



# THE BULLETIN

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF  
GARDEN CLUBS

MARCH 2024

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## LYNDA PASACRETA

### PLEASE FORWARD TO ALL OF YOUR CLUB MEMBERS

Hubby and I landed March 1 in Richmond after spending six weeks in Costa Rica. After spending lots of time in the rainforests and the ocean in that beautiful country it does feel good to be home and ready to get the plans in for our 2024 garden season.

Our spring meeting, and Annual General Meeting, will be held at the Bonsor Recreation Complex, Burnaby, on Saturday, April 6, 2024, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

We are delighted to announce **Claude LeDoux**, recently retired as Parks Department Horticultural Manager with the City of New Westminster, will be our guest speaker. His presentation "Flowers, Vegetables, and Fruit in the Urban Garden" is a great launch into spring gardening. Claude is a well-respected speaker, educator, and writer of all things in the gardening world. With over 40 years of experience in the horticultural industry, we are genuinely honoured to have him as our guest speaker.

We are pleased to also to announce our vendors this year include Front Yard Farms, Kelpman, Ana Apothecary, My Father's Garden Jams, Fraser Valley Rose Farm, and Growers Delight. We are very thankful for the support our vendors give to us each year. It is good to remember that all the monies

raised from the vendor fees go directly to the Scholarship Fund for our future horticulturists.

A year ago at our last spring meeting (April 1, 2023) I was elected to be your president for two years. It is incredible how fast a year goes by.

I am thoroughly enjoying the role and encourage fellow members to join our executive committee and help keep our organization alive and energized!

We are looking for someone at the spring meeting, from any of our members in BC, to help out in our **Scholarship Fund** committee.

I can tell you, as the new president (and newsletter and communications person) it is not a huge commitment on my part to feel so rewarded with serving our 200+ members in BC!

See you at the spring meeting!

Guest speaker Claude LeDoux.





# Welcome Spring

Join your BC Council of Garden Clubs

Saturday, April 6, 2024

10AM to 3PM

Bonsor Recreation Complex

Banquet Room, 6550 Bonsor Avenue

Burnaby, BC

Claude LeDoux, guest speaker





## SCHOLARSHIP FUND NEWS

### PATTY MOLNAR, SCHOLARSHIP FUND CHAIR

We are looking for a new Scholarship Fund committee member to be elected at the April Annual General Meeting, Saturday, April 6, 2024, when it is my turn to step away.

Who can apply? What do we do in the scholarship committee?

The Scholarship Fund committee has three volunteers. We connect with 12 universities across the province, four to each committee member, communicating by email. We get to hear from the scholarship recipients chosen by their academic institutions, decide which recipients would be good speakers at the BC Council of Garden Clubs in-person meetings, and deal with donations from garden clubs and community gardens. The committee has Zoom meetings so any BC Council of Garden Clubs member, no matter where they live, can apply!

The new committee member who fills the vacancy can look forward to meeting amazing individuals. It would be wonderful to have someone from Vancouver Island, the Interior, or other places outside of the Lower Mainland as part of the committee.

There are scholarships in the north, three on Vancouver Island, and two in the Interior. Why not become a committee member as well?

**Come join the committee and help connect with our future.** The Scholarship Fund committee has been very ambitious in the past, working on some major projects, including the very successful “\$80 for 80 years” campaign. Join Zoom with fellow committee members Anita and Betty. They are amazing to work with and will help orientate the new member. The term is for three years. How often do you get to give thousands of dollars to worthy individuals who are our future gardeners?

I look forward to hearing from you. Send me an email: [scholarship@bcgardenclubs.com](mailto:scholarship@bcgardenclubs.com).



Photo by Wikimedia Commons

## BC COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS SCHOLARSHIP 2023 WINNERS

### BETTY GIRARD, SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE

Congratulations to our 2023 student recipients\* from 12 programs at 10 academic institutions throughout the province. The students are enrolled in programs from certificates to graduate studies, all advancing horticultural science in BC. They hold the future of horticulture in their hands!

