

Alpine Garden Club
of
British Columbia



Vol 53 No 1

Bulletin

Winter 2010



Alpine Garden Club of BC

Internet Home Page: www.agc-bc.ca

President	Linda Verbeek
1st V.P.	Philip MacDougall
2nd V.P.	David Sellars
Past President	Doug Smith
Secretary	Allison Carson
Treasurer	Amanda Offers
Membership	Ian Gillam
Programs	Philip MacDougall
Pot Shows	Dana Cromie
Library	Pam Frost
Annual Show	Diana Hume Karen Thirkell
Plant Sales	Mark Demers
Seed Reception	Marilyn Plant
Publicity	Joan Bunn
Open Gardens	Lisa O'Donnell
Refreshments	Dorothy Yarema
Webmaster	Chris Klapwijk
Bulletin Editor	Alan Tracey

Committee Members

Margot Ketchum - Mark Demers - Chris Klapwijk
Karen Thirkell - Lisa O'Donnell - Bob Tuckey

Honorary Life Members

Margaret Charlton - Francisca Darts - Pam Frost
Daphne Guernsey - Bodil Leamy
Ian & Phyllis Plenderleith - Geof Williams – Bob Woodward

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month except, July and August, in the Floral Hall, VanDusen Botanical Garden. Doors and Library open at 7:00 pm and the meetings start at 7:30 pm. Please bring plants for the plant draw; the proceeds of which go toward paying for the hall rental.

Front Cover: *Hamamelis* 'Diane': Photograph by Alan Tracey

Membership

Ian Gillam

Reminder. If you have so far forgotten to renew your subscription for 2010 this is the last issue of the Bulletin you will receive until you do so. Hope to have you back with us. Details of renewals are on our website or the note sent with the last Bulletin.

Club Business

Revitalization of the AGCBC

Report from the Revitalization Sub-committee:

Mark Demers, Lisa O'Donnell, Chris Klapwijk, Philip McDougall and David Sellars.

It is recognized that the AGCBC has significant strengths particularly its history, knowledgeable members, web presence and outstanding plants sales and shows. However, membership has been declining over the past several years and the operations of the club have made a loss every year since the year 2004. A revitalization sub-committee was set up in spring 2009 to reflect on the operations of the club and to develop ways to strengthen the club operations.

In the opinion of the sub-committee, the club needs to be more relevant to new alpine gardeners, to improve communications and to strengthen the club finances and programs. In particular, the operations of the Executive Committee need to be enhanced to guide the club through a challenging period and to ensure that the Executive Committee is aware of and in control of, the club financial position. We would also like to encourage more direct member participation in club activities. Many have found undertaking one of the many tasks needed to keep the club running very rewarding. It not only strengthens the club but also makes it more enjoyable for the members participating.

We prepared the following recommendations for consideration by the AGCBC Executive and, if required, the membership at large. We believe that these proposed changes will enhance the club, stabilize membership, provide opportunities for more member participation and lead to an improvement in club finances.

Executive Committee

1. The terms of the President, First Vice President and Second Vice President should be reduced from three years to two. With the current three-year terms, a member who agrees to stand for second Vice President is “committing” to a 12-year term of office (including the position of Past President). Having two-year terms would reduce the total term of office to 8 years, still quite a long time. Two-year terms would also increase the turnover of officers, which is normally considered healthy for the operations of a club.
2. The President, Vice President and Second Vice President should operate as a team and divide the workload and responsibilities amongst them.
3. Job descriptions should be prepared for the Executive Members, particularly the President, First VP, Second VP, Treasurer and Secretary. The job descriptions will describe the responsibilities of these key roles and the reporting requirements. This will enhance transfer of roles when required and highlight the accountability of the positions to the Executive Committee and membership. Once these key job descriptions have been prepared, job descriptions should be developed for the other members of the Executive. For specialized positions such as Treasurer, Membership Chair and Web Master, alternates should be trained for these positions to address emergency situations. Two key non-executive positions (Seed Exchange Manager and Plant Sales Manager) should also have alternates.
4. The Program Chair should organize a Program Committee of three people to assist the diversification of the program and broaden its appeal.
5. The Membership Chair should chair a committee of three or four people with the following responsibilities assigned: Membership Records, Recruitment and Hospitality. The Web Master should be a member of the Membership Committee and could logically take on the role of Membership Records.

