15, which covers the VanDusen Chapter (Vancouver-Richmond), still commands a large membership group and pushes to have a bigger voice on the Council. Zone 14, which covers Burnaby-New Westminster, Coquitlam, and Port Moody, challenges this as does Zone 13, Delta/Tsawwassen, Surrey, and White Rock. Zones 11 (Langley/Maple Ridge) and 12 (Abbotsford/Mission) are thinking of merging to provide strength in numbers, leaving Zone 16 (Chilliwack/Agassiz-Harrison) isolated in the eastern part of the valley. Legitimately, Vancouver Island (Zone 17) contends that it is too big geographically to operate effectively.

And so it goes. The most contentious resolution comes on Day 2 when the roster and financial structure for the annual Update comes up for debate. Vancouver Island has already committed to host and will be reporting on progress of the 2008 Update, to be held in early April at the Convention Centre in Duncan. A wine-tasting and vineyard tour will be highlights of the two-day event. Other zones will be jockeying for “delay” positions in the mandated 10-year roster. Stay tuned.

**Back to the present-day:** This imaginative conjecture of the future of the MGABC may belong in the realm of fantasy, but I hope it offers some intriguing ideas to chew over as we plan for the future. Our planning group will continue to meet for the foreseeable future even though its scope will change, members will change (new members are welcome), and it will continue to face the “chicken versus the egg” conundrum (i.e., Should this be done before that...?) By drawing attention to the future of MGABC, perhaps more members will be intrigued enough to contribute thoughtfully and in different ways. Our future will be richer for that.

As for other activities of the Association, the fall months will be truly exciting. The Volunteer Hours Committee will be reporting. Changes to the Plant Info Line structure will happen. Two exciting education experiences take place—the Organic Workshop on September 30 and the Everett Crowley Park tour on October 13. More opportunities to complete Volunteer Advice Hours will be available with the VanDusen Seed Collectors. The Association meets at the Annual General Meeting in November 14 to debate a membership fee and changes in the structure of volunteer hours. I look forward to these ongoing challenges and further contact with many colleagues. We hope to see you at the September 14 joint meeting with VanDusen guides. Meanwhile, contact me at [jackmg@shaw.ca](mailto:jackmg@shaw.ca) with ideas or comments.

—Jack Grant

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Also as we think about clinics, let us not forget the different aspects of the responsibilities involved, from signup to communicating with each other before attending the clinic to completing the paperwork.



If you have signed up for a clinic, then it is your responsibility to find a replacement, but you must also keep in touch with both the area and clinic coordinators about all the changes. If you need help finding a replacement for a clinic, make sure you subscribe to MG Clinics, the Yahoo group for email clinic openings and exchanges. To subscribe to this group, please send an email message to [mgclinics-subscribe@yahoogroups.ca](mailto:mgclinics-subscribe@yahoogroups.ca) and reply to the confirmation message you receive. Each member must request to join so that only those who are interested will get the messages.

With clinics out of the way at the end of October, then comes the time for reflection on how your garden did this year. I hope everyone enjoyed the spring and summer clinics this year and that you're ready for more next year.

—Lynne Chrismas  
Overall Clinic Coordinator

## To Everything There Is a Season

The Canadian Horticultural Therapy Association offers six different therapeutic horticulture workshops on Saturday, October 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at a centrally located residential care facility in Vancouver. Cost is \$100, including breakfast, lunch, all materials, and an education certificate. Each workshop is limited to 15 participants. To register, email Ann Kent at [akent@catkinggardens.ca](mailto:akent@catkinggardens.ca).

## Plant Information Line: Changes Underway

In recent years, relatively few calls have come in to the plant information line. This may be because people use the internet for their research, or because there are more clinics, or for other reasons, but having two people sitting beside the phone waiting for a call which does not come is a waste of our time and talents.

The following changes have been made as of September 1, 2006:

1. Instead of requesting the public to call between 1 and 3 p.m. on Monday or Wednesday, we will only take questions by voicemail, email, Canada Post, or through the administration office at VanDusen Garden. The voicemail message will request the caller to include a preferred call-back time and number along with a description of the problem.
2. Two certified MGs will be on duty each week. One person will be in charge of answering the voicemails; one will deal with email. They will be encouraged to contact each other to discuss thorny problems, and will make a note of the questions asked.
3. A minimum of two hours per week will be credited for this, as the mail should be checked frequently. Additional advice hours will be accrued according to the amount of time spent responding to questions.
4. One of the coordinators—or a third duty MG—will pick up mail or drop-in questions from the VanDusen Botanical Gardens office regularly.
5. This procedure will be reviewed after two months.