Institution	Award	Amount	Recipient
Camosun College	BCCGC Horticulture Award	\$1,000	Michael K.
Horticulture Centre of the Pacific	BCCGC Award	\$300	Lynsey S.
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	BCCGC Horticulture Award	\$1,200	Victoria B. (\$600) Kevin Z. (\$600)
Okanagan College Foundation	BCCGC Award Viticulture	\$500	Lisa Maria W.
Thompson Rivers University	BCCGC Horticulture Award	\$1,000	Teah P.
University of British Columbia	BCCGC Rose Bancroft Horticulture Scholarship	\$1,400	Asha Jillian W.
University of British Columbia	BCCGC Horticultural Bursary	\$1,800	Tess A.
University of British Columbia	UBC Botanical Garden BCCGC Horticulture Training Program	\$1,000	Michelle P.
University of Northern British Columbia	BCCGC Bursary	\$700	Kasey S.
Vancouver Island University	BCCGC Award	\$1,000	Sarah H.
Simon Fraser University	BCCGC Mildred Wells Graduate Scholarship	\$1,800	Mikhaela O.
University of the Fraser Valley	BCCGC Scholarship	\$1200	Thomas J.
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$12,900</b>	

*\*last names not published for privacy reasons*



## HOW TO DONATE TO THE BCCGC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

If you wish to make a donation by cheque please send it to:

BC Council of Garden Clubs  
Scholarship Fund, c/o: BC Council of  
Garden Clubs

10952 McAdam Road

North Delta, BC, V4C 3E8

Please ensure that the cheques are made out to the "Vancity Community Foundation" and the memo field shows "BC Council of Garden Clubs." If the person or organization that the donation is from does not clearly show on the cheque, please include a brief note with the cheque indicating who the donation is from and a return address (so that an income tax receipt can be issued).

If you wish to donate online with a credit card:

Go to  
[www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca](http://www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca).

Click the "Funds" button on the top right side of the home page.

Locate the BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Fund, either by scrolling through the list or searching "garden clubs" in the search bar.

Once on the BCCGC Scholarship Fund page, click "Give to this Fund" and complete the form.

OR

Go to [www.bcgardenclubs.com](http://www.bcgardenclubs.com).

Go to the "Scholarship Fund" on the top bar and click on the "Donate" page below.

Scroll down to the link to Vancity Community Foundation and click on it. This will take you to the BCCGC Scholarship Fund page.

Click on "Give to this Fund" and complete the form.

Thank You!



**Total raised for 2023: \$14,990!**

**CANADIAN WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FLORAL ARTS CLUBS (CWAFAAC)**

**FLORAL ART SHOW "FANTASIA" AND FLOWER FESTIVAL**

**CINDY TATARYN, PRESIDENT, CANADIAN WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FLORAL ARTS**

You are invited to the 10th anniversary of CWAFAAC and our successful admission to the World Association of Floral Artists (WAFA). We are celebrating with a judged floral art show, "Fantasia", honorary floral displays, a floral design demonstration by Susanne Law AIFD, and light refreshments to purchase.

Please **SAVE THE DATE** - Saturday April 13, 2024, from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

An invitation is also extended to all flower arranging and Ikebana people - individuals, groups, or clubs - to participate! Garden clubs with those interested in floral arrangement, floral friends, or 'flower circles,' etc., can participate by having a non-judged display either singly or as a team. To reserve space for your display, please contact Cindy Tataryn at 604-585-6786 or [ctataryn@telus.net](mailto:ctataryn@telus.net). Set up for the displays will be in the morning before the show opens.

Public entrance to the floral art show and displays are by donation, cash or cheque only.

Anyone wanting to attend the demonstration, tickets are available in

advance. Demonstration tickets (\$30.00) will be assigned seating – the earlier you book the better! They are available from Cindy Tataryn, 604-585-6786 or [ctataryn@telus.net](mailto:ctataryn@telus.net).

The show schedule is available at [www.cwafac.weebly.com](http://www.cwafac.weebly.com) or from Ann Peters or Cindy Tataryn. This event is being held at Northwood United Church, 8855 156 Street, Surrey, at the corner of 88 Avenue and 156 Street.

There is easy access from Fraser Highway or 88 Avenue, just turn north on 156 Street, or from Highway 1, take the 160 Street/104 Avenue exit, take 104 Avenue to 156 Street and turn left (south) onto 156 Street to the corner of 88 Avenue and 156 Street.

We hope to see you there!







Canadian Western  
Association of  
Floral Art Clubs

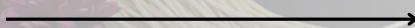


World Association of  
Floral Artists Limited

# Floral Art Show “Fantasia”

and  
Flower Festival

**Demonstration  
by Susanne Law AIFD**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024**

**12:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**NORTHWOOD UNITED CHURCH**

8855-156 STREET, SURREY

**Entrance to the Floral Art Show and the displays are  
by donation - Cash or cheque only**

**Tickets for the Demonstration are \$30**

Available from Cindy Tatarzyn 604-585-6786 [ctatarzyn@telus.net](mailto:ctatarzyn@telus.net)

Show Schedule available at: [www.cwafac.weebly.com](http://www.cwafac.weebly.com)



# CANADIAN WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FLORAL CLUBS ADMISSION INTO THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF FLORAL ARTISTS

CELEBRATED IN MUSCAT, CAPITAL OF OMAN, JANUARY 27 TO FEBRUARY 2, 2024

CINDY TATARYN, PRESIDENT, CANADIAN WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FLORAL CLUBS

Cindy Tataryn was very lucky to attend the conference in Muscat, Oman, to be present for Canada's admission into the World Association of Floral Artists. Besides being an incredible experience for her, she captured some great photos of the floral art demonstrated at the event.





The entry from Ellen Clarke, of the CWAFC.





# 'PIN THE MAP' CHALLENGE FOR THE CANADIAN HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK INITIATIVE (HNPI)

LISA COLBY, VICE PRESIDENT, RICHMOND GARDEN CLUB

Richmond Garden Club recently threw out a challenge to all Richmond Garden Club members.

The David Suzuki Foundation has now partnered with the US version of the initiative first launched by professor and ecology author Doug Tallamy — *Pollinators' Best Hope: A New Approach to Pollinator Habitat that Starts in Your Yard* — available on YouTube.

Only 74 lonely souls in BC have pinned the map so far, but through backyard action across all BC garden clubs, we could change that. It is ridiculously easy to pin the map from the comfort of your living room and list any modest biodiversity efforts you have made. Just getting started on any of the suggestions listed below can help:

- 🌻 Shrink the lawn.
- 🌻 Remove invasive species from your yard.
- 🌻 Add some keystone plants (start with at least one this year).
- 🌻 Reduce light pollution (switch to yellow bulbs or turn off outdoor lights when you go in at night).
- 🌻 Adopt caterpillar-friendly maintenance routines.

The point of the initiative is to remind people that we don't have the luxury of relying on natural land outside the cities to solve our biodiversity problem. We also need to repair the urban areas. Pinning the map is to show people, with a visual aid, how quickly and easily our efforts can scale up - one balcony or yard at a time. Cumulatively, the land area controlled

by gardeners and homeowners in this country rivals the size of any national park. We can grow the park ourselves without a politician or bureaucrat in sight.

As the map lights up and grows, people can feel empowered that we are making a real difference. Hopefully the map (and ensuing biodiversity growth) will go viral.

To get on the map go to [Homegrown National Park Map](#)



Paulik Park, Richmond BC. Photo by [www.philtography.ca](http://www.philtography.ca), South Surrey Garden Club!



## Hello Orange!



The colour orange is part of the Plants Love You campaign by Communities in Bloom.

In 2024, get ready to dive into a sea of orange as we embark on a new vibrant journey!

Everyone is invited to plant orange in honour of our Indigenous communities as we celebrate all ways plants love you. ~Canadian Garden Council



Growers Delight is now a member of COTA, the Canada Organic Trade Association. Check us out: <https://organicdirtsupplements.ca/>. Use code BCCG12 for special discounts.

# Growers Delight

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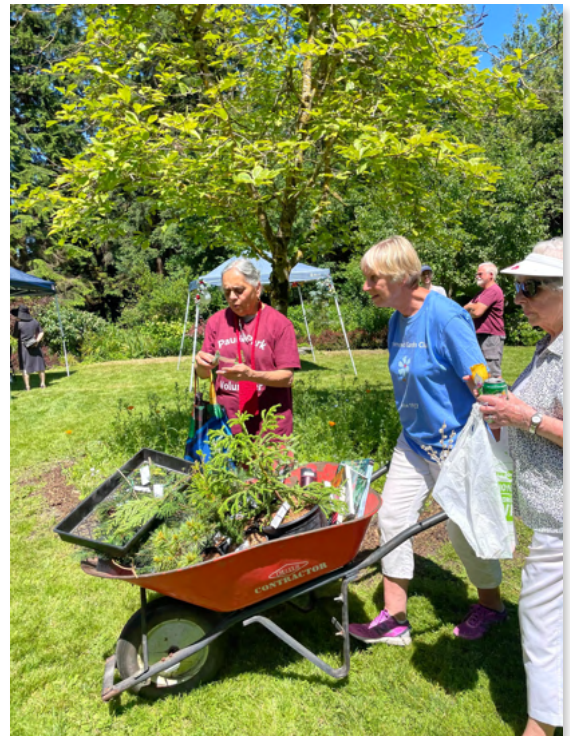
[www.organicdirtsupplements.ca](http://www.organicdirtsupplements.ca)

**Reminder!** One of our most active areas in our website is the event section. Your community is looking for gardening events.

A gentle reminder from our webmaster, Frank Girard, is to submit your events for the year in order for him to manage your event entries on our website as soon as possible and in a timely manner. Plant sales will be our first events throughout the province as we move into spring.

It is easy to post an event on our website, [www.bcgardenclubs.com/events](http://www.bcgardenclubs.com/events).

Photo by Lynda Pasacreta, Richmond Garden Club



## ROOFTOP GARDEN, VANCOUVER

### SYLVIE FIELD, SEED TO SKY GARDEN CLUB, VANCOUVER

I read with interest an account in the January Bulletin of someone having to start her garden from scratch, after it was destroyed by wildfires. Well, nothing so dramatic has ever happened to me but the whole notion of starting a garden again, for example after moving house, is one I am familiar with.

However, moving house, moving continents, starting again in our seventies, was not something I thought I would ever contemplate doing, but here we are, in Vancouver, in the bosom of our family as they say. I am familiar with the garden here, as we took over our daughter's apartment, but I had only really tinkered with it on past visits and for shortish periods. Never in winter, for example, or indeed in the height of a hot Vancouver summer, such as we had last year. So what's it been like?

Just to put you in the picture, it's large by many standards, roughly 20 x10 metres. Divided into thirds, with a large, unforgiving concrete slabbed area bisecting two large beds either side. These beds are filled with soil that tapers to about three inches deep near the apartment and only seems to be less than a foot deep elsewhere. It does have a waterproof membrane (which I live in fear of puncturing).

We are blessed with an automatic watering system which also supports the growth of four large cercis trees designed to be rooted in one of the perimeter walls. The opposite wall has a rose hedge growing in it. In spite of being a "roof garden" it boasts a yew hedge, now some 8 feet tall, which separates us from the adjoining apartment, two mature acers, and some very large shrubs such as cotinus, hibiscus, hydrangeas, physocarpus and choisya, among others, as well as a small pond and four raised vegetable beds!

Of course, in some ways it's like any other garden:

weeds which threaten to take over the minute my back is turned, plants which look like they will curl up their toes and die; overcrowding, boring bits, lovely areas. And yet, here we are, towards the end of January, and we have snowdrops in flower, *Cyclamen hederifolium*, with beautiful marbled leaves and magenta pink flowers, alongside purple violets which have lingered in this mild winter, and a plethora of bulbs peeping their snouts out of the soil. I confess its a struggle to keep a long season of interest going, and at times, looking out of large windows at a typical Vancouver wet winter day, I can get frustrated.

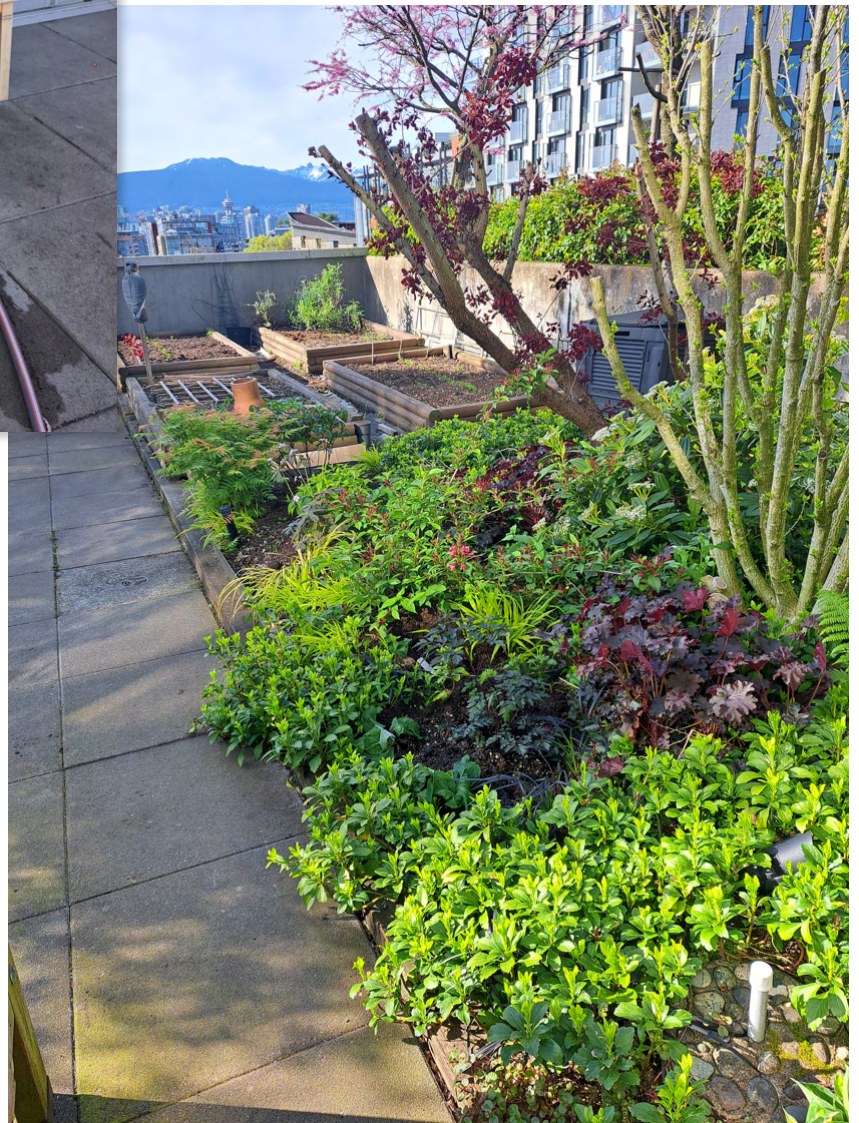
However this winter, a few stormy days brought down some very nice, and accessible, branches of fir and I resolved to ensure I had a really nice view into the area immediately outside the apartment. It is sheltered there, with an overhang, and we can even keep a chair outside, so it wasn't hard to build a little tableau of things, with some nice pots planted with a mix of evergreens, emerging bulbs and, pride of place, a lovely white flowered hellebore. I'm learning! Ahh, this is the stuff of gardening, and spring is beckoning.







A transplant from the UK a couple of years ago, Sylvie Field has brought her expertise to her rooftop garden in Vancouver! Photos by Sylvie Field.







## EXCITING ESCAPES AWAIT YOU IN 2024, 2025, & 2026!

**\*NOW REPRESENTING NEW OCEAN & RIVER CRUISE LINES, & TOURS!  
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**"We Look After the Details so YOU Can Enjoy Your Journey of a Lifetime!" \*IF NOT NOW, WHEN?\***



Thank you Comox Horticultural Society for sharing a link to an article written by member Janelle Gardner – [A Bird-Friendly Garden at MARS Visitor Centre](#). The article contains some great ideas on how to invite birds into the garden using native plants.



Photo: Comox Valley Horticultural Society



## ROSNER'S HAIRSTREAK BUTTERFLY

### CINDY TATARYN, VANCOUVER MASTER GARDENERS

#### Rosner's Hairstreak, *Mitoura rosneri*

**Range:** Rosner's hairstreak is found locally and is common.

**Larval Food Plants:** The larvae feed exclusively on Western redcedar, *Thuja plicata*, and hemlock, *Tsuga*.

**Time of Flight:** April through June.

**Life Cycle:** This species overwinters in the pupal stage. The adults emerge from April to early June. The females lay eggs near branch tips. The larvae are present from June to July. The pupation occurs from late July to August. It overwinters as a pupa.

#### Description:

**Larvae:** Mature larvae are up to 15 mm long. The head is green and unmarked. The body is velvet green with cream to yellowish white subdorsal and subspiracular stripes. The body and head are covered with short fine hairs.

**Adult:** Rosner's hairstreak is the common 'brown' hairstreak of our area but, unlike the gray hairstreak, has one brood during the year, which explains its more limited flight time. The wingspan is 21 – 27 mm.

Also known as *Mitoura (Callophrys) barryi*.

Also known as *Callophrys grynea rosneri* (Johnson).

#### Native Plant:

Western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*).

The western redcedar is British Columbia's provincial tree.

This is a large tree that grows up to 60 m tall and lives for over 1,000 years. It is a conifer tree that does not have needles. Mature trees are often fluted and buttressed at the base. The branches tend to spread or droop slightly and then turn upwards. The branchlets are spray-like, strongly flattened horizontally. The bark is ridged and fissured, grey to reddish brown, tearing off in long fibrous strips. The wood is aromatic.

The leaves are scale-like, opposite pairs in four rows, the leaves in one pair folded the leaves in the other pair are

not. They are closely pressed to the stem in overlapping shingled arrangements that look like a flattened braid. They are glossy, yellowish-green, turning brown, and shedding on branches that are three to four years old.

The pollen cones are minute, numerous, and reddish. The seed cones are about 1 cm long. They are egg-shaped with eight to twelve scales in loose clusters. They are green when immature and become brown, woody, and turned upward as they mature. The seeds are winged.

The western redcedar prefers moist to wet soil, usually in shaded forests. It grows best on seepage and alluvial sites but also occurs in drier habitats, especially on richer soils and in bogs at lower to medium elevations.

The term 'allelopathy' refers to the inhibiting impact of one plant's chemistry on another plant's growth. Western redcedar gives off waste substances through their root systems or by decomposition of their leaves, which makes it difficult for many plants to grow near them and can inhibit the growth of adjacent young plants.

#### Sources:

*Butterflies and Butterfly Gardening in the Pacific Northwest*, by Mary Kate Woodward (2005, Whitecap Books).

*Native Plants in the Coastal Garden: A Guide for Gardeners in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest*, by April Pettinger with Brenda Costanzo (2002, Whitecap Books).

*Plants of Coastal British Columbia including Washington, Oregon & Alaska*, by Jim Pojar & Andy Mackinnon (2014, BC Ministry of Forests, Partners Publishing and Lone Pine).

*E-Fauna BC: Electronic Atlas of the Fauna of British Columbia* [efauna.bc.ca]. Lab for Advanced Spatial Analysis, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, by Brian Klinkenberg, 2020/2021.



Rosner's hairstreak. Photo: Government of Canada, tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca.



Western redcedar. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.



## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We would love to feature your club or community garden in the newsletter.

Tell us about some of the projects your club or community garden is involved in.

You are invited to submit an article at any time (please include photos and name of author). Photos should be high resolution and you should include the name of the photographer if possible. Articles should be in the range of 300–500 words. If you have an idea for a

longer piece, connect with the newsletter editor in advance to discuss your idea.

Articles are due on the 15th of the month preceding publication. If they are submitted after that date, they will be held for the next issue.

The **next due date is March 15 for April 1**. Submissions/inquiries: [newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com](mailto:newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com)

Lynda Pasacreta, Editor

Pam Robertson, Copy Editor

### BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

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