



Vancouver

February 1, 2009

The Newsletter of SOUL Vancouver
www.organiclandcare.org/branches/Vancouver/

Volume 1, Number 6



Photo by J.R. Rendón

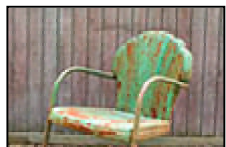
***"What incomes have we not had from a flower,
and how unfailing are the dividends of the seasons."***

-- James Russell Lowell

Message from the Chair

By Martin Harcourt

Editor's Note: Martin is on holiday. Following is an article on climate change forwarded by Victoria SOUL member Peter Liddell.



KEY AREAS OF CLIMATE CONCERN FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

How will climate change affect the health of British Columbians and what can we do about it? What infrastructure and institutional changes are needed to reduce greenhouse gases while maintaining BC's economic competitiveness? And how can a cap and trade system help BC meet its emission targets?

These are some of the questions tackled in a set of climate change discussion papers prepared by teams of researchers associated with the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS). The discussion papers cover eight broad areas of policy concern for BC-identified in consultation with the BC government-and have been submitted to the BC Climate Action Secretariat for review.

"These papers define the issues and set the questions in each of these policy areas," says Dr. Ned Djilali, the Canada Research Chair in Energy Systems at the University of Victoria and chair of the PICS program committee. "Once we've received feedback from the government and other stakeholders, the papers will serve as building blocks for the institute's long-term research agenda."

PICS is a collaborative venture among BC's four research-intensive universities. Led and hosted by UVic, PICS was created in 2008 with a \$90-million endowment from the BC government. It brings the province's best minds-from universities, government and the private sector-together to frame questions and propose solutions to the technological, social, economic, and public policy challenges that lie ahead for BC.

The eight discussion paper topics are: health; forestry; cap and trade systems; transportation; green building

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design; alternative energy; sustainable communities; and adaptation priorities. The full text of each paper is available on the PICS website at www.pics.uvic.ca/research.php.

Two more discussion papers are in preparation by PICS, on the topics of energy recovery from waste streams, and the economic opportunities and benefits of BC's transition to a low-carbon economy. These papers will be completed and made public in early spring.

The SOUL Vancouver Newsletter is published ten times per year by the Vancouver Branch of the Society for Organic Urban Landcare. This newsletter is distributed free of charge to all SOUL Vancouver members. Please feel free to share this publication. Permission to reprint any materials originally published in this newsletter may be granted upon written request.

Our Mission:

"To support our communities in their transition to organic practices."

Our Goals:

- To foster and promote the practice of organic land care.
- To provide opportunities for education in all aspects of organic land care.
- To establish and promote guidelines, standards and specifications for all aspects of organic land care.
- To establish procedures for certification of organic land care practitioners.
- To establish and develop a means for the exchange of information and ideas between the public and the organic land care industry.

Editor's Note: Any information, articles or photos that you feel would be of interest to our members would be greatly appreciated. Please forward your submissions to OMGVolunteerHours@gmail.com by the 25th of each month to receive consideration for publication in a subsequent issue of the SOUL Vancouver Newsletter. Bylines and photo credits will be acknowledged wherever applicable.

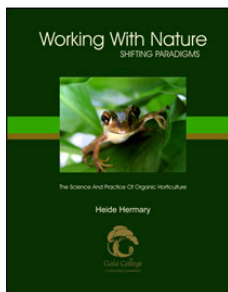
Cover Photo: 'Scents of Wonder' - *Hamamelis* in bloom at Van Dusen Botanical Garden, taken first of February 2009. Have a photo you'd like to see on the cover of the newsletter? Send it to the Editor!

New Book Sales

Essential Organic Gardening Information at Your Fingertips

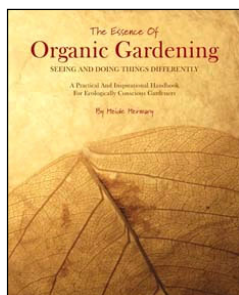
Starting this month, SOUL Vancouver will be offering for sale at special prices to its members two critically acclaimed books written by SOUL founder and president of Gaia College Heide Hermary.

Working With Nature -- Shifting Paradigms is addressed at all gardeners with an interest in horticultural science: landscape professionals, farmers, horticulture instructors, students and avid home gardeners.



While the book is scientific in approach, Heide uses plain language to present a new framework for making land management decisions. She describes ecologically sound soil and water management practices and introduces the concept of landscape health management. These are essential concepts in holistic land management. A glossary and extensive references are provided at the end of the book.

Working With Nature retails at \$65, but will be available to members at the special price of \$50, including GST.



In *The Essence of Organic Gardening - Seeing & Doing Things Differently*, the science behind organic gardening is distilled in a way that turns it into simple common sense. Readers are stepped through the process of thinking things through so that they can come to realize for themselves that organic

gardening is more than 'just' a smart approach, it's common sense.

In this book, Heide shows how the lives of plants are interwoven with the lives of all the organisms in their environment. She explains how gardening is much easier and much more interesting when we work to support the whole of the garden, and that is *essentially* what organic gardening is all about.

Essence will be available to members at the special price of \$15, including GST.

Copies of both books will be available for sale at all monthly meetings, or you can contact a member of the Executive to make your purchase.

SOUL Vancouver Executive Committee

Chair: Martin Harcourt

Email: mharcourt@organiclandcare.org

Vice Chair: Lee de Rosenroll

Email: lderosenroll@organiclandcare.org

Treasurer: Barb Bancroft

Email: bbancroft@organiclandcare.org

Secretary: Donna Wells

SOUL Board Liaison: Lee de Rosenroll

Email: lderosenroll@organiclandcare.org

OMG Coordinator: J.R. Rendón

Email: jrendon@organiclandcare.org

Event Coordinator: Open

Speaker Series Coordinator: J.R. Rendón

Email: jrendon@organiclandcare.org

Librarian: Lee de Rosenroll

Email: lderosenroll@organiclandcare.org

To contact *all* SOUL Vancouver members, use the listserver account: soul_vancouver@lists.onenw.org

The listserver account is for SOUL Vancouver members and to be used for SOUL business only.

Please note that replying to an email sent through the listserver will send your response to *all* SOUL Vancouver members. To reply to a specific member's email, use the 'Forward' command and then copy and paste that individual's email address into the 'TO' line.

Upcoming SOUL Vancouver Meetings

SOUL Vancouver monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of every month (except in August and December) at 7:30pm in the Canada Way Education Centre at 5310 Woodsworth St. in Burnaby, BC. A special guest speaker is featured at most meetings and a social with tea, coffee and goodies follows at around 8:45pm.

The SOUL Vancouver Executive holds its business meetings from 7:00pm - 7:30pm, preceding each monthly meeting. Executive meetings are open to any from the general membership wishing to attend.

Speakers Series Calendar:

February 12, 2009 - Extended Executive Meeting. No Guest Speaker scheduled.

March 12, 2009 - Details TBC.

April 9, 2009 - 'The EarthKind Rose Project: Using Organic Gardening Techniques for Roses', presented by Patrick White of the Canadian Rose Society.

May 14, 2009 - 'Summer Container Gardening and Alpine Container Gardening', presented by Bob Tuckey of The Natural Gardener Gardening Store.

New this month in the Lending Library

Books:

- Christopher Lloyd -- *Garden Flowers* (Paperback)
- Beverly Nichols -- *Down the Garden Path* (Hardcover)
- Sarah Ford -- *50 Ways to Kill a Slug* (Paperback)
- Henry D. Foth and Boyd G. Ellis -- *Soil Fertility* (Paperback)



These titles are brand new additions to our Lending Library and are not yet listed on the website, but they will be available to members at the next SOUL Vancouver monthly meeting on Feb. 12.

A complete list of book and DVD titles available in our Lending Library is updated monthly, following each monthly meeting, and can be downloaded in a PDF version at:

http://www.organiclandcare.org/branches/Vancouver/SOULVancouver_LendingLibrary.pdf.

As always, our new Lending Library welcomes your donations of new and used books and/or DVDs on topics relevant to organic gardening, sustainable living, and other ecological or environmental subjects. Monetary donations to help buy new titles are also accepted and appreciated. To do so, or for more information about the Lending Library, please contact the Librarian, Lee de Rosenroll, at lderosenroll@organiclandcare.org

Book Review, continued from Page 6

Stamets' examination of each of these is buttressed with numerous real-life examples of current applications and results of their effectiveness. In one particularly memorable example of mycoremediation, soil contaminated with diesel oil is inoculated with strains of oyster mycelia. In just eight weeks, the soil loses its toxicity and the mycelia are thriving. The ideas, their applications, and results -- are insistently thought-provoking and startlingly inspiring.

Michael Pollan, author of *The Botany of Desire*, describes his own reaction in another back-cover note: "Stamets is a visionary emissary from the fungus kingdom to our world, and the message he's brought back in this book, about the possibilities fungi hold for healing the environment, will fill you with wonder and hope."

-- J.R. Rendón

Events and Announcements

SOUL Vancouver will be representing SOUL on Feb. 10 at the 32nd Annual BC Parks and Grounds Spring Training Conference in Langley. The two-day event features guest speakers and workshops on topics such as Rainwater Management, Community Gardens and The Strategic Role of the Landscape in Sustainable Communities. Feb. 10 has been designated as 'Horticulture Day'. Feb. 11 has been designated as 'Maintenance Day'.

Martin Harcourt, Chair of SOUL Vancouver, will be guest speaking at the Fraser Valley Conservancy Open House Event on March 21, 2009. Martin, who is a well-known and highly regarded expert on organic turf management, will be speaking on the topic of Organic Lawn Care. Other details TBA.

The Ban Pesticides Coalition will be hosting a series of public presentations in Surrey in March, April and May. Martin Harcourt will be speaking at four of these. Exact locations and times TBA.

Plans are underway for SOUL Vancouver and its OMG program to continue hosting Information Tables at Vancouver-area Farmers Markets throughout the 2009 Summer/Fall season. In 2008, we hosted five Information Tables at Trout Lake, Riley Park, Kits and the West End. In addition to these, we hope to be adding other Farmers Markets next year such as at Granville Island, or even in locations outside of the Vancouver area. If you would like to recommend a Farmers Market venue, please contact the OMG Committee at OMGVolunteerHours@gmail.com.

The Wildlife Garden Project is in need of volunteers. Anyone interested in participating in this ongoing collaborative effort with Burnaby's Wildlife Rescue Association is encouraged to contact the OMG Committee for more information on how to get involved. Scheduling is flexible and volunteers can sign up as either an individual, in pairs, or as a group.

For those interested in volunteering for any SOUL Vancouver event or activity, a sign-up sheet is always available at monthly meetings, or you can do so via email at: OMGVolunteerHours@gmail.com. Organic Master Gardeners should note that volunteering for the positions and events noted above would qualify toward fulfilling your Volunteer Hours commitment.

SOUL T-Shirts (\$20) and Stickers (Large Decal - \$8 / Small Decal - \$5) are available for purchase from Lisa Atkins at all SOUL Vancouver meetings.

OMG News and Updates

So much for the holidays. January saw us back to work with a vengeance as lists, spreadsheets, memos, agendas and just about every other sort of organizational paperwork seemed to materialize out of the ether and land in a big, giant pile of actual to-do's for 2009.

As mentioned before, projects that were started in 2008 will need to be nurtured and further developed to keep up with the expectations and needs of our growing numbers of OMGers. Similarly, new ideas and projects - some for 2009 and others with expectations for 2010 - will also require substantial time and effort to bring to realization.

Part of what will help to make this all come about is a reassessment of the past year. What has worked? What hasn't? What needs to be done to ensure that the proper tools and resources are in place so that the next steps taken are on surer footing? What's missing?

One thing that has become abundantly clear is that we needed to simplify the categories for volunteer opportunities in order to make the intentions of the OMG Volunteer Program both more intuitive and more forthright.

In the beginning, there was no infrastructure in place to help guide volunteers and so it was difficult -- if not impossible -- to anticipate all of the options that might be explored. Initially, the approach was to create a set of categories and guidelines that could accommodate as broad a range of options as possible.

But after using this system for a year now, it's become obvious that the categories, as originally stated, were far too broad and often ended up confusing more than clarifying what qualifies as volunteer hours and how these should be tracked. As a result, an effort has been made over the past several weeks to simplify the categories and rewrite the guidelines. Hopefully, these will now reflect more clearly the intentions and purpose of the OMG Volunteer Program.

As an example, one new proposed category is 'Conservation Projects', summarized as 'activities that focus on the protection, preservation, management, or restoration of the environment and of natural resources.' Under this category would be listed specific activities such as **The Wildlife Garden Project** and the **Invasive Plants Awareness and Removal Program**. Other options of similar nature can easily be added under this category as our Volunteer Program continues to grow. And by grouping activities in this way, it becomes easier to anticipate what future projects might be added.

We certainly anticipate continuing to develop and establish our own new projects over time. One that we hope to get off the ground in the very near future is an **Organic Garden Tour**.

But lending our efforts to like-minded ongoing programs or projects that are already established within our communities can be just as valid and invaluable to our volunteer program. You'll see some of these now listed in the new guidelines. One such example is the **Invasive Plants Awareness and Removal Program**. It offers a range of opportunities to become involved with stewardship programs in our area whose sole purpose is the control of invasives. While our OMG Program acts as a sort of central resource to help make our volunteers aware of the dates and locations of these activities as they arise, neither SOUL Vancouver nor its OMG Program has any direct involvement in their management. But because these stewardship programs represent such a clear example of something Organic Urban Land Care is about, their support is an obvious choice. We certainly encourage OMGers to become involved if these opportunities speak to your interests and availability.

As Organic Master Gardeners, we recognize that organic practices and sustainable techniques can't happen in a bubble. Our goal should then be to reach out to our neighborhoods and communities, advocating and educating about the principles and practices behind organic gardening in as many ways as we can. In a very real sense, we're all in this together. Over the next few weeks, we expect to unveil the new set of OMG Volunteer categories and guidelines for your feedback. Keep in mind, though, that this is an ongoing process, so if you have suggestions for other programs through which we can reach out to our communities, please be sure to let us know.

-- Barb Bancroft, Lee de Rosenroll, J.R. Rendón
OMG Committee

To contact the SOUL Vancouver OMG Committee:

Via email:
OMGVolunteerHours@gmail.com

Via FAX:
604.222.3589

Via Snail Mail:
SOUL Vancouver OMG Committee
#401 - 1650 West 13th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6J 2G7

Book Review

Mycelium Running

How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World

Author: Stamets, Paul

ISBN: 978-1580085793

Price: CAD \$46.95

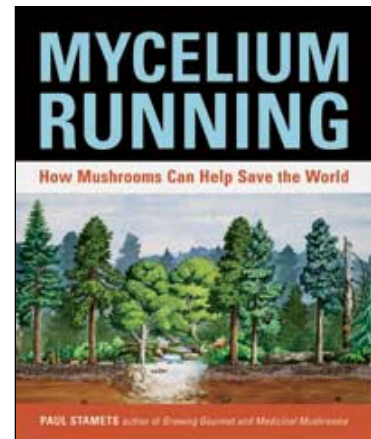
Format: Paperback

Pages: 352 pp.

Dimensions: 7 3/8 x 9 inches

Imprint: Ten Speed Press

Publication Date: 10/2005



Book Cover Image from 'Mycelium Running' courtesy Ten Speed Press (<http://www.tenspeed.com>).

Declaring that fungi are “the grand recyclers of our planet” and “the interface organisms between life and death,” Paul Stamets launches into *Mycelium Running* with a focused passion for his subject that is equal parts science, application, and innovation. With each chapter, the reader is drawn a little closer to a profound appreciation for just why this book bears the subtitle ‘How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World.’

Intent and deliberate in giving mushrooms their rightful due, Stamets examines and explores in thoughtful detail the world of fungi, their role as regulators of earth’s ecosystems, and their possibilities as nature’s healers. We are on the verge of a mycological revolution, states Stamets, and this book is about presenting his case.