6. The Webmaster should chair an Internet Committee to address issues such as coordination, promotion and membership records.
7. To increase the effectiveness of Executive Meetings they should be held at a quiet location on a different night to the regular AGCBC meeting to provide an environment for meaningful discussions. To reduce the overall time commitment, Executive Meetings would be held every two months from September to May. Additional short Executive Meetings would be held when required on regular meeting nights to address ad hoc issues. An agenda should always be prepared and distributed in advance of the Executive Meeting. Unresolved issues would automatically be included on the agenda for the next meeting. At each meeting, agenda items will include reports from the Treasurer, Program Chair, Membership Chair and Web Master.
8. The Executive should facilitate an annual strategic planning exercise to review progress over the past year and set a direction and goals for the future.

General Meeting

The Executive should explore ways to make the General Meetings less formal and more interactive. The following recommendations are put forward for consideration:

1. Eliminate the formal part of the General Meeting unless there is a need for a formal vote by the membership.
2. Reintroduce the use of nametags and introduce a “buddy” system for new members. This would be coordinated by the Membership Committee with the hospitality aspects taking a stronger role.
3. Encourage the Program Committee to develop a more varied program, with hands-on participation, more interactive programs, educational sessions and short presentations.

4. The Membership Committee should ensure that the workload for set-up and take-down of coffee and tea is fairly distributed among the membership.

The Bulletin

Given that the cost of printing and mailing the Bulletin represents 1/3-1/2 of our annual budget, and given that it is becoming increasingly difficult to attract high-quality articles, we recommend that the executive consider changing the style of the Bulletin to place more emphasis on news and information about the club and less emphasis on articles that provide detailed plant information (available elsewhere). We also recommend that every effort be made to reduce the number of copies that need to be printed and mailed out. Together with the website, the Bulletin would be a major source for club communications and membership promotion. It would be posted on the website without a delay period for free access. As part of this change we recommend that the Bulletin be formatted in a standard 8-1/2 x 11 page size which will allow greater freedom to create a visually appealing layout and be better suited for e-mailing as a pdf file.

Status

The recommendations were presented to the AGGBC Executive in November 2009. The Executive approved the recommendations and implementation is planned during 2010. As part of the implementation process some of the detailed recommendations will undoubtedly be modified. Furthermore some proposed measures that may require a constitutional change would require approval from the membership. The Executive would be pleased to receive any comments on the proposed changes from members of the club.

Club Finances

Charles Sale

An Analysis of Our Finances

For the past twelve years, as your AGCBC Auditor, I have done an annual review of the Club's finances for presentation to, and approval by, the membership at the annual meeting (AGM). Alan Tracey, our new Bulletin Editor, suggested to me that we not only put the fiscal 2009 report in the Bulletin for the benefit of members unable to attend

the AGM, but also that I prepare an analysis of our finances covering the time I have been doing the review (see p 22-24).

The timing is appropriate. Over these twelve years our Club, like many other volunteer horticultural organizations, has seen an erosion of membership with the consequent reduction in income. This issue is currently under study by your executive.

First let us look at the **Revenue** side.

Total revenue was quite consistent from 1998 through 2006 at \$15700 per year. However for the past three years it has been 22% lower at \$12300.

The most dramatic change in revenues has been in our net membership fee income with a decrease of 51% over the past twelve years – on average a decrease of 4.2% per year. Undoubtedly few members look back more than a year or two at such numbers and hence fail to see the extent of our membership decline.

Our next significant revenue area is our plant sales. Our spring sale from 1998 through 2006 had average sales of a little over \$13000. The past 3 years we have averaged a little less than \$10900. Over the same periods the numbers for our fall sale are \$6900 and \$5400. These figures may be indicating a declining interest in gardening or perhaps more organizations having plant sales. Interestingly our net profit from these sales has varied very little over the years. Recent years have averaged \$2500 for the spring sale and \$1500 for the fall sale. This probably reflects more plants being donated by members to the sales tables. If the reason for the reduction in sales is a declining interest in gardening, then like our much-reduced membership, we have a long-term problem that needs addressing.