These changes will not only make the Plant Information Line more pleasant for the MGs involved, but will also be advantageous to the VanDusen Botanical Garden Association (VBGA) and the Park Board. We will not take up space in the staff lunchroom, we will not need two phone lines, and we can return our computer to the VBGA. They have regularly updated the computer, even though we have hardly used it.

A key point is that for phone inquiries as well as for email there will no longer be the need to go all the way in to VanDusen for two advice hours. This should prove to be a great advantage to those who are housebound, disabled, or living at a distance. Providing hours for these MGs is a distinct advantage of the new system.

There is a small library of gardening books for reference in the Plant Information Line room. These could be donated to the library, or sold to MGs. Is anyone interested in a second-hand gardening book sale?

We hope that this will make it easier for some MGs who have difficulty getting out to clinics to complete their advice hours—or to start their next year's commitment—but the opportunity is not limited to them. If you are interested, please contact me. I will organize the schedules for the rest of the year as soon as possible.

—Sheila Watkins, Coordinator,  
with Karen Shuster, Treasurer

## Update Info

Thanks to Lorraine Waring and her team, 478 people attended “Going Native with Native Plants” for a very successful, informative, and enjoyable Update on Sunday, March 26. The 2007 Update steering committee consists of Barbara Bowers (Chair), Lynne Christmas, Susan Lazar, and Barry Roberts. If you would like to offer assistance please contact Barbara at [fbowers@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:fbowers@interchange.ubc.ca).

## Dart's Hill and Joan Bentley's Garden Tours

Despite a decidedly wet Thursday, June 8, about 40 souls ventured out to enjoy the magnificent surroundings of two beautiful gardens, the first at Dart's Hill in South Surrey and Joan Bentley's home not so very far away. Many thanks to organizer Robin Rance and to Joan Bentley, whose garden was much appreciated by fellow MGs.

## Nori and Sandra Pope Lecture

There was standing room only for the Nori and Sandra Pope Lecture on Tuesday, June 13. Organized by Lorraine Waring, this fundraising event for the VanDusen Capital Project generated almost \$3,000 as a gift from the Master Gardeners Association of BC. Nori Pope delighted us with his slides and stories from Hadspen House in Somerset, England, and those who attended will never be able to look at another garden without also hearing the kind of music it makes. His lecture was a solo performance, with Sandra staying at home on Pender Island at Razor Point, where they will be continuing with plant breeding and international introductions.

## Summer Garden Party Well Worth Attending

More than 60 Lower Mainland MGs, as well as two from Victoria, enjoyed sunshine and good company in MG Council member Barry Roberts's thriving canna garden on Saturday, August 12. Under a huge marquee, excellent food provided by and eagerly consumed by MGs, their families, and friends, together with drinks provided by the Association, made for a great social occasion. Barry and his wife Goretti willingly toured enthusiastic groups through the four-year-old garden, which ranges from the bright tropical colour of the canna lilies to a splendid greenhouse filled with tomatoes, where Barry starts his many canna divisions each spring. A bog garden massed with ligularia, rodgersia, Indian rhubarb, astilbe, and primulas, thrived in the shade of towering cedar trees. Here, Barry has managed to turn the most arid part of the garden into the wettest and most fertile, with the help of a plastic liner and plenty of determination.

Goretti and Barry moved to the White Rock property in December 2002 and began to transform what was mainly lawn and conifers into a garden that now showcases their three collections: canna, hibiscus, and Japanese maple. Barry continues to actively remove salal and juniper shrubs to make room for more plants, and it appears that another visit in only a short while will put even greater change on view.

Since the event, many congratulatory emails have been received encouraging the Association to hold a similar event again next year.

## Cedar Lecture Series Underway Soon

VanDusen Botanical Garden presents the Cedar Lecture Series again this fall on the first Thursday of the month in October, November, and December. Lectures feature illustrated talks by well-known presenters in gardening, botany, horticulture, photography, travel, and all topics botanically related. Speakers and their topics are listed in this newsletter Calendar on page 8. Unless otherwise noted, all lectures are held at 8 p.m. in the Floral Hall at VanDusen. Tickets are available at the door or in advance from the Administration Office by phone at 604-257-8151 or by email [educate@vandusen.org](mailto:educate@vandusen.org). Individual lectures at \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Members only can purchase the series of three lectures for \$24.

