

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2011

Officers:

President	Brenda Dumont	me@brendadumont.com	743-1638
Vice-President	Ajay Oppelaar	arkengardens@gmail.com	743-6551
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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

2010/2011 MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB CALENDAR

Ajay Oppelaar, