

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2010

Officers:

President	Brenda Dumont	me@brendadumont.com	743-1638
Vice-President	Ajay Oppelaar	dangerboy2490@hotmail.com	743-6551
Treasurer	Gale McIntyre	zonagale@shaw.ca	743-9342
Secretary	Elizabeth Coulter	elizabethcoulter@shaw.ca	743-2117
Past-President	Barb Kohlman	barbkohlman@shaw.ca	743-4485

Committee Members:

Plant Sales	Heather Jenkins	fishface1@gmail.com	733-2268
Kitchen	Arlene Dench	jaden2@shaw.ca	743-5644
Historian	Mary Gale		743-9329
Raffle	Joan Cawker	jwmj@shaw.ca	715-1904
Librarian	Janice Rose	aretiredrose@gmail.com	743-5897
Membership	Heather Gibbins	heathergibbins@yahoo.ca	743-0424
Newsletter	Lorraine Little	lriddle@shaw.ca	743-4466
Flower & Garden Show Chair			

REMEMBER YOUR MUG FOR TEA OR COFFEE

The SEPTEMBER meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on **Tuesday September 28th** (the fourth Tuesday of the month) at the Mill Bay Community Hall. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm but the doors will open at 6:30 pm to provide you with the opportunity to check out the Club Library and sale table, put your exhibits on the floral arrangement and brag tables, chat to members and **pay your membership dues**. The theme for the floral arrangement will be "**SEPTEMBER SIZZLE**"

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

A reminder to everyone that membership renewals for the 2010/2011 season are due on or before October 31, 2010.

You can renew your membership at the September meeting or AFTER the Extraordinary meeting at the October meeting or by mailing your membership fee to our Treasurer, Gale McIntyre, 11A – 1120 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road, Mill Bay, BC V0R 2P2

Fees are currently \$5.00 per regular member, or \$8.00 per couple or donations for any amount gratefully received.

Only those who have renewed their membership prior to October 26, 2010 may vote at the Extraordinary Meeting.

2010/2011 MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB CALENDAR

Ajay Oppelaar, Vice-president.

Tuesday Sep. 28 th , 2010	Dianne Gains	Van Noort Bulbs	A-Z of Spring Flowering Bulbs. Dianne will be bringing lots of bulbs with her for sale as well.
Tuesday Oct. 26 th , 2010	Patti Brown	Glendale Gardens	Adding fall interest to the garden.

Speaker for Tuesday September 28th

Dianne Gains, Marketing Director for VanNoort Bulbs on “The A-Z of Spring Bulbs”, Dianne will have product with her available for sale to active Club Members. This will be a terrific topic and boon for all members attending.

Message from Ajay: I'm looking for 3 or 4 people to assist Dianne Gains with the sale, tally amounts, take cash. Will be fun and a good way to talk with club members. Email me at dangerboy2490@hotmail.com. to help out. Thanks in advance.

President's Report – Brenda Dumont **me@brendadumont.com**

President's Message for September 2010 newsletter

Welcome back to another exciting, educational, and fun year at the Mill Bay Garden Club. As you'll see in various reports throughout this chocked-full newsletter, 2009/2010 was a VERY successful year with best-ever results at our Flower Show, a grand Holiday Season and wind-up picnic, an expanded library, great plant sales (at meetings and at the Flower Show), great raffles and garden tours and wonderful meetings!

We anticipate more of the same for 2010/2011. To kick off, our September meeting will feature bulb sales (woohooo), plant sales with donations from our members, a great Brag Table theme, and our Van Noort representative advising on what to do to achieve the best bulb display on Vancouver Island! (Ah, nobody could accuse me of not being over the top!)

As you can see, September will be a jammed packed meeting so I suggest you'd like to come early. In addition to all the above activities, both September and October are membership renewal months and you'll want to renew your membership in September if you want to vote at our October extraordinary meeting.

Elsewhere in the newsletter there will be *one last time* a full description of the By-law and Constitution changes we are hoping to make. We were unable to get quite 50% of our large membership at our AGM/wind-up picnic so are hoping we can achieve the 50% at the extraordinary meeting which will take place at 6:30 P.M. prior to the regular October meeting.