The seed exchange is an area of great interest to most of the membership. For the past six years income has averaged about \$300 per year although the last two years have produced no profit. The six years from 1998 through 2003 yielded \$950 in income per year. Discussion is needed with respect to the role of the seed exchange and whether or not we should continue to subsidize this important aspect of the Club.

Expenses

Total regular expenses have averaged \$12300 per year over twelve years. The last three years averaged \$12700 per year

Here is a breakdown of the more important expenses; General expenses have remained steady over the past twelve years at a little less than \$1800 per year. Last year was \$1862.

With the introduction of email communication our Bulletin costs have fallen dramatically. Last year our cost was \$3900; the average for the previous eleven years was \$6900.

The monthly meeting costs have increased, primarily because of increased rental costs. Our average for the past three years has been \$3400. Prior to that it was about \$2800 per year.

Net Regular Income

Our regular income after regular expenses for the years 1998 through 2006 was \$3600 per year. For the last three years there was a total loss for these years of \$431. There is a need to turn this around.

Winter Study Weekends

For some years we have hosted a Winter Study Weekend every five years in collaboration with the North American Rock Garden Society. Total income, expenses, and net income for the last three were:

Year	Income	Expenses	Net
1998	30624	28306	2318
2003	46397	39352	7045
2008	32895	34431	<1536>

Equipment costs resulted in a loss for 2008. The equipment is now in use for general Club purposes.

Generally speaking, good leadership, early organization, and careful budgeting will result in profitable conferences. This should be in place by 2010 if the Club is to host a conference in 2013.

Dickenson Bequest

In 2004 the Club received a bequest of \$44545. For accounting purposes interest from this bequest is added to the bequest. Two donations, totaling \$6400, furthering rock and alpine gardening have been made from the Bequest in the past six years. The fund at 2009 year end totaled \$44380. The Club has wisely, in my view, not used these funds for regular Club expenses. These funds might well be regarded as a backstop in the event that we are unable to reverse the recent financial trend and adapt quickly to our changing circumstances.

Notice to Reader

I have compiled the attached Balance Sheet of **The Alpine Garden Club Of British Columbia** as at June 30, 2009 and the Statement of Income and Members' Equity for the ten months from September 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

These statements have been compiled from information provided by your Treasurer. I have not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of such information. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Charles G. Sale
Accountant.

Alpine Garden Club of B.C. Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2009

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

North Shore Credit Union	\$ 2,120.76	
NSCU Membership Acct	8.66	
CIBC	<u>15.61</u>	
Total Cash		\$ 2,145.03
NSCU - Term Deposit	57,700.62	
Prepaid Expenses		
Accounts Receivable		
Total Other		57,700.62
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		\$ 59,845.65

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	0.00

EQUITY

Retained Earnings	#####	
Current Earnings	<u>(529.67)</u>	\$ 15,465.59
Dickenson Bequest	43068.69	
Current Earnings	<u>1311.37</u>	
Total Bequest		\$ 44,380.06
TOTAL EQUITY		\$ 59,845.65
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		\$ 59,845.65
		=====

Plant Finder

We have introduced a new section to the Bulletin for those who are looking for specific plants. In order for this section to be of value to all members, those who submit enquiries should provide some details of the plant characteristics: size, shape, flowers, and other properties that make this a desirable plant. The native habitat of the plant would also be of interest. The request for information can be directed to www.agc-bc.ca/contact.asp.

Seed Exchange Pam Frost

Many thanks to the following, whose seeds arrived after the donors' names were printed: F. Kummert, G. Bohme and G-B Wedell; also, and with apologies to Paige Woodward, whose name was inadvertently left off the original list.

Spring Plant Shows

Alpine Garden Club of BC

April 10, 11. The Annual Alpine Garden Club of BC Spring Show will be held in the Floral Hall at VanDusen Garden, 37th & Oak Street, Vancouver. Open 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm Saturday and 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Sunday. Plants to be entered for the Show should arrive between 6 and 9 pm on Friday the 9th.

Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society

March 26, 27. Open 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm Friday and 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Saturday. Cadboro Bay United Church, 2625 Arbutus Road, Victoria.

VIRAGS club members' plant sale: 11 a.m. Saturday. Specialty nurseries will sell plants during the entire show. Seeds will be on sale throughout.

Plant Sales

Mark Demers

Alpine Garden Club of B.C. Spring Sale

Date and time: Saturday, May 1, 2010, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Location: St. David's United Church, 1525 Taylor Way (at Upper Levels Highway),
West Vancouver, B.C.

Contact: agc-bc.ca

Features: A wide variety of alpine, rockery, native, woodland, and other unique and interesting plants from pot-size to trees. Featuring B.C.growers and local experts.

Free admission

Door prizes

Alpine Garden Club of B.C. Fall Sale

Date and time: Sunday, Sept. 19, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Location: VanDusen Garden Floral Hall, 37th Ave. at Oak St., Vancouver, B.C.

Contact: agc-bc.ca

Features: A diverse collection of fall-blooming and other specialty, native, and collectible plants of all

sizes suited to our local climate zones. Expert growers on hand.

Free admission.

Further information regarding the two sales is available from Mark Demers at www.agc-bc.ca/contact.asp or 604 254-5479.

Programs

Philip MacDougall

Feb 10th.

An evening of workshops. Hopefully we will cover a wide range of topics, perhaps seed sowing and aftercare, digital photography, setting up a mist system, best plants for troughs. If you have a suggestion for a workshop, e-mail me at www.agc-bc.ca/contact.asp I will see if it can be included in the program.

March 10th.

Ron Long

A retired photographer and an active member of the Native Plant Society of BC and the Vancouver Natural History Society will present a talk entitled: **The Botanical Treasures of Pink Mountain**

To say that Pink Mountain is unique is a major understatement. In over forty years of plant hunting in Western Canada I have found no other place that is even remotely as rewarding for the plant lover. Pink Mountain is not very high as mountains go but its location in the north of BC creates a tundra habitat on its summit. On that one mountaintop I have found almost every arctic plant that occurs in northern Canada. Not only are all these species concentrated in a relatively small area they are accessible by road. Tundra plants have long been my personal favorite group. They thrive in one of the most difficult environments in North America and the adaptations they have made that allow them to survive make them endlessly fascinating. This illustrated talk will describe the environmental challenges the plants face and the stories of how they meet those challenges.

April 14th.

Pam Eveleigh last spoke to us at the 2007 Western Study Weekend. Her talks on *Primula* are inspirational. Stunning photography and beautifully presented material, Pam's utter enthusiasm for this jewel of an Alpine genus make this a not to be missed evening. <http://www.primulaworld.com/PWWeb/Index.shtml>

May 12th.

David Sellars

Our own Dave Sellars will present a talk entitled: **Chaos in the Rock Garden: Putting Theory into Practice**

This presentation was previously given at the 2009 NARGS Western Winter Study Weekend in Portland, Oregon.

June 12th.

A half day workshop on building and planting troughs, it will be a potluck picnic as well.

Open Gardens

Lisa O'Donnell

I have arranged for a garden tour on May 29 up the Sunshine Coast. We are invited to visit the gardens of Bill Terry, Verity Goodier, and Karin Tigges as well as the Botanical Garden. Those requiring further information should contact Lisa at www.agc-bc.ca/contact.asp

What is Flowering in Mid-January?

Winter-flowering plants are always welcome in our gardens. Members of our club have provided the names of plants blooming in their garden as of mid-January. Hopefully this list will be helpful to those looking for winter-flowering plants for our West Coast gardens.

Berneuxia thibetica

Crocus tommasinianus

Cyclamen coum

Daphne bholua

Galathus elwesi, *G. elwesi* 'Comet', *G. nivalis*, *G. ikariae*

Eranthis hyemalis

Hamamelis pallida, *H. mollis*, *H. mollis* orange form, *H.* 'Arnold Promise', *H.* 'Diane'



Hamamelis 'Arnold Promise' – Alan Tracey *Cyclamen coum* – David Sellars



Galanthus ikariae – David Sellars

Viburnum xbodnantense 'Dawn' – David Sellars

Heleborus foetidus, *H. niger*, *H. niger* Sunset Strain w.coll. by Will McLewin, *H. xnigercors* 'Green Heron', *H. multifidus* x Don's Yellow, *H. xericsmithii*, *H.* Early Purple, *H. foetidus* 'Wester Flink'

Hepatica sp.