## Insect and Disease Workshops

Coordinated by Margaret Walwyn, June Pierson, and Jack Grant, with lots of helpers, a very informative learning opportunity was experienced by more than 50 people attending the spring insect and disease workshops held Wednesday, May 31. The date for next year's workshops will likely be set for late April or early in May.

## Membership Involvement Needed

There seems to be a gap in members willing to involve themselves in the organization, tasks, and activities needing to be done. The Master Gardeners Association of BC has well over 500 members, and many have talents that could enhance and continue the professional knowledge, expertise, and experience that has contributed to the organization to date—and yet there is no logistical means to discover who might be able to contribute in any particular area. To this end, a Membership Skills Survey will be undertaken over the next few months. Please help make this a useful exercise by completing the survey when it becomes available.

## Nominations for Council

Working on Council is a wonderful way to get to know the organization as well as contribute to it. This year, Mel Felker, our Nominations Committee Chair, is looking for volunteers to fill two-year Council positions, beginning in January 2007. Positions available include secretary, treasurer, and two members-at-large. Anyone interested in getting involved will find position descriptions on the website. Call Mel at (604) 542-0365 or by email at [gloewen@telus.net](mailto:gloewen@telus.net). Download a nominations form from the MG Council page of the MG website at [www.bcmastergardeners.org](http://www.bcmastergardeners.org).

## Comments Invited

Thomas Hobbs's Gemini award-winning, gardening/biography series "Recreating Eden" has just completed its second season on Vision TV, covering selected gardeners from around the world, including Marjorie Harris and Des Kennedy. Producer Merit Jensen Carr of Merit Motion Pictures in Winnipeg has given the MGABC a DVD of their first season. They're looking for a critique and suggestions for other gardeners and gardens to profile for future episodes. View the DVD by borrowing it from the VanDusen Library. Check its availability by emailing [library@vandusen.org](mailto:library@vandusen.org) or call 604-257-8668. Then send comments to Merit Motion Pictures by email at [info@meritmotionpictures.com](mailto:info@meritmotionpictures.com).

# Both books inspire an organic harvest

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Alvarez, who farms in Washington State and sells his produce at the Pike Place Farmer's Market. Amazingly, Alvarez grows 85 types of chilis, 45 different summer squashes, 15 different winter squashes, and 10 types of corn.

Such bountiful crops interest Ableman but he is equally interested in the farmers—how and why they chose this way of life. Many were part of the back-to-the-land movement and have remained on the land, but two growers he visits farm in big cities—Ken Dunn in Chicago and Eli Zabar in New York City. Ken farms on abandoned city lots; Eli has several roof-top greenhouses. These two urban farmers have the most unusual way of reducing the distance produce needs to travel—growing food right where people live. Another approach is to distribute locally, and a third—new to me—is the concept of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). Basically a partnership between the farmer and a group of consumers, in CSA the consumer pays the farmer a predetermined amount to run the farm each year and in exchange the consumer receives a weekly box of food from the farm.

## Organics and ecogastronomy

The question of how to make organic food affordable comes up over and over again and no single way to resolve it. Ken Dunn is able to sell his tomatoes at affordable prices in the low-income neighbourhoods where he farms because he also sells to high-end restaurants at premium prices. Many organic farmers in the book seem to have developed relationships with ecogastronomy restaurants, but none are as high-profile as the one between renegade organic farmer Bob Cannard and Chez Panisse in Berkeley, one of the first restaurants to feature local produce on the menu. Other farmers prefer to sell directly to consumers via traditional farmer's markets and the CSA program in order to help make organic food affordable. Yet others have scaled up their production so they can sell to organic wholesalers, trusting the theory that larger scale production of anything will ultimately bring its price down.

In all situations there is the constant tension between offering the consumer affordable food yet adequately compensating the farmer. To give some context to what

affordable means, consider what *Four-Season Harvest* author Eliot Coleman and his partner Barbara Damrosch tell Michael Ableman during his visit: “as recently as 1940, the average American spent one-third of their income on food. . . . And we now spend less per capita on food than any other industrialized country in the world. . . . It's 14 cents on the dollar,” adds Ableman. To counter the public's expectation for cheap food, many of the farmers try to educate the public about the realities of growing food. My favourite from *Fields of Plenty* is the annual Pear Saga for 2001, written by Ellen Lane: “1.) Below-zero temperature for long periods over the last winter caused dormant fruit buds to become unviable. 2.) During fruit bloom this spring, the temperature zoomed abnormally into the high 80s and caused the pear trees to bloom all at once (they normally bloom two times, giving the tree two chances for pollination). During this onetime bloom, a windstorm kept the bees from getting to the blooms, so pollination was greatly reduced. 3.) The pears we did get are perfect and exceptionally sweet!”