We are working with a superb group of committed executive and committee heads for this year but are still missing a Chairman for the 64th Annual Flower and Garden Show. I wore both hats last year and am simply not able to do the same this year. Please consider this wonderful opportunity. Many capable people are happy to help make the 2011 edition an equal success to 2010.

Lastly, your executive committee group have decided that a website should be considered for the Mill Bay Garden Club. Is there anyone out there with website design and maintenance background or does anyone know of anyone with a suitable background. We'd like a basic, workmanlike website at, obviously, the best price possible and hope to be able to tap into any expertise already residing in the Club.

I recommend you grab a chair, a cup of tea and take the time to plow right through this larger September newsletter edition. There's lots of great stuff in here! As always, thanks to the marvelous efforts of many people that donate time and much effort to making this vibrant Garden Club grow and prosper! Don't hesitate to call or email me if there is anything I can answer or suggestions you have.

Ajay Oppelaar, Vice-president.
dangerboy2490@hotmail.com

Ajay Oppelaar VP

Without doubt, one of the shortest summers on record ended without fanfare well before September even had a chance to warn us of the change of seasons. This all resulted in much rain related breakage in the dahlia bed and the perennial border which meant giant flower arrangements all over the house wherever there was room.

Every September we have a week or so when the herons stop by and wistfully stare at the giant koi who are protected by tightly stretched netting over the pond. The first heron I encountered this month valiantly attempted to get his beak through the netting and was caught by the bill when I startled him. I got within a few feet of him before he managed to get his beak out of the net and fly away, beating me about the head with his giant fishy smelling wings. Not as bad as the swan attack I survived while visiting the Keukenhof in Holland!

Late August/early September was terrific weather though for planting and moving several trees and shrubs and numerous perennials in our yard. The perennial bed needed some rearranging and editing, with lots of divisions and entire plants going to friends and neighbours and the plant sale table. I eliminated four perennials entirely due to their lack of performance in the bed, or the degree of damage those wascally wabbits caused. The squirrels also had a terrific time with the new blueberry bushes and the ever-bearing strawberry bed so we never saw any ripe fruit.

The time for planting and moving perennials is just about over. If you've got new purchases that have been grown out in pots from the nursery, go ahead and plant them still. If you're dividing and are cutting apart root structures, the time and the season have pretty well passed for allowing enough time for the roots to regenerate and settle in for winter.

The lawn can still be top-dressed and over seeded, even completely rehabilitated. If you've got problem areas that have thin soil and dry out too fast in summer, cover the area with three or four inches of sandy loam and re-seed with the same seed mix that the rest of the lawn was planted with. If you don't match the seed blend, you can get a wildly different lawn in the re-seeded area and it may not match the established lawn.

Keep the grass seed moist if no rain is forecast and it should sprout within 10 days during this cooler period. You may not need to mow the new grass until spring, but by then it will be well established

and when the lawn breaks dormancy it will grow like crazy. Don't give newly planted fall lawns a traditional seed starter fertilizer, it will keep it growing instead of letting it sprout and then go dormant with cooler weather. Do give it a light application of a fall/winter fertilizer blend for lawns and then in early April next year, do an all over application of spring lawn fertilizer.

Here's a great hint for cleaning up your ornamental grasses like Carex "Autumn Fire" and "Frosty Curls": grab the base of the entire plant in your hands and pull all the growth up until you and start twisting it like a giant pony tail. Keep sliding your hands along the length until you can wrap it around your hand. Give it a good slow hard pull and all the seed head growth comes right out. That's all the maintenance these types of grasses need.

Treasurer – Gale McIntyre

zonagale@shaw.ca

Mill Bay Garden Club Financial Report as of September 14th 2010

Balance forward from May 31 2010	\$2515.22
---	------------------

Income:

Plant sale	\$841.57
Donations	16.00

Total:	\$857.57	\$3372.79
---------------	-----------------	------------------

Expenses:

Tables & plant for Picnic	75.00
Library	110.69
Hall Rental	295.00
Donations	1200.00
Newsletter	9.45
Tablecloths	149.21
s/c for June July August	33.75

Total:	1873.10
---------------	----------------

Balance: as of September 14th 2010	\$1499.69
---	------------------

Donations: Cowichan Valley Hospice society	\$400
Seeds for Malawi	250
CMS Foodbank	300
Cairnsmore Garden	250

Treasurer Gale McIntyre

Secretary's Corner - Elizabeth Coulter
elizabethcoulter@shaw.ca
Annual General Meeting
Mill Bay Garden Club
June 22nd, 2010
At the home of Bonnie Mills

At 7:15 pm President Brenda Dumont opened the 2010 Annual General Meeting;

She gratefully acknowledged and thanked Bonnie and Mike Mills in allowing the club to picnic tonight on their property and Ajay Oppelaar presented them with a Japanese maple.