Iris unguicularis 'Mary Barnard'

Jasminum nudiflorum

Lonicera xpurpusii

Mahonia aquifolia 'December Gold', *M.* 'Arthur Menzies', *M.* 'Charity'

Primula vulgaris

Prunus 'Accolade'

Ribes laurifolium
Sarcococca ruscifolia
Saxifraga 'Franz Liszt'
Viburnum xbodnantense 'Dawn'
Viola oderata

Bowen Iris

Richard Pearson

Introduction

Parts of our garden on Bowen Island are hot and dry all summer. The soil is thin and gravelly and there are substantial rock outcrops. Only one area has winter wet and summer dampness. Deer disregard the fence and regularly graze like lawnmowers. In this Spartan situation, iris are one group of plants which constantly delights us. Through the seed exchanges of the Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA) and the AGCBC as well as personal contacts, we've been able to grow unusual and interesting iris from many distant places.

Eschewing refined methods involving refrigerators and paper towels in plastic bags which I am sure bring superior results, I usually plant the seed in soilless mix in February and protect the pots from heavy rain. Seedlings which are particularly small are kept in a frame or cold greenhouse for the first winter. Some of the Mediterranean species like lime, or pieces of broken concrete. The woodlanders such as *Iris confusa* benefit from leaf mold, while the west coast natives appreciate local mineral soil with sparing amounts of compost.

The blooming season begins in November with *I. unguicularis*, and continues to July. While most so-called re-bloomers seem to fare poorly in our short dark autumn, one rich purple hybrid of *I. pumila* has been blooming throughout the autumn. While it is true that some iris require division every few years to maintain their vigour, many, such as the Siberians, Spurias, and Pacific coast species and hybrids resent disturbance and need only an appropriate mulch to maintain soil fertility. Those which do require division involve no more work than many other perennials. Bearded iris have rhizomes which need to be baked by summer sun. Be careful not to cover these rhizomes with soil or mulch. For small iris and various other bulbs I have prepared raised beds with gravelly soil, contained by boulder 'walls'. We have not encountered any problems with fungus.

In this short note, I introduce a few favorites, rather than repeat the lists found in books such as and Glasgow (1997), Shear (1998), and Hewitt (2003). A recent encyclopedic treatment is offered by Goldblatt and Manning (2008).

Bearded Iris

Think twice before you dismiss bearded iris as plants with fussy flowers that appeal to dahlia lovers, and bloom for only two weeks. *Iris germanica* var. *florintina*, with bluish white flowers and a 'wild' look of the native *germanica* iris, was once the source of orris root, for perfumery. It has bluish white flowers (1). Another form of



1. *Iris germanica* var. *florentina*

2. *Iris variegata*

'*germanica*', *I. pallida*, sometimes called *dalmatica*, is tall and rangy, with fragrant blue flowers. This iris, along with *I. variegata* (2) a species from Hungary which does not have variegated leaves, was secured from Island Specialties in Chemainus. Two variegated forms of *I. pallida* complement each other; *I. pallida argentea variegata* has white striped leaves while *I. pallida variegata* has yellow striped leaves. The former is not a strong grower and the flowers are not exceptional, but the leaves contrast well with the yellow variegated form. *I. reichenbachia* which has brownish yellow flowers is of medium height. It seems to be a hardy grower and I hope to naturalize it, along with *I. pallida* and *I. germanica* var. *florentina*, in pockets on our rock outcrops.

Iris lutescens, in rich blue (3), white, and yellow forms, is an early spring bloomer, only 8 to 25 cm tall. It likes rocky outcrops. Hewitt

(2003: 29) mentions that many of the dwarfs (such as *I. lutescens*) exhaust the soil around their roots and need frequent replanting. *Iris*



3. *Iris lutescens* blue



4. *Iris pumila*

pumila is highly variable, and many fine hybrids provide bloom in April and May. Here is a photo of a rich purple ‘rebloomer’ (4). In the raised bed I grow *I. suaveolens* and *taurica*, covering them in winter with a slightly elevated pane of glass. *I. suaveolens* has purplish (5) and yellow forms and the tiny fans of leaves on plants under 10 cm tall are very particular, while *I. taurica*, about 15 cm tall, is a bicolor. Arilbreds, hybrids between bearded iris and iris of the Near East such as members



5. *Iris suaveolens*



6. ‘Little Orchid Annie’

of the *Oncocylus* and *Regelia* sections, have vivid colors and exotic shapes. They are a kind of proxy for *I. susiana* and other Western

Asian desert irises which can only be grown in a frame. The hybrids which have 1/4 aril parentage are said to be easier to handle in garden conditions than those with 1/2 parentage. I grow them in gritty soil with no summer water.



7. 'Jacob's Well'

'Little Orchid Annie' (6) bloomed well for a number of years in on an exposed outcrop, but did not survive last winter. 'Jacob's Well' (7) grows in soil mixed with grit, with almost no summer water. The colours and crepe-like texture of the Alribreds are different from other iris.

Beardless Iris

Within the Beardless iris there are several groups. Of the Crested Iris, several have been successful. *I. tectorum*, the roof iris, has flourished for short periods of time. Hewitt notes that it has short roots and needs to be replanted every other year and top dressed yearly (2003: 32). *I. japonica*, including the variegated form, spreads in light shade and gravel, with a leaf mold top dressing. *I. confusa* has leaf fans atop cane-like stems of up to 40 cm or more. Flowers are inconspicuous but the raised fans of leaves create an architectural great effect in moist, protected, well drained, shady locations.

Unguiculares

Of the series Unguiculares, everyone's favorite is *I. unguicularis*,



8. *Iris lazica*

relative, *I. lazica* (8), the Black Sea Iris, is said to resent baking,

native to the Greek islands and North Africa. It survived last winter with some damage to old crowns, in a sloping, exposed area next to concrete steps. It requires excellent drainage and should be moved or divided in August, in clumps which are not too small. It flowers intermittently throughout the winter; while the flower buds can withstand frost, the open flowers cannot. A close

coming from damper, shadier locations. Since our plant became very large in semi shade but did not bloom, I have moved it to a warmer, brighter location. It will be interesting to see how it responds.

Sino-Siberians and Siberians

These irises thrive in some of the cooler and moister parts of the garden, but some will grow in exposed gravelly areas if given regular summer watering. *I. laevigata variegata* (9) likes moisture, along with double and variegated forms of *I. pseudacorus*. While the variegated form of *I. laevigata* retains its white stripes throughout the summer the variegated form of *I. pseudacorus* is brightly coloured in spring only. Nevertheless its brilliant early spring variegation is



9. *Iris laevigata variegata*

definitely worth waiting for, especially at the edge of a large pond. Many of the color variations of yellow *I. pseudacorus* are appealing. 'Primrose' (10) grows well for us.



10. *Iris pseudocorus* 'Primrose'

Enfant Prodige, a hybrid between the eastern Canadian native, *I. versicolor*, and the Japanese, *I. ensata*, is a large vigorous plant useful for naturalizing in water gardens. It is too vigorous to be planted near plants which are slower growing. Ivory coloured *I. forrestii* enjoys some moisture in a border which receives several hours of shade.

Spurias

Spuria irises are distinguished by their slender wiry roots and ridged seed pods. They resent disturbance and are slow to re-establish after division. Some are tall and vigorous, while others are dwarf. They require occasional summer watering on Bowen, but generally require neutral or slightly alkaline soil and a dry summer. They should not be

confused with Japanese or Siberian water-loving iris. Tall species of over 1 m. in height, such as *I. orientalis* are good in large borders. The smaller species are good plants for sunny or partially shaded positions. Smaller species such as *I. sintenisii*, from southern Italy, the Balkans and Turkey, have electric blue flowers. Along with the plum fruit scented, purple *I. gramineae* it is often seen in AGCBC sales and the seed exchange.

Other Beardless Species

Iris setosa, from extreme northern North America is said to be adapted to permafrost; color selections include pink and white. *I. foetidissima*, useful for its evergreen foliage and orange seed pods which last until spring, is good in dry shade. Its yellowish flowers, produced in July and August, are not conspicuous, but are exquisite when closely examined.

