

Background Information on our Guest Speakers
MGABC “BEST OF THE WEST” Conference October 20, 2012

DAY PROGRAM:

Harry Jongerden Garden Director, VanDusen Botanical Garden, Vancouver, BC
Topic: *“21st Century Botanical Gardens: Communities for Conservation”*

With 30 years experience in ornamental horticulture and botanical gardens, Harry came to VanDusen in 2008 as Garden Director from Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, Ontario where he was Head of Horticulture. Recent accomplishments include directing VanDusen to become a leader in environmental sustainability through its collections, gardens, programs and facilities; opening VanDusen’s new Visitor Centre in 2011 – a “Living Building” considered to be the country’s most environmentally-advanced facility; and expanding VanDusen to include Vancouver’s Bloedel Conservatory. He is a member of the American Public Garden Association.

Dr. Linda Gilkeson Entomologist, writer, teacher and consultant, Salt Spring Island, BC
Topic: *“Common Pests & Diseases on the Coast: Diagnosis & Management Without Pesticides”*

Linda holds a Ph.D in Entomology from McGill, and worked for the provincial government promoting programs to reduce and eliminate pesticide use, co-authoring pest management training manuals and organic gardening books for Rodale Press. For the past six years, she was Executive Director of the Salt Spring Island Conservancy until retiring at the end of 2011. Linda has self-published several popular books including *Year Around Harvest: Winter Gardening on the Coast*, *West Coast Gardening: Natural Insect, Weed and Disease Control*, and most recently *Backyard Bounty: the Complete Guide to Year-Round Organic Gardening in the Pacific Northwest* (a BC best-seller). She is a regular instructor to Master Gardener programs.

Cass Turnbull Arborist, teacher and consultant, writer, Seattle, WA
Topic: *“How to Prune and Renovate the Overgrown Garden”*

Cass founded *PlantAmnesty* in 1989, a private non-profit organization that now numbers over 900 members in 46 states and four countries. Their goal is to “end the senseless torture and mutilation of trees and shrubs”, and strives to educate the commercial and public sectors on responsible, appropriate pruning and landscape management practices, establishing a standard of quality care for the urban ecology. A veteran of the King County Master Gardener Program, she also studied horticulture at the University of Washington.

PANEL: Growing for Your Community – A local community success story: City of Nanaimo and Beban Urban Community Garden (BUG)

EVENING PROGRAM:

Lucy Hardiman Garden designer, writer and editor, lecturer, Portland, OR
Topic: *“Full Frontal Gardens: Gone the Lawn”*

Lucy is the principal of Perennial Partners, a garden design collaborative, distinguished by innovative hardscape, playful planting design and creative approaches to problem solving. She is a past president of the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon, and is on the Great Plant Picks perennials committee. She was a contributing editor for Horticulture Magazine from 2005-2011; is the garden editor for *Oregon Home Magazine*, and writes for other regional and national publications. Her garden has been featured in many books and magazines including *Martha Stewart Living*. She is a sought after lecturer speaking from coast to coast.