

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2011

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 FEBRUARY Meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on **Tuesday February 22nd** (the fourth Tuesday of the month) at the Mill Bay Community Hall. 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 and chat with other members.

The theme for the floral arrangements will be **"What's Up?"**

2010/2011 MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB CALENDAR

Ajay Oppelaar, Vice-president.

Tuesday Feb. 22 nd , 2011	Diane Pierce	Spring pruning for flowering shrubs
Tuesday March 22 nd , 2011	Bill Herring	Growing Vegetables for the home garden.

Tuesday February 22nd: Diane Pierce on "Spring pruning for flowering shrubs". Diane holds a **B.Sc. in Agriculture from UBC** and worked with the **Victoria Parks Dept.** as a gardener for **10 years.** She is a landscape designer and garden consultant who also teaches various courses at **Glendale Gardens.**

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

President's Message for February 2011 newsletter

I love Hellebores! I literally feel better when I see my hellebores starting to set and then bloom. What makes them so special? Well the best thing is that they bloom when almost nothing else is. Most of the other attributes are best described if you can see their spotted, creamy, black, velvety, stripy, black blooms. They are easy to grow, and actually prefer a little shade and just average or poor soil. Some of my fellow garden club members say you should never cut back last year's hellebore leaves, but I do. Up to you, everyone's garden is special. I hope to have some of my specialty Hellebores in bloom to compete at our Brag Table in February. (apparently we will have a special prize from our Brag Table coordinator Barb Kohlman – I'm entering, Barb is a brilliant plantswoman)

The 64th (yes, I'm not kidding, it's the 64th!) annual Community Flower and Garden Show committee is beginning to rock and roll. This is a Mill Bay Garden Club's biggest event and fundraiser. Our committee is amazing and fun! We are trying hard to find a Silent Auction coordinator. Please come forward and volunteer.

A committee consisting of Elizabeth Coulter, Gloria Craig and myself are working hard to produce a good website for our Club at a really reasonable price. Don't worry! We will keep you informed every step of the way...

I am pleased to advise that our Vice President, Ajay Oppelaar, negotiated an excellent deal with London Drugs in Duncan and we are the proud owners of a new digital projector. The Club had approved up to \$500.00 for a digital projector of our own, but Ajay was able to purchase a brand new, suitable model for under \$350.00 including tax. Ajay is an excellent negotiator and we are most fortunate to have him represent our Club in these types of purchases!

If by chance you've overlooked renewing your membership for 2011, then please do so today. This is your last action-packed newsletter unless you either renew at our February meeting or send your renewal fee (\$10.00 per person) to our Treasurer, Gale McIntyre, 11A – 1120 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road, Mill Bay , BC V0R 2P2. Renew today! It will be the best \$10.00 you spend this year!

We welcome everyone's input and suggestions. Talk to any one of us and consider volunteering within your club. We are starting to make telephone calls to encourage next year's volunteers. Talk to us before we call you!

Brenda

The Cobble Hill Farmers Institute needs a chairperson (or two co-chairpersons) to run the Horticulture Section of the Fair at the end of August. Assistance will be available. Please contact Willy Cherry of the Farmers Institute or call Brenda if you need more information or are able to help out.

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

To those of you who did not attend our Holiday dinner back in December, this poem I wrote and read tells the true story of what happened the year before in 2009 at the Garden Club Holiday dinner. This is being printed by request from several members who were actually at both dinners.

'Twas the night of last years dinner when all through the hall
Alcohol was still being consumed by some but not all
The buffet table was set with great care
By members who names had been drawn to be there
Mashed Potatoes and stuffing nestled hot in their pans
With slices of roast turkey and sweet candied yams
And Mary Gale with her wine and me with a beer
Had joined with club members to share Christmas cheer
Our dinner was served, desert after a bit
When Brenda and I ran to change clothes for a skit
She dressed as an elf and I as St Nick
We had only a few minutes to change so it had to be quick
Away to the men's room I flew with a flash
My Santa suit in a garbage bag to disguise it as trash
The men's room was empty for that I was blessed
I tore open the bag and began to get dressed
Some black boots, some red pants, a top shirt oh so big
In a box were some whiskers, black belt, hat and wig
Once in the washroom hidden into the stall
I opened that box and unloaded it all
First out was the wig, which I put on my head
And then next was the belt, long and heavy like lead
As the belt left the box with the beard it entangled
And from the belt buckle the white beard it did dangle
Before I could grab that dangling hair with my hand
It fell off the belt and just where did it land???
In the toilet of course, just for all my bad luck
And it floated in there as I thought "ick, damn and yuck"
Out I fished that dripping beard and flung it to the sink
Now wishing I'd had just one or two more strong drinks
What should I do now? As Santa I wondered
To do the skit beardless would be a holiday blunder
So with hot water and hand soap I lathered up that fake beard