Widely recognized as one of the world’s leading experts on mushrooms, Stamets is regarded by peers and associates as a cross between mycologist and visionary. His company, *FungiPerfecti*, is a Washington-state-based certified organic company that describes its mission as “specializing in using gourmet and medicinal mushrooms to improve the health of the planet and its people”. He has written a number of books on the subject, including *The Mushroom Cultivator: A Practical Guide to Growing Mushrooms at Home*; *Growing Gourmet and Medicinal Mushrooms*; and *Psilocybin Mushrooms of the World*.

This latest book by Stamets may well prove to be his masterwork on the subject. In a back-cover note, Gary Lincoff, author of *National Audobon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms*, describes *Mycelium Running* as “...the first book to give the Kingdom of the Fungi its proper place in the scheme of things. It is the most important book on nature that I’ve seen in years.”

Stamets presents his case in three parts. Part I is devoted to ‘The Mycelial Mind’, an in-depth examination of the life cycle, natural habitats, and medicinal aspects of mushrooms.

Part III, ‘Growing Mycelia and Mushrooms’, is devoted to mushroom cultivation and includes detailed how-tos for growing gourmet and medicinal mushrooms -- the allies to the immune systems of both humans and our planet. Techniques are described for germinating spores, transplanting wild mycelium, and creating natural spawn. There are also tips for choosing the appropriate species of fungi for various purposes. Capped off by a Glossary and list of Resources, the book contains more than 100 full-color photographs that accompany the descriptions and examples throughout.

But ‘Mycorestoration’ -- the use of fungi to heal a damaged environment -- is the eye-opening mycotechnology that lies at the heart of this book, and in Part II, Stamets gives himself over entirely to a persuasive analysis on behalf of four mycological solutions for saving the planet:

- Mycofiltration - the use of mycelium as a membrane in order to filter out microorganisms, pollutants and salts;
- Mycoforestry - the use of fungi to create truly sustainable forests;
- Mycoremediation - the use of fungi to degrade or remove toxins from the environment; and
- Mycopesticides -- the use of mycelium to influence and control insect populations.

Continued on Page 4

NOTICES

The Wildlife Rescue Association of BC, located in Burnaby, has an urgent need for cut greenery to use in their aviaries. Stumps, branches of any size, and evergreen prunings are appreciated.

The Care Centre is open from 8:00am to 5:00pm daily, but there is always someone on hand until about 8:00pm to accept your donations. The Centre is located at 5216 Glencarin Drive in Burnaby. Park in Visitors' Parking and enter at the path on the left. Follow the sign that reads "Injured Wildlife" and someone there will direct you to where the trimmings can be dropped off. There is no need to call first, but if you have any questions, you can contact the Care Centre at 604.526.7275.

Looking for the difficult to find organic gardening products? SOUL Certified Professional Phil Nauta's 'The Organic Gardener's Pantry' carries organic products for organic gardeners. Check the website for a full listing of products and product information:

www.gardenerspantry.ca

Dance Your Gumboots Off With Organic Friends of the Future!

Bring your Valentine(s) to the Last Chicken and Egg Family Dance and Fund Raiser

Saturday 14 February 2009

6:00 - 11:00 pm at the Subud Centre/Capri Hall (3925 Fraser St at King Edward in Vancouver).

Proceeds to support local organic farmers in need. Live music and calling by the Sybaritic String Band and Marian Rose.

Family fun - no alcohol. Fabulous farm friendly food at affordable prices.

Tickets: a dozen (12) \$ for adults; half a dozen (6) \$ for kids 6 - 12 yrs; toddlers no charge.

Tickets are available at:

- **Your Local Farmers Markets offices**, Unit 2 - 1163 Commercial Dr
Contact Roberta: 604-879-3276
- **Choices Market**
Cambie & 18th Ave location only - ask at the till
- **Online** at www.nowbc.ca
(registration required)

Coming Up At Van Dusen Botanical Garden:

Sat. Feb 7, 10:00am.