President Brenda summarized a very successful year for the club:

Brian Minter's appearance and talk;

The very successful Flower Show.

Elaine and her group had a very successful plant sale raising funds the Club.

25th Anniversary of the Mill Bay Garden Club. Mary Gale was a founding member.

The club has grown to 195 members.

A wonderful Library cart for our Library.

Introduction of and thanks to Volunteers and Executive

Ajay Oppelaar has been a great vice-president

Heather Gibbins, membership chairman

Barb Kohlman, past president

Elizabeth Coulter, Secretary

Gale McIntyre, Treasurer

Joan Cawker and her husband Jim have run the raffle

Arlene Dench the "Kitchen Witch", in charge of the kitchen teams

Lorraine Little, newsletter

Janice Rose, Library and Treasurer of the Flower Show

Heather Jenkins, plant sales and publicity for the Flower Show

Dot Garbet – Flower Show Silent Auction, along with Cecile Healey

Mhairi Bruce, Flower Show hall chairman

Gloria Craig, Flower Show Vendors chairman

Gale McIntyre gave us a verbal Treasurer's Report.

Balance is \$2515.22 and after our annual donations we will have about \$1700.00.

Gale McIntyre moved that we donate

\$250 to Seeds for Malawi

\$400 to Cowichan Valley Hospice

\$250 to Cairnsmore House Volunteer Gardeners

\$300 CMS Foodbank

Elaine Scott seconded the motion. CARRIED.

Winners of the 25th anniversary decorated hat contest – Elizabeth Coulter and Bill Dumont

The Mill Bay Garden Club Aggregate Award was presented to Dot Garbet. Dot also won the People's Choice award.

We needed 94 members in attendance to pass amendments to the by-laws and did not achieve that number, with our attendance tonight of 71 members. We will have an "extraordinary" general meeting on October 26th before the regular general meeting and will re-present the by-law and constitution changes if 50% of the membership are in attendance.

Bill Herring took the floor to oversee the election of officers for the coming year. Hearing no further nominations he announced that the new slate of officers would be:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President – Brenda Dumont
Vice President –Ajay Oppelaar
Secretary – Elizabeth Coulter
Treasurer – Gail MacIntyre
Past President – Barb Kolhman

COMMITTEES:

Membership – Heather Gibbins
Kitchen – Arlene Dench
Kitchen Assistant – Diane Regan
Raffle – Joan Cawker, assisted by Jim Cawker
Library – Janice Rose
Newsletter – Loraine Little
Plant Sales – Heather Jenkins
Historian – Mary Gale

Hearing no further nominations, Bill declared the above members elected.

Bill asked if anyone would be willing to chair the position of Community Flower and Garden Show Chairman. Hearing no response, Bill declared that position vacant for the time being.

Elaine Bliss was introduced and welcomed as one of the original members of the Mill Bay Garden Club. She was chairman for 9 years.

Raffle winners are: Glad Roth and Diane Regan.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Elizabeth Coulter
Recording Secretary

Kitchen Report - Arlene Dench
jaden2@shaw.ca

This month we welcome Diane Regan who has volunteered to assist with the kitchen.

Team 15 will be responsible for setting up the hall, kitchen duties and clean up for the **SEPTEMBER** meeting. The members of this team are: **LESLIE SUTTON, ANN TAYLOR, CECILY TRAYNOR, DEB TUSTIN, PEGGY TYLER, JACK TYLER, BRENDA UNDERWOOD, CYNTHIA VERNALL, MARIA VITULANO AND LOUISE WHITE**

Team 16 will be responsible for setting up the hall, kitchen duties and clean up for the **OCTOBER** meeting. The members of this team are: **GORDON MACKAY, SHARON MARTIN, AL MIKALISHEN, WENDY MIKALISHEN, TRACY MORRIS, JANICE MOSELY, LAURIE MOSELEY, CLINT NICKERSON, MICHELLE NICKERSON AND SONIA OTTOSON**

Just a reminder that the suggested donation to the club for coffee, tea and goodies is \$1.00

"REMINDER" As of the October 2010 meeting we will no longer be supplying cups!