And then rinsed it and rinsed it till the water ran clear
 Now a sodden mass I had which I wrung out with great force
 At this point the skit would be delayed of course
 I wrapped up that beard in 12 paper towels or more
 And then jumped on it, stamped on it there on the floor
 I repeated this action several times to be sure it was dry
 Then Heather Gibbins' husband Frank came in the door, what a guy.
 He says, "Brenda wants to know what is taking so long"
 "Tell her I'm almost ready, that something went wrong"
 So I put on that damp beard which smelled just like wet dog
 And put on my reading glasses which got covered with fog
 So Brenda and I as Santa and Elf
 Began our little skit, which we had to read ourselves
 My body was hot inside my red suit it so seemed
 Hot enough in fact that the whiskers began to steam
 My glasses were still fogged up from before
 And now my steaming beard fogged them up much much more
 My script was illegible I was blind by all rights
 So wing it I did for our clubs special night
 In the end the skit went off without hitch
 But I really wanted to throw that damn beard in the ditch
 The next day I returned my rental Santa suit to it's site
 And left a note saying "please wash this beard thoroughly before renting it tonight"

Treasurer – Gale McIntyre
zonagale@shaw.ca

Mill Bay Garden Club Financial Report as of FEBRUARY 12, 2011

Balance forward from January 10, 2011		\$1916.73
Income:		
January Raffle	\$45.00	
Memberships	80.00	
Kitchen	25.12	
Plant sale	25.00	
Total:	175.12	\$2091.85

Expenses:

B.C Garden club	179.00
Projector	351.11
Jan s/c	11.25
Total:	541.36

Balance: as of February 12, 2011

\$1550.49

Treasurer Gale McIntyre

Secretary – Elizabeth Coulter
elizabethcoulter@shaw.ca

Minutes of the January 2011 Mill Bay Garden Club Meeting

Meeting opened at 7:00

President's report covered

Seedy Saturday: Saturday, March 12th volunteers for table are covered

Flower Show up and ready to go. Request for volunteer for the Silent Action.

Still checking for best way to proceed with a website

Brag Table will be covered by Barb Kohlman

Brenda and Ajay met with Cowichan Valley Garden Club and we are going to 'share' members open garden tours this year.

Ajay confirmed upcoming speakers – Diane Pierce on Pruning for February, Bill Herring on Vegetable Growing for March, Bernie Dinter on lawn care for April, Barrie Agar, Head Gardener at Royal Roads on Hardy Perennials for May.

Motion: Elaine Scott made a proposal to purchase a Data projector for the club to a maximum cost of \$500.

Seconded: Heather Gibbins

Discussed and carried

New member Dee Lundgren suggested that we look at –Asset Recovery-

And agreed to research this outlet for the club—reporting to Ajay

deelundgre@gmail.com 250-213-9464

Ajay spoke to the club, re a budget for the fall, and informed the club that the committee will not spend any more than 25% of our working capital on any one expenditure for the club without bring this to the membership.

Ajay announced that we have Pied Piper in the club—Dustin Carlson who has agree to set up and oversee a series of field trip/seminars outside of the club meetings---to focus on sustainability. For example---pruning/compost/livestock/mushrooms/wreath making. He is still researching. Suggests there may be some \$ involved.

Treasurer's report: as of Jan. 10th balance is \$1916.72 and an additional outlay of \$179 for the BCCGC for insurance/membership.

Membership: 5 new members tonight total of 147 members.

Library: Janice asks all to please bring books back/ some are out/missing since October.

Historian; Mary has sent pictures from the Holiday Party and members are welcome to take them.

Plant table: Heather reported there were a few plants left.

Brag Table:

Ajay thanked volunteers for kitchen duty and for set up.

Let Mary know if there are members who are in need of some "sunshine" and she will take care of this.

Note by member that Seedy Saturday, Qualicum is Sat. Feb.5th
COFFEE BREAK

Q&A snowdrops were the main topic---120 registered varieties---even yellow ones. Bill Herring reports that it is a myth to lift snow drops "in the green" wait till the leaves die down

Speaker Elaine Scott on Heathers and Heaths

Heather sales	March 12	Glendale	10:00
	March 26	Cobble hill Hall	10:00

Meeting adjourned.

Kitchen Report - Arlene Dench
jaden2@shaw.ca

Team 19 will be responsible for setting up the hall, kitchen duties and clean up for the February 2011 meeting. The members of this team are:

Miriam & Derek Coughlin, Pauline Dueck, Krista Durand, Shirley Durand, Kathy Edmonds, Celine Eggleston and Wendy Friese

Team 20 will be responsible for setting up the hall, kitchen duties and clean up for the March 2011 meeting. The members of this team are:

Dot Garbet, Carol Goodger-Hill, Laura & Jim Harper, Eldy & Ken Hart, Chris & Dee Harvey and Cecile & Gordon Healey

Library Report – Janice Rose
aretiredrose@gmail.com

Members are asked to return all borrowed library books at each monthly meeting. Books may be borrowed for only one month at a time. Other members are keen to sign out books from our collection, especially the new ones. Some books taken out at our fall meetings have not yet been returned!

Your friendly librarian

Did you know that....

The View Royal Garden Club will hold its general meeting on Wednesday February 23, 2011 at 7:30pm in the Shoreline Community School, 2750 Shoreline Drive. The speaker for this meeting will be Tom Leahy who will talk on Mason & other native bees. He will bring some sample props with regard to bee cultivation and care and is prepared to answer questions. As well there will be a sales table with plants and garden items. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For further questions, please contact 250-220-5212.

Northwest Flower and Garden Show

Seattle Convention Center February 23–27

Hampton Inn and Suites Lynnwood Event Package

Package includes:

Two entry tickets to the show (\$40 value)

Overnight accommodations for two

Parking

Hot buffet Breakfast

Shuttle Service to the show and hotel

AND MORE

Just a quick trip from downtown Vancouver.

No hassles with city traffic. No hassles with expensive downtown hotel and downtown parking prices.

Drive down, check in, relax and let us take care of the rest.

Rates start at \$119

(\$60 per person when you share a room!)

This package is available at the Hampton Inn and Suites Lynnwood Washington only.

CALL US DIRECT

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND

RESERVATIONS

19324 Alderwood Mall Parkway

Lynnwood, Wa 98036

425 771-1888 877-771-8555

www.hamptonseattlenorth.com

Northwest Flower and Garden Show

Seattle Convention Center February 23–27

Hampton Inn and Suites Lynnwood Event Package

The Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society are hosting the following event, held every five years:

Western Winter Study Weekend in Sidney BC. February 25 to 27.

All details are available on VIRAGS website at

<http://www.virags.ca/winterstudyweekend.html>

Speakers from the UK and beyond, plant sales, workshops and garden tours. A great program.

Victoria Orchid Society
1199 Tattersall Drive, Victoria, BC V8P 1Y8



January 21, 2011

For Public Release

We would like to make you aware of our next Orchid Show for your Events Calendar for the year.

Our Show and Sale this year will be called “ Orchids – Flowers of Romance & Mystery” and will be held at the Student Union Building at the University of Victoria.

Show Times are; **Saturday, March 3, 2011** 9:00am till 5:00pm
 Sunday, March 4, 2011 10:00am till 3:00pm

For more information please visit us at <http://victoriaorchidsociety.com/>

Thank you for your attention

Pat van Adrichem
615 Cromar Road
North Saanich, BC
V8L 5M5
250-656-3094
kingfisherorchids@gmail.com

If you plan to attend, and would like to receive a \$1.00 coupon, please email Pat and she will email you a coupon back.

CVRS Fraser Valley Garden Tour – May 2011

The Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society has organised another exciting two-day tour of special gardens of the Fraser Valley on May 13 and 14-peak blooming times for rhodos and many

other plants in several impressive private gardens. Local Garden Club members and others will also be joining us. Features planned:

- Deluxe highway coach transportation from downtown Duncan to the Fraser Valley with a return to Duncan on Saturday evening.
- A relaxed cruise over breakfast on Friday morning aboard the *Queen of Alberni* from Duke Point to Tsawassen terminal.
- Visits to some spectacular private gardens including Lu Zhu, the creation of Dr. and Mrs. Bale near Agassiz. One of its primary objectives has been to provide a haven for tranquility and serenity away from the turmoil of earthly activities. This garden is awesome. We'll stop at Vern Finley's lovely 3 acre hillside Surrey garden overlooking the Fraser River first started 53 years ago. There will be several more impressive gardens of members of the Fraser South Rhododendron Society created over the past decades.
- Overnight at the world famous Harrison Hot Springs Resort and Spa-*don't forget to bring your swimsuit and enjoy one of the five fabulous hot mineral spring pools.*
- An evening presentation on special gardens of the Fraser Valley.
- A visit to several specialty nurseries -plant buying opportunities to fill up the bus!
- Return to Duncan via Swartz Bay on BC Ferries *Spirit of Vancouver Island* featuring sumptuous Pacific Buffet dining and their decadent new dessert bar.

The total cost including all meals except Friday breakfast on the ferry (2 lunches, 1 breakfast, 2 suppers), coffee breaks, garden entry fees, hotel, bus transportation, ferry fares, gratuities and taxes is \$290 per person (double occupancy). Single supplement is \$65 extra. Advance booking is now required to guarantee your seat on this great tour. This is your chance to have a fun trip with fellow gardeners and see some great gardens while enjoying a special hot springs treat.

Departure will be from the Duncan Train station at 6:30 am on May 13 with a return by bus to the Duncan train station by 8 pm on May 14. Participants should be in good physical condition as a number of the sites are not accessible to handicapped persons.

To join the tour you must send a cheque for \$100 per person made out to Bill Dumont, 1753 Peerless Road, Cobble Hill, BC V0R 1L6 by February 25, 2011. Please provide an **email address, street address, postal code and phone number** and advise of any food allergies/requests. The Friday night supper has four choices of entrée-chicken breast-roast prime rib-salmon-vegetable strudel –indicate your meal choice. Balance will be payable by May 1, 2011. For further information contact Bill at 250 743 9882 or wedumont@hotmail.com. This tour will sell out quickly so don't delay in submitting your deposit. First come first served!!

European Art and Garden Tour

May 2011

(date to be finalized -last two weeks)



Keukenhof Gardens, Holland (Picture from their website)

Tatianna O'Donnell, SCA, has successfully led European Art Tours to Paris, France and Italy. This coming spring, the tour has an added bonus for garden lovers. Tour includes the Van Gogh Museum as well as Rembrandt House in Holland and the Kukenhoff Gardens. After Belgium and Bruges, we take the Eurostar to London, England to see the Chelsea Flower Show as well as the National and Tate galleries.

Many meals, all hotels, airfare and much more included.

Call Canadian Academic Travel Services at : 1-888- 572-2287

Or e-mail Tatianna O'Donnell : tatianna@tatiannaodonnell.com

MARKETPLACE

ANNOUNCING A UNIQUE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The American Iris Society Convention Committee has been blessed with many excellent volunteers for all aspects of the convention. While there are still many opportunities to help there is one position which urgently needs to be filled.

The Host Gardens Committee needs an individual who is able to visit Glendale Gardens approximately once a week from late February through May. The irises need weeding, and we need to coordinate with Glendale's new head gardener to ensure nothing stops the irises from growing on to give their very best display. (There already is a volunteer with these responsibilities in each of the other three host gardens.) If required periodically, additional help is available to help with iris care. And, just prior to the convention, a large team of individuals will 'groom' the irises for judging by the delegates. Anyone interested in this crucial volunteer role should either phone 250 743 1638 or email Brenda Dumont at gardengoddess11@gmail.com.

Many thanks for considering this chance to help with the irises at Glendale Gardens. Brenda

Hello my name is Angela Olson and I represent McFayden mail order company located in Brandon, Manitoba. A proud prairie company, McFayden is the one-stop-shop for all things seed, nursery and hard goods! Shipping coast to coast, we are celebrating 101 years in business this year!

Twice a year we send out our full colour, large, gorgeous product catalogues for our customers to look through and dream of gardens to come. We also have a web store for anyone looking for the added convenience and speed of online ordering.

Every year McFayden donates to agricultural and horticultural societies, garden clubs, community gardens, and master garden associations all across Canada Let us know if you need catalogues or prizes for an upcoming event or meeting. McFayden wants to be an integral part of your group, and your community.

Best regards,

Angela Olson
Market Manager
McFayden
1000 Parker Blvd.
Brandon, MB R7A 6E1
204-571-7509
<file:///www.mcfayden.com> www.mcfayden.com

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 MARCH 2011 newsletter is **MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011**. Loraine Little, Editor