Bulbous Iris

Of the bulbous iris, *I. reticulata* and *I. danfordiae* provide a show in very early spring. Plant them deep and feed them with Bloomalong (0-12-0), a kind of liquid bone meal produced by Bioz Agri Products in Oliver BC and available in local garden centers. It is excellent for all bulbs. With this treatment plus summer baking, they bloom year after year instead of reverting to tiny bulblets. *I. xiphium* (11) enjoys the hot summer sun. A pale bluish white hybrid seeds



11. *Iris xiphium*

regularly and matures within 2 to 3 years.

Pacific Coast Iris

These are the group with the greatest potential appeal for gardeners in coastal BC. They deserve a separate article. I am told that several of our members are hybridizing and selecting good forms. Perhaps those interested in these natives and their descendants could contribute to a general discussion of these species and hybrids in the bulletin, with a selection of photos of their favorites, and maybe more

of these could be made available at sales. I include photos of two plants raised from SIGNA seed (12).



12. Pacific Coast hybrids from seed

Iris Relatives

Club members are fortunate to have access to seed of a number of iris relatives. One of the most reliable is *Morea spathulifera* (13), which has bright yellow flowers on stiff stems. Its long, tough, unruly leaves may be a problem for the fastidious, but it is definitely worth trying. Many other members of the Iridaceae should be grown and shared.



13. *Morea spathulifera*

References

Glasgow, K. 1997 *Iris*; A Practical Gardening Guide. Portland. Timber Press.

Goldblatt P. and J. Manning 2008 *The Iris Family*. Portland. Timber Press.

Hewitt, J. 2003 *Iris*. Great Comberton. The Hardy Plant Society.

Shear, W. 1998. *The Gardener's Iris Book*. Newton CT. Taunton.

For a discussion of this statement, see page 6, Club Finances

Statement of Income and Members Equity
(Unaudited – See Notice to Reader)
For the year ended June 30, 2009
(with comparative figures for previous years)
(page 1 of 3)

	2009	2008	2007	2006
REVENUE				
Membership Income				
Fees	7232.09	7334.59	7376.08	8648.38
less: Expenses	791.49	562.07	642.19	3142.61
Net Membership Income	6440.60	6772.52	6733.89	5505.77
Spring Plant Sale				
Revenue	11729.10	10393.10	10509.92	13583.35
less: Expenses	9088.92	7262.34	8798.73	8017.90
Net Spring Plant Sale Income	2640.18	3130.76	1711.19	5565.45
Fall Plant sale				
Revenue	5181.70	0.00	5555.50	5755.50
less: Expenses	3998.97	0.00	4064.79	3956.38
Net Fall Plant Sale Income	1182.73	0.00	1490.71	1799.12
Seed Exchange				
Revenue	417.25	633.45	712.30	1496.17
less: Expenses	653.71	950.92	646.52	193.00
Net Seed Exchange Income	-236.46	-317.47	65.78	1303.17
Other Revenue				
Interest	673.88	883.88	962.36	543.65
Miscellaneous	480.88	931.75	50.00	1305.96
Total Other Revenue	1154.76	1815.63	1012.36	1849.61
Total Ordinary Revenue	11181.81	11401.44	11013.93	16023.12
Expenses				
General Expenses	1862.33	2295.58	2069.78	1806.98
Bulletin Expense	3888.63	9462.02	5107.77	6795.99
Annual Show Expenses	1392.11	1306.80	395.47	1116.26
Monthly Meeting expenses	4392.41	3669.95	2255.40	2918.42
Other Venue Show Expenses			132.50	
Total Regular Expenses	11535.48	16734.35	9960.92	12637.65
Net Income before Special Events	-353.67	-5332.91	1053.01	3385.47
WSW Net Income		-1536.23		
Total Net Income before Donations	-353.67	-6869.14	1053.01	3385.47
Donations	176.00	2500.00	8100.00	4610.00
NET INCOME, before bequests	-529.67	-9369.14	-7046.99	-1224.53
Bequests				
TOTAL INCOME	-529.67	-9369.14	-7046.99	-1224.53

Statement of Income and Members Equity

(page 2 of 3)

	2005	2004	2003	2002
REVENUE				
Membership Income				
Fees	9797.94	8750.79	9522.15	10253.65
less: Expenses	14.80	42.12	1729.87	0.00
Net Membership Income	9783.14	8708.67	7792.28	10253.65
Spring Plant Sale				
Revenue	14778.25	13338.05	13300.00	13428.00
less: Expenses	12692.12	10611.44	10806.69	10457.08
Net Spring Plant Sale Income	2086.13	2726.61	2493.31	2970.92
Fall Plant sale				
Revenue	0.00	6214.20	7338.06	7774.75
less: Expenses	0.00	4290.33	7468.22	5934.76
Net Fall Plant Sale Income	0.00	1923.87	-130.16	1839.99
Seed Exchange				
Revenue	861.70	1568.57	2222.28	3650.63
less: Expenses	580.96	800.00	1000.00	2604.32
Net Seed Exchange Income	280.74	768.57	1222.28	1046.31
Other Revenue				
Interest	503.16	694.51	723.01	652.50
Miscellaneous	190.25	0.00	120.00	294.35
Total Other Revenue	694.41	694.51	843.01	831.85
Total Ordinary Revenue	12844.42	14822.23	12220.72	16942.72
Expenses				
General Expenses	2472.04	2821.73	923.47	1141.43
Bulletin Expense	7514.81	7147.01	5509.90	4949.66
Annual Show Expenses	1155.54	763.54	1116.28	809.14
Monthly Meeting expenses	1923.79	1317.98	2653.82	3825.33
Other Venue Show Expenses	354.43		200.00	
Total Regular Expenses	13420.61	12050.26	10203.47	10725.56
Net Income before Special Events	-576.19	2771.97	2017.25	6217.16
WSW Net Income			7045.22	
Total Net Income before Donations	-576.19	2771.97	9262.47	6217.16
Donations	3789.37	6800.00	3783.61	2800.00
NET INCOME, before bequests	-4365.56	-4028.03	5478.86	3417.16
Bequests		44545.00		
TOTAL INCOME	-4365.56	40516.97		

Statement of Income and Members Equity

(page 3 of 3)

	2001	2000	1999	1998
REVENUE				
Membership Income				
Fees	11222.66	12096.66	12224.84	13421.05
less: Expenses	136.11	2570.44	953.56	211.47
Net Membership Income	11086.55	9526.22	11271.28	13209.58
Spring Plant Sale				
Revenue	13557.80	12715.10	10954.05	11969.55
less: Expenses	10668.59	10485.11	8774.01	10070.74
Net Spring Plant Sale Income	2889.21	2229.99	2180.04	1898.81
Fall Plant sale				
Revenue	7870.75	7317.77	6299.75	6782.66
less: Expenses	5647.56	5729.94	5218.62	5950.54
Net Fall Plant Sale Income	2223.19	1587.83	1081.13	832.12
Seed Exchange				
Revenue	3437.12	3022.98	3013.81	2713.97
less: Expenses	2060.77	1052.34	1872.14	3775.86
Net Seed Exchange Income	1376.35	1970.64	1141.67	-1061.89
Other Revenue				
Interest	991.30	954.79	913.62	556.61
Miscellaneous	129.32	698.05	-399.77	44.25
Total Other Revenue	1028.30	1019.29	949.62	600.86
Total Ordinary Revenue	18603.60	16333.97	16623.74	15479.48
Expenses				
General Expenses	1877.70	1190.58	1434.54	1321.81
Bulletin Expense	5879.92	9013.39	5185.21	9306.48
Annual Show Expenses	1747.53	766.77	1163.25	1243.59
Monthly Meeting expenses	3087.17	1268.79	3036.06	3167.05
Other Venue Show Expenses				
Total Regular Expenses	12592.32	12239.53	10819.06	15038.93
Net Income before Special Events	6011.28	4094.44	5804.68	440.55
WSW Net Income				2318.35
Total Net Income before Donations	6011.28	4094.44	5804.68	2758.90
Donations	2800.00	2800.00	2800.00	3800.00
NET INCOME, before bequests	3211.28	1294.44	3004.68	-1041.10
Bequests				
TOTAL INCOME				