By-Law and Constitution Proposals for Vote at Extraordinary Meeting to be held prior to the regular general meeting **at 6:30 p.m.** on Tuesday, October, 26, 2010.

There will be votes held on three separate by-law/constitution issues which have been outlined in the May, June and September newsletters. All paid-up members (those renewing at the September 2010 meeting or mailing their renewal fees to the Treasurer prior to October 26, 2010) attending will need to 'register' with our Treasurer as they arrive as we'll want to confirm a 'quorum' for these votes.

The three proposed By-Law and Constitution and By-Law Changes and/or Additions are:

PROPOSED NEW BY-LAW AND CONSTITUTION CHANGES (Please note that these are PROPOSED. Each will require a 2/3 majority result to be passed)

Your Executive/Committee Group has drafted and approved the following new By-law and new membership rate per our Constitution to be voted on by the membership at an Extraordinary Meeting called for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 26, 2010. It is required we publish these new proposed by-laws in our newsletter two months in advance so you've seen this notice in May, June, and September 2010's newsletters.

Proposed New By-Law number 7. **Current By-law 7 becomes number 8.**

Consideration for all charitable donation proposals each year will be decided by a majority vote of the Executive/Committee Head Group at the May Executive/Committee meeting. Proposals for donations will be sent, in writing, to the Secretary prior to the May Executive/Committee meeting which is held on the second Tuesday of every month. Those donations approved by the Executive/Committee Head Group will be voted on for final approval by the

membership at the Annual General Meeting. Criteria for consideration for any charitable donation will include the Club's ability to pay and the nature of the organization requesting donations with preference given to gardening-related requests.

Proposed new membership rate as per Article 5 of the Constitution regarding contents of Annual General Meetings:

Annual membership rate to rise to \$10 per person per year, effective January 1, 2011.

Proposed amendment to number 5 of the By-Laws

Current: **A 'Quorum' shall consist of 50% of paid-up members**

Proposed: **A 'Quorum' shall consist of 50% of paid up members or a minimum of 50 members.**

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL PLANT SALE

REPORT ON 2010 SALE

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE GARDEN CLUB HOLDS AN ANNUAL PLANT SALE AT THE COMMUNITY FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW. THIS EVENT TOOK PLACE ON JUNE 12 UNDER LOVELY CLEAR SKIES.

YOUR PLANT SALE COMMITTEE MEMBERS – BARB KOHLMAN, MARY GALE, MARGARET MARTIN, JANIS FEURER, MARGO JOHNSTON, ALI MORRIS, LORAIN LITTLE, HEATHER JENKINS, RUBY ARMOUR, SONIA OTTOSEN AND ELAINE SCOTT (WITH THE HELP OF STEPHANIE WALTER THE DAY BEFORE) – WORKED HARD PRIOR TO AND DURING THE SALE.

OUR PROFIT FROM THE SALE WAS \$841.55 WHICH IS THE LOWEST AMOUNT THAT WE HAVE MADE FROM THE SALE SINCE 2005. THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE FACT THAT WE DID NOT HAVE AS MANY PLANTS FOR SALE.

OTHER THAN PLANT SALE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, ONLY SEVEN GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS DONATED PLANTS FOR THE SALE. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT OUR MEMBERSHIP IS CLOSE TO 200 SO THAT MEANS THAT ONLY A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF OUR MEMBERS ACTUALLY SUPPORT THE SALE BY DONATING PLANTS. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT MANY MEMBERS DO SUPPORT THE SALE THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF PLANTS.

ONE OF OUR MEMBERS HAS SUGGESTED THAT AS YOU TIDY UP YOUR GARDEN THIS FALL YOU MAY WISH TO PUT ASIDE SOME PLANTS FOR OUR SALE. SOME OF OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL TAKE THESE PLANTS HOME AND LOOK AFTER THEM OVER THE WINTER.

I WILL BRING MY TRUCK TO BOTH THE SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER MEETINGS AND WILL BE WILLING TO RECEIVE ANY PLANTS THAT YOU MAY HAVE POTTED UP DURING YOUR FALL CLEAN-UP.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

ELAINE SCOTT, CHAIR, MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE COMMITTEE.