Bird Walk. Meet at the Garden entrance. Join Jeremy Gordon from Nature Vancouver for a beginners' birding exploration in the Garden. Rain or shine. Limited to the first 20 people. Free for Members or with Garden admission. For more information on Nature Vancouver, visit: www.naturevancouver.ca

Thurs. Feb 12. Cedar Series

Lecture: Among Kangaroo Paws and Grass Trees: The incredible Spring flora of Western Australia.
Lecturer: Gary Lewis of Phoenix Perennials. 7:30pm in the Floral Hall. Members \$10; non-Members \$15. Tickets available at the door or call 604.878.9821.

Sat. & Sun. Feb 14 – 15. Metro

Vancouver Gardening Society Annual Spring Flower and Penjing Exhibition in Floral Hall. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. Admission charge \$5 per family. Information: Tony Wu 604-473-9837
tonchwu@gmail.com

Mon. Feb 16. Adult Education

Course: Front Yard Design, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb 21. Adult Education

Course: Residential Garden Techniques. 5 weeks; 9:30 a.m.

Sat. Feb 21. Adult Education

Course: Mason Bee Workshop. 9:30 a.m.

Sat. Feb 21. Adult Education

Course: Basic Pruning. 1:30 p.m.

Mon. Feb 23. Adult Education

Course: Back Yard Design. 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb 28. Seedy Saturday, in the Floral Hall from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A celebration of heritage varieties and organic gardening featuring more than 30 growers, seed companies and exhibitors, Heritage Seed Swap, Great Bean Count. Admission by donation.

Sat. Feb 28. HSBC VanDusen

Family Program, A-maze-ing Adventures for families with children ages 4-11. Pre-registration required by calling 604-718-5898 or

familyprograms@vandusen.org

Sat. Mar 7. Bird Walk, 10 a.m. Rain or shine. Meet at the Garden entrance. Limited to the first 20 people. Free for Members or with Garden admission.

Sat. Mar 7. Annual Manure Sale, in the parking lot from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$5 for a 20kg bag or bag your own for the same price. Information and preorders: marcelle@alumna.ucttaw.ca

Sat. Mar 7. Adult Ed Course: All About Fruit Trees, 9:30 a.m.

Sat. Mar 7. Adult Ed Course: Berry Patch to Grape Arbor, 1:30 p.m.

Sat. Mar 7. Adult Ed Course: Roses for Your Garden, 1:30 p.m.

Thurs. Mar 12. Adult Ed Course: Xeriscaping – Waterwise Gardening, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. Mar 12. Cedar Series Lecture, E-Flora BC.

(<http://eflora.bc.ca>) A professor in the Department of Geography at UBC, Brian Klinkenberg will provide an overview of E-Flora BC and discuss how it has become a key resource in plant conservation. 7:30pm in the Floral Hall. Members \$10; non-Members \$15. Tickets available at the door or call 604.878.9821.

Sat. Mar 14. Adult Ed Course:

Spring Gardening – Tips and Techniques, 1:30 p.m.

Thurs. Mar 19. Adult Ed Course: Garden Design Fundamentals, 6:30 p.m.

Fri. Mar 20. Spring Break Adventure – Plant Detectives for families with children age 4-11.

Sat. Mar 21. Volunteer Orientation from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring lunch, we'll provide refreshments. Dress for the weather. Learn about the many volunteer opportunities at
Notices, contd. next page

NOTICES contd...

VanDusen. Tour the Garden with enthusiastic, knowledgeable Guides. Orientation is a prerequisite for becoming a VanDusen volunteer. To register, call Volunteer Director Judy Aird 604-257-8674.

Sat. Mar 21. Adult Ed Course: Composting, Compost Boxes and Worm Bins, 9:30 a.m.

Sat. Mar 28. Adult Ed Course: Grafting Workshop, 1:30 p.m.

Thurs. Apr 12. Cedar Series Lecture: Brazil – an introduction to a Naturalist's Paradise. Lecturer: Dr. Keith Wade. 7:30pm in the Floral Hall. Members \$10; non-Members \$15. Tickets available at the door or call 604.878.9821.

All courses require pre-registration. For further information about these and other course offerings at VanDusen please see the Course website at www.vandusen.org

Registration information and a downloadable registration form are also available on the Van Dusen website.

Upcoming

UBC Botanical Garden Courses and Lectures

Mon. Feb 9, 12:00pm – 1:00pm. Travels of a Modern Plant Hunter (lecture). Cost: \$5. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee supplied. Fee collected at the door. Advance registration required. *Instructor: Ron Long*

Sat. Feb 14, 9:30am – Noon. Pruning (course). Learn how and when to prune your bushes, shrubs and trees and gain greater confidence and knowledge to keep your plants in good health. 40 students maximum. Cost: \$40 (General); \$33 (Garden members). Advance registration required. *Instructor: Roy Jonsson*

Mon. Feb 23, Noon – 1:00pm. Cryptococcus gattii – Just Passing Through or Here to Stay? (seminar). Cryptococcus gattii (a.k.a. the killer fungus) was first recognized as an emerging pathogen in British Columbia in 2001. *C. gattii*, an environmental yeast, had never been described in a temperate

climate before, yet has been the cause of over 220 human cases of disease (and 9 deaths) during the last decade. Human and animal cases are now being described in Washington and Oregon — is the organism on the move? Cost: Free. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee supplied. Seat must be booked in advance. *Instructor: Karen Bartlett*

Mon. Mar 9, Noon – 1:00pm. Spring in the Garry Oak Ecosystem – Paradise Under Siege (lecture). The Garry oak ecosystem's (GOE) botanical diversity is at stake as one of Canada's most at-risk ecosystem faces forces that can dramatically alter it. Cost: \$5. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee supplied. Fee collected at the door. Advance registration required. *Instructor: Tom Wheeler*

Mon. Mar 23, Noon – 1:00pm. Bugs and Butterflies of the Garry Oak Ecosystem (lecture). A lecture to familiarize participants with the common and not-so-common butterflies and insects found in one of Canada's richest and most endangered ecosystems, the Garry oak ecosystem. Leaving participants with the tools to recognize these small yet significant inhabitants. Cost: \$5. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee supplied. Fee collected at the door. Advance registration required. *Instructor: Ingrid Hoff*

Mon. Apr 6, Noon – 1:00pm. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Behind the Scenes (lecture). Cost: \$5. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee supplied. Fee collected at the door. Advance registration required. *Instructor: Jackie Chambers*

Mon. Apr 27, Noon – 1:00pm. What Is Killing our Bees (seminar). An update on the problems afflicting our bee populations. Cost: Free. Bring a bag lunch. Coffee supplied. Seat must be booked in advance. *Instructor: Paul van Westendorp*

Sat May 2, 9:30am – 4:00pm. Organic Gardening All Year Round (course). Covers compost and soil preparation; mulching and watering; starting seeds and transplanting, intensive planting and inter-planting;

and crops to grow in planters and pots. 30 students maximum. Cost: \$55 (General); \$50 (Garden members). Advance registration required.

Instructor: Linda Gilkeson

Sun May 3, 9:00am – Noon. Native Plant Gardening (course). Defines and identifies native plants of the Pacific Northwest and outlines the values and benefits of using native plants in our gardens. Slides of native shrubs, perennials and bulbs will be shown as well as slides of native plant gardens showing examples of thickets, rock gardens, woodlands and meadows. A tour of native plant areas in the Botanical Garden is also included. 25 students maximum. Cost: \$45 (General); \$40 (Garden members). Advance registration required. *Instructor: Patricia Johnston*

To Register:

By Phone: (604) 822-3928 (please have your credit card on hand)

By Email: bsto@interchange.ubc.ca

Include the course you are interested in and your phone number, and we will contact you for the credit card information

In Person: at the UBC Botanical Garden Office, 6804 SW Marine Drive, between 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM weekdays.

(http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org/education/courses_lectures.php)

Have a Notice you'd like to have posted in the Newsletter? Send it to:

QMSVolunteerHours@gmail.com

Notices are free for SOUL members, Garden Societies/Clubs, Continuing Education, and certain other charitable, not-for-profit, or environmental concerns. There is a nominal fee of 15 cents per word, payable in advance and on a per publication basis, for all others. For more info on paid Notices, contact us at:

QMSVolunteerHours@gmail.com

We reserve the right to reject submissions deemed not in keeping with the stated mission and goals of SOUL.