

It's back!

Mt. Lehman Community Newsletter

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 3

Mt. Lehman Community Association 13th Annual Spaghetti Dinner Come one, come all!

FRIDAY

**March 10th
2023**

**Mt. Lehman
Hall**

**6:00—8:00
pm**



PRICES: (still the same!)

Adult \$12; Child \$6 (12 and under)

Family of 4 (2 adults, 2 kids) \$30

(extra kids \$2 each) **CASH ONLY**

Meal includes: spaghetti with meat and/or cheese sauce, parmesan cheese, caesar salad, garlic bread and coffee, tea or water.

Beer and wine \$5 glass (CASH ONLY)

We DO NOT have gluten free options, sorry.

Newsletter sponsored by:



Participate in your community!

To join the Mount Lehman Community Association, apply at the Mount Lehman Credit Union or to Sara 778-241-8954. The fee is \$25 per year, \$40 for 2 years. Members in good standing for at least 6 months can rent the hall at a discount.

Mt. Lehman United Church News

6256 Mt Lehman Road
604-856-8113
Church Secretary: Cheryl Sheridan 778-919-6490
Rev. Tracy Fairfield 778-580-7582
Email: mtlehmanchurch@shaw.ca
Mt. Lehman, Sundays @ 10am
3rd Sunday of the month @ (Aldergrove United Church)
(27336 Fraser Hwy) 10am.
Feb. 22, Ash Wednesday, 7pm.
April 2, Palm Sunday, 10am
April 7, Good Friday, 10am
(@ Bradner Presbyterian Church.)
April 9, Easter Sunday, 10am

COMMUNITY EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE MLCA

Playtime: - Wednesday mornings 9:15 - 11:30 a.m. ongoing - June 7th.
AGM (for 2023) - April 25, 7:00 p.m. at the Hall,
Cinco de mayo - May 5, details (tba), Taço Bar, with a veg option, 6:00 p.m. till late. Music and dancing, selfie station - a family event.

Community News

In order to reduce the impact of filming in the community, two local residents have come forward to act as Community-Film Liaisons to represent the neighbourhood needs. For more information please contact: melissa.mtlehman@gmail.com



We are putting together a giant scrapbook of the history of the hall and the community. If you have old photos (hopefully with names identified) that we could copy, please contact Fran McGuckin 604-741-8067

In memory of Harold Fearing (1941-2023). (Reprinted in part from an article that appeared in March 2011.)

A delightful man with a disarmingly gentle smile, Harold Fearing developed an early interest in plants, earning a Botany Merit Badge in Scouts as a boy. In adult life he nurtured his passion for science and became a theoretical physicist, working for many years with the TRIUMF particle accelerator program at UBC. It was while living near to UBC that his interest in rhododendrons – “rhodies” as he and his wife Ginny call them – blossomed. Gradually, their city lot garden began to bulge at the seams, as his collection multiplied and the plants grew larger



As Harold and Ginny headed towards retirement, in 2003 they purchased a larger property on Ross Road in Mt. Lehman and began the task of moving many of the rhododendrons from their city garden. Rhodies have a shallow root system and even large ones can be successfully transplanted, but the issue is their weight. So they rented a construction garbage container (which sits flat on the ground), carefully dug each plant, wrapped the roots in plastic, placed them on sacking and dragged them into the container. When the container was full, it was transported to Mt. Lehman and the process happened in reverse. Five or six trips later this Herculean labour was

completed and about 400 plants, some up to 10 feet tall, were ensconced in their new home. Since then, the rhodie garden has doubled in size.

Harold’s passion was for “species” rhododendrons, which he grew mostly from seed. These are naturally occurring pure types, not crosses (“hybrids”) as one finds in garden shops. To be commercially viable, garden shops need plants that are hybridized to flower in May, in one or two gallon pots, and that can be cheaply mass produced. By contrast, some species take several years to reach maturity, bloom anywhere between January and late August, and have widely divergent growth habits.

Most rhododendrons are native to western China and India, in the Himalayas around Bhutan and Nepal.



Harold survived an operation for brain cancer, only to unfortunately be felled by Covid. Ginny, with help from their many friends in the rhodie community, has given away the contents of three huge greenhouses of Harold’s plants, which will now be blooming all over the Pacific Northwest!