## Affordable organics

Ableman maintains that organic farmers need to make a sustaining income not only to keep current farmers farming but to encourage young people to see farming as a real career choice. To Ableman, younger farmers are the key to long-term preservation of farmland and food availability. This sentiment is echoed by the Falks—Mary Falk makes a renowned artisan cheese using the milk from her husband's sheep herd—“the best way to save the family farm is through the kids.” She realizes the farm operation has to be successful to ensure the next generations continue to stay involved. In the case of the Thurmans, they don't want to just save their family farm; they want to save their rural farming community, which is poor and black. To counter the lure of an urban lifestyle, the Thurmans started a youth program to teach “kids farming and marketing, leadership and organizational skills and the value of giving back to the community.”

Not all of Ableman's questions are answered and through the journey more issues arise: farm land being encroached by suburban development, the hierarchy of imported labour, the emerging gap between the principles that guided the original organic movement, and the new organic-industry as typified by the large organic retailers such as Whole Foods and Wal-Mart.

## “I look forward to the day when families put farmers out of business by growing their own.”

At one point in the book, Ableman writes: “I’ve always said that I look forward to the day when individuals and families put farmers out of business by growing their own.” Steve Solomon, author of *Gardening When It Counts: Growing Food in Hard Times*, sees it as inevitable that people will be forced to grow their own food when the escalating price of oil makes oil products including fertilizers and transportation fuel unaffordable, and water becomes more scarce.

### Organic gardening always counts

Solomon is another back-to-the-lander, who progressed from growing vegetables in his backyard in 1973, to homesteading in Oregon in 1978, to starting the well-known seed company Territorial Seeds in 1979. Since selling Territorial Seeds in 1986, Solomon continued to vegetable garden in the United States, then Canada, and now on the Australian island of Tasmania.

Solomon has written *Gardening When It Counts* for the beginning vegetable gardener, who for economy’s sake must grow his own food. This is meant to be an instructive book. And it is instructive: how much land you require to grow enough produce to sustain yourself (minimum 4,000 sq ft: 2,000 to cultivate, 2,000 to lay fallow), what to know about seeds, soil, tools, preferred planting methods, composting, methods and techniques for using less water, and growing instructions for specific vegetables.

The backyard hobby vegetable gardener will find the information on seeds comprehensive. This includes Solomon’s insider knowledge of how the seed business works, how to evaluate seed (germination percentage and age of seed being two factors), how and where to purchase seed (there is a list of recommended seed houses appropriate to particular climatic regions), how and when to plant seeds, specific directions for seedlings and direct sowing, techniques such as chitting (starts the sprouting process before putting the seed in the earth), how to buy seed economically without sacrificing quality, how to store seed, and when is it practical to save your own seed and when it is not.

### A disheartening read

The chapter on compost becomes disheartening when Solomon states that making high-grade compost for vegetable gardening is highly skilled, hard work. Once

resigned to making inferior compost, I still found the chapter informative and agreed with his evaluation of green manure crops, having naively tried them myself many years ago and ended up cursing the dense mat of fall rye roots. Solomon endorses the use of green manure, also known as cover crops, to enrich the soil. He cautions, though, that many cover crops may not be suitable for the home gardener who uses only his back and a shovel to break up and turn into the ground tough stalks and dense root systems. Timing is very important to the removal of cover crops, and the home gardener needs to be aware that one type of plant leaves a residue in the soil that inhibits the growth of other plants (allopathy).

Sometimes when reading the book it seems that Solomon has forgotten what it is like to be a real beginner gardener. For example, he offers a daunting list of ingredients needed for his ambitious Complete Organic Fertilizer recipe that includes seedmeal or copra meal, tankage (slaughterhouse by-product that has been grounded and dried), agriculture lime, dolomite and gypsum, phosphate from phosphate rock, bonemeal, or guano (bat manure), and kelpmeal or basalt dust. All are to be purchased at a country store because the quantities and prices of the ingredients at a garden centre will be prohibitive.

He also sets out complex instructions for plant spacing possibilities that have four columns of possible plants spaces depending on whose philosophy you follow and how much rainfall you expect and whether the crops are in raised beds or raised rows or on the flat. For special cases, there are items marked with one, two, and three asterisks. Yet at other times he takes you by the hand to explain what a vegetable is and what weeding is.

