

# Peninsula Garden Club

## Speakers September – December 2023

Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Speaker – Bernice Betts

**Topic - Xeriscape Gardens: Less water, more joy, a healthier planet**

As summers get hotter and drier, Peninsula gardeners are pondering whether to continue with thirsty lawns and moisture-loving plants. Should we transform our gardens into “dry havens” filled with cheerful blooms, aromatic herbs, and happy pollinators? Bernice will share the story of xeriscaping a sizable area of her North Saanich property and discuss the key principles for xeriscaping success in West Coast gardens.

Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 – Speaker – Jeff deJong

**Topic – Plants That Earn Their Keep**

A trip to the nursery often leads to purchases of plant material that are blooming. The allure of those blossoms is undeniable. Yet, what is it about the plant that earned its way into your garden once the flowers fade? This is when you may discover that there are other attributes that perennials hold. Your garden deserves to shine throughout the year and Jeff de Jong, a well-known horticulturalist, will be filling your spaces with choices with texture, shapes and beauty beyond the blooms and still a spectacular garden.

Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Speaker – Bernie Dinter

**Topic - Dwarf Conifer – A Journey into the Miniature**

Dwarf conifers allow the creation of gardens that fit your actual space. Gardens are shrinking as modern residences are built on smaller lots. Many species that we know as large trees are available in dwarf forms with their hardiness, interesting colours, textures and range of shapes. All the major conifer genera will be reviewed to show what is available to create a beautiful, small-scale garden.

Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Speaker - Bonita Elliott

**Topic - A Journey Through the Chelsea Garden Show 2023**

PGC member Bonita Elliott will share the themes and lessons of the amazing Landscape designs, master growers displays and Chelsea all dressed.