Did you know that....

Perennial Ridge Farms

5605 Jordans Lane,
Duncan, BC, V9L 6J1
Ph. / Fax. 250-748-0098

Fall Plant Sale

September 24, 25, and 26 2010

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Hello All !!!!

Well, I think we can feel fall in the air, and with it comes the occasional rain. It was a long dry summer, and I am sure the plants are loving the cool rains to refresh their systems. With the mild, but cooler night temperatures, and the rains, it make a perfect time to plan fall transplanting of trees, shrubs, perennials, and berry bushes. We have a nice selection of deciduous trees (maples, oaks, and many unusual trees in stock), shrubs, rhodos and deciduous azaleas, perennials and berry bushes. Something for everyone!!!! We will be offering specials on certain perennials.

We have a huge selection of hostas in 1 gal pots, ready to get their roots in the ground. We have a wide choice of 1 gal and 2 gal rhodo. Fall is the best time to plant rhodos and azaleas.

To find Perennial Ridge Farms, follow (Old) Cowichan Lake Rd. for 7 km from the Tansor Service Station, heading west. Follow the bright green signs, till you come to Jordans Lane on your left.

Recycle, Reuse and Reduce!

Any unwanted used 1 gal., 2 gal., or larger pots will be gladly accepted!

We look foward to see you the last weekend in September!!

Fall Plant Sale



HUGE *Inventory of*

Regular & SALE material

Gift Shop & Library Clearance

Saturday & Sunday

September 25th & 26th

9 am to 4 pm

Glendale Gardens at 505 Quayle Road

info@hcp.bc.ca www.glendalegardens.ca

250-479-6162

**USING ORNAMENTAL GRASSES TO PROVIDE INTEREST IN YOUR
GARDEN.**

**THE VANCOUVER ISLAND HEATHER SOCIETY IS PLEASED TO PRESENT
EWAN MACKENZIE**

**SPECIALIST IN GROWING AND MAINTAINING ORNAMENTAL GRASSES
A PUBLIC PRESENTATION AND PLANT SALE**

with

ORNAMENTAL GRASSES AND BUD BLOOMING HEATHERS

**OCTOBER 7, 2010
COBBLE HILL FARMERS INSTITUTE
WATSON AVENUE
COBBLE HILL
7 P.M.
ONLY 100 TICKETS AVAILABLE
COST: \$10
(VANCOUVER ISLAND HEATHER CLUB MEMBERS \$5)
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
NORMA DIROM – 250-746-1995 HEATHER SCHYF- 250-743-4173**

**Victoria Dahlia Society
October 7, 2010 at 7:30 pm
St Michael and All Angels Church
4733 West Saanich Road**

You can join in our hands-on demonstration on how to split tubers! Also, learn how to store the tubers over winter to avoid them drying or rotting.

**Thanks,
Phil Dade, (250) 391-4612
Victoria Dahlia Society**

Community Education at Glendale Gardens

**Introduction to Garden Design
Mondays 6:30 pm-9 pm
7 sessions starting Sept. 13th**

**In this comprehensive course Barbara Kohlman will cover the basic principles & procedures for a successful residential garden design. Included will be:
the history & influences seen in today's designs, maintenance at the design stage, basic hardscape including paths & decks, and plant choice & placement. HCP Members \$250.00 Non-HCP Members \$350.00**

For all the details for this fall please go to

<http://www.glendalegardens.ca/eventscalendar.php>

**Jo Ann Braidwood
Office Administrator
Glendale Gardens & Woodland
505 Quayle Rd
Victoria, BC V9E 2J7**

"Design Your Edible Garden with Joy"

Details: Thursdays Oct 14 - Nov 4, 2010

Sunflower Cafe, 149 Canada Ave., Duncan BC

6:30 - 8:00 pm Cost: \$50.00 for all 4 or \$15.00 each

Topics include: Garden Design Layout, Soil, Water, Seeds and Plants
(max. 12 people)

contact: Joy Story at (250) 743-1352 or growfood@shaw.ca

Should you have any suggestions regarding items to be covered in the newsletter or contributions for the newsletter, please contact me at lriddle@shaw.ca The cut-off date for submissions to the October newsletter is **MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2010**. Loraine Little, Editor