For the intended audience, the novice gardener who must grow his or her own food, the effort it takes to read *Gardening When It Counts* will yield much useful information but I would recommend seeking other titles. Solomon’s bibliography lists excellent suggestions, including Elliot Coleman’s *Four-Season Harvest: Organic Vegetables from Your Home Garden All Year Long* (Chelsea Green, 1999), which inspires enthusiasm in the reader interested in how to grow vegetables. As *Fields of Plenty* admirably shows, there is no one right way to garden.

—Anna Camporese



# 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](mailto:ametten@telus.net).

Newsletter layout by Wendy Jones Carere.

**Deadline for submissions** to the December newsletter is October 15, 2006.

[www.bcmastergardeners.org](http://www.bcmastergardeners.org)  
[gardener@bcmastergardeners.org](mailto:gardener@bcmastergardeners.org)



# MG Calendar

**Thursday, September 14, 9:30 a.m.**

General meeting

Daniel Mosquin

*The Flora of Garibaldi Provincial Park:*

*A Historical Perspective*

This is a meeting held jointly with  
VanDusen Guides.

**Saturday, September 30, 1 to 4 p.m.**

*Organic Gardening Workshop*

Cost: \$20. Limited to 20 participants.

Email Lynne Christmas at

[NTL234@telus.net](mailto:NTL234@telus.net).

**Thursday, October 5, 8 p.m.**

Cedar Lecture Series,

Dr. Norma Senn, *Devious Plants:*

*Manipulating Man for 12,000 Years*

**Tuesday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.**

General meeting

Gary Lewis, Phoenix Perennials

*Botanically Intriguing Options*

*for Your Garden*

**Friday, October 13, 10 a.m. to noon**

Guided tour of Everett Crowley Park

Cost: \$10. Limited to 20 participants.

Email Ann Kent at

[akent@catkinggardens.ca](mailto:akent@catkinggardens.ca).

**Thursday, November 2, 8 p.m.**

Cedar Lecture Series

Glenn Paterson, *A Rooftop Retreat*

**Tuesday, November 14, 9:30 a.m.**

Annual general meeting

Dr. Roy Taylor,

*A Mediterranean Garden  
in Lantzville*

**Thursday, December 7, 8 p.m.**

Cedar Lecture Series

Chris Czajkowski, *Wilderness Dweller*

Vancouver Museum Auditorium

**Tuesday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.**

MGABC Christmas party

## Master Gardeners' Association of British Columbia Contact List 2005 / 2006

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

<b>Chair</b> Jack Grant	<b>Advanced Training</b> June Pierson	<b>Finance</b> Karen Shuster	<b>Selection (BT)</b> Doreen Godwin	<b>Welcome Table</b> —available—
<b>Chair Elect</b> Lynne Christmas	<b>Basic Training (BT)</b> Doreen Godwin	<b>Fundraising</b> Brian Campbell	<b>Speakers Group</b> Linda Shulman	<b>VIMGA (Vancouver Island)</b>
<b>1st Vice Chair</b> Barbara Bowers	<b>Bylaws</b> Sheila Watkins	<b>Membership</b> Kathy Shynkaryk	<b>Telephone/Email</b> Colleen Martin	<b>Chair</b> Rodney Murray
<b>2nd Vice Chair</b> Jenny Newman	<b>Clinic Coordinator</b> Lynne Christmas	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Ann-Marie Metten	Linda Wright	<b>Secretary</b> Linda Cooper
<b>Secretary</b> Katie McIntosh	<b>Coffee Convenor</b> Judy Zipursky	<b>Nominations</b> Mel Felker	<b>Transition/New Students</b> —available—	<b>SMGA (Summerland) Program Coordinator</b> Linda Sears
<b>Treasurer</b> Karen Shuster	<b>Community Projects</b> Alice Kilian	<b>Plant Information Line</b> Sheila Watkins	<b>Update Seminar</b> Barbara Bowers	
<b>Members at Large</b> Ayuko Inoue	Andrea Lebowitz	<b>Plant Sale Coordinator</b> Joan Bentley	<b>Website Committee</b> Karen Shuster	
Susan Lazar	<b>Database Manager</b> Pat Taylor	<b>Publicity</b> —available—	<b>Web Masters</b> Deb Dorey	
Barry Roberts	<b>Education Committee</b> Robin Rance		David Watkins	