Better by Association
by Shawn Mitchell, Association Director


These are all words that we hear members, volunteers and visitors use to describe their thoughts about VanDusen Botanical Garden. We would like to add two new words to that list. Renewal and Growth.

October 2013 marked the second anniversary of the opening of the Visitor Centre at VanDusen, thanks to our Planting the Seed building campaign. Designed to excite, educate and inspire our visitors about the world of plants, the Visitor Centre is a vibrant meeting place for cultural and social activities.

Now is the time to turn our attention from the majesty of the building to the majesty of the plant collections and other programs at VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory that make both of these places so special. To fulfill our mission of excellence in the botanical collections at the Garden and Conservatory, annual and major gift donations are needed to purchase plants, renew and expand the collections, as well as fund education programs for learners of all ages.

The collections of the Garden and Conservatory provide unparalleled educational opportunities but we need financial support from the garden community to fully tap into those opportunities. With a focused three-year campaign, our goal is to make significant strides toward enhancing the plant collections, expanding our education program offerings (including increasing funds for bursaries for school classes) and engaging more people in activities in the Garden and the Conservatory.

For highlights of the Education, Volunteer Services, Interpretation, Library and Garden projects that will be undertaken with contributions from you and other VBGA members, see page 4.

As we look ahead, join your Board of Governors and me by making a commitment to pledge to your Association monthly or annually. Together, we will tend to the gardens.

Editor’s Note:
In the spirit of renewal, we will be changing the look and feel of The Bulletin in 2014, as well as changing how we prepare it. Future issues will not be as “lean” as this one and will continue to feature interesting Garden topics. More to come!
STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR GARDEN
VanDusen and Bloedel Conservatory burst with exciting happenings throughout the year that we want to tell you about in the months between the newsletters. Don’t miss out - email membership@vandusen.org with your full name and “I would like to receive E-News” in the subject line.

FASHION & FINE FEATHERS – A lecture to raise funds in support of Bloedel Conservatory
Join internationally renowned costume historian, Ivan Sayers, on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. for “Fine Feathers Make Fine Birds”. Mr. Sayers will share slides, examples and entertaining info on the use of feathers in 20th century fashion. Tickets, $20 for VBGA Members and $25 for non-members, are available online at www.vandusengarden.org under Learn - Adult Education or in person at VanDusen’s Admission Desk.

THANK YOU!
On behalf of the VBGA Board of Governors, staff and volunteers, Christine McCaffrey, President, wishes to thank everyone who donated to VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory during 2013. We look forward to including you as a donor again this year.

ROBERT BULLER
October 30, 1946 – October 20, 2013
On October 20th, the Garden unexpectedly lost one of its most enthusiastic supporters and volunteers. Robert Buller joined the VBGA Board of Governors in 2011 and was at one time the Chair of its Marketing Committee as well as its Treasurer. On November 18th, a Celebration of Life for Robert was held in the Great Hall in the Visitor Centre. It was extremely well attended, with everyone coming together to share fond memories of a special man.

Robert was known by all board and staff as an extremely outgoing, passionate contributor to the work of the Garden and Bloedel Conservatory. His insightful questions, positive comments and sharp thinking and sense of humour will be missed.

Seedy Saturday
February 22, 2014
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Floral Hall
A celebration of heritage varieties and organic gardening featuring more than 30 growers, seed companies and exhibitors, Heritage Seed Swap.
Admission by donation.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
VanDusen Botanical Garden Association
Notice is hereby given that an Annual General Meeting of the Members of VanDusen Botanical Garden Association (‘the Association’) will be held in the Visitor Centre at VanDusen Botanical Garden, 5151 Oak Street, Vancouver, British Columbia on Monday, April 14, 2013 at 7 p.m. for the purpose of:

a) presenting Volunteer Recognition Awards,
b) considering the financial statements of the Association for the year ended December 31, 2013,
c) considering the report of the Board of Governors to the Association,
d) electing Governors,
e) appointing an auditor,
f) authorizing the Board of Governors to fix the remuneration of the auditor,
g) considering, and if thought fit, passing any special resolutions for which proper notice has been given, and
h) transacting such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

By Order of the Board
Tony DuMoulin, Secretary
ADULT EDUCATION AT VANDUSEN
The network of botanical and horticultural expertise connected through VanDusen Botanical Garden is impressive, and it is a pleasure to extend that depth of community knowledge to you through the Adult Education program. We hope you enjoy the first in a series of profiles on the instructors at VanDusen who are key to the high quality programming we offer. We couldn’t do it without them!

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE
Richard Hallman

Richard Hallman is mad about trees. He is particularly keen on pruning, grafting and training fruit trees and conifers. Richard grew up on a small tree fruit orchard in the Okanagan Valley, where he started pruning and grafting as a teenager. For most of his career he was a horticultural extension advisor to commercial and home garden tree fruit growers. He has been teaching tree fruit pruning for more than 35 years and loves sharing his knowledge by showing people techniques to direct the growth of their plants. For more about Richard, visit www.richardhallman.ca.

Marvellous Manure Sale

Saturday March 1
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Parking Lot
20kg bag only $6

Your garden will love it!

This semester, horticulturist, certified arborist and Master Gardener Richard Hallman will be teaching a number of tree-focused courses that will cover these topics and more at the Garden. Check our schedule below for Richard’s course dates which are marked with an *, plus many more of our exciting new courses taking place here at the Garden. For more details, visit our website at www.vandusengarden.org.

UPCOMING COURSES IN ADULT EDUCATION

January
18 Best Apps for Gardeners
19 Walk in the Tropics: Rainforest Plants in your Kitchen
25 Tree Grafting Fun*

February
1 Plant Lab: Roots are Radical
6 Watercolour in Winter
8 Grow Fruit Trees in Containers*
15 Cultivate your Landscape Business
15 Best Tools for the Tasks
15 Photography at Bloedel
19 Healthy Soils, Healthy Humans
23 Walk in the Tropics: Growing Indoor Plants
25 Tree Trickery*
26 Veggies – What to Grow and When to Sow

March
1 Front Yard Design
1 Back Yard Design
5 Good Companions in Containers
8 Organic Veggie Growing for Beginners
12 The Horticulture of Herbs
15 Hellebores
15 Digital Photography Workshop
16 Watercolour Close up on Nature
19 Wild & Wonderful Containers
22 Success with Fruit Trees*
22 Plant Lab: Beyond the Beauty of Bulbs
29 ‘Bee’ Edible – Gardening for Bees and your Edible Garden
29 Back Yard Beekeeping

Are you a K-12 teacher?
You may be eligible for a free Botany or Gardening Course! Call us at 604-718-5898 for more information. Sponsored by the Vancouver Master Gardeners.
YES I WILL HELP THE GARDENS FLOURISH

Please select one
☐ Here is my/our gift for annual programs
☐ I/we prefer to give to Plant Collections
☐ My/our gift is for Bloedel Conservatory
☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $250
☐ $500  ☐ $1000
I prefer to give $ __________

Name (Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Dr.) _____________________________
Address
Postal Code
Phone
Email

To assist us in preparing our Annual Donor Report please indicate
☐ I/we wish to remain anonymous
☐ My/our name should appear as _____________________________

☐ Cheque ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
Card # _____________________________
Expiry date _____________________________

Signature _____________________________

Please contact me about
☐ Adopting a tree
☐ Making a will bequest to VBGA
☐ Major gift opportunities at the Garden and the Conservatory

Please make the cheque payable to:
VanDusen Botanical Garden Assoc.
Development Office
5251 Oak St. Vancouver, BC V6M 4H1
Charitable Registration Number 11928 1301 RR0001

GIFTS TO THE GARDEN
For donor opportunities contact Dawn Russell, Development Director at 604-257-8190 or drussell@vandusen.org

LOOKING AHEAD – THE GARDEN AND CONSERVATORY WILL FLOURISH WITH YOUR HELP
Join us this year as a VBGA Donor by adding a donation to your membership renewal, making a monthly pledge and/or annual gift directed to the funding area of most interest to you. Your donation will assist your Association to fund the following new and ongoing projects:

EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Your 2014 contribution to Education will support:
- 8 weeks of summer nature camps including bursary support for inner-city schools
- Field trip programs for elementary school students including bursary support for financially-challenged schools
- Interactive exhibits to be installed in Bloedel Conservatory

INTERPRETATION/INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS
Finding your way in the Garden can be a challenge, especially with six different, dated styles of signs and displays. New interpretive panels and exhibits will enhance the experience for all visitors.
Contribute to Interpretation to fund educational panels, interactive exhibits and way-finding at the Garden and Conservatory.

LIBRARY
Direct your donation to the Library to expand the collection of reference and circulating books

GARDEN PROJECTS
Contributions to Plant Collections will provide funding to purchase plants, renew and expand the collections in the Botanical Garden and Conservatory.

Join us as an annual donor and be part of creating the next phase of the gardens. Donate online, mail in the attached coupon or call the Development Office to contribute to your gardens. If you prefer, your donation may be designated to the specific area that interests you.

For major gift opportunities, contact the Association Director or Development Office to learn how you can underwrite key programs.

We will only achieve our goal to fund program and plant collection enhancements at VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory with donations from you.

Adopt-a-Tree
at VanDusen Garden to commemorate a significant event or remember a loved one.

For further information: vandusengarden.org (under Get Involved)
Development Office 604-257-8190

VanDusen Botanical Garden Association does not sell or lend its member or donor information. If you would like to change the way you receive information from VBGA, please contact VBGA’s Privacy Officer by e-mail at drussell@vandusen.org or telephone 604-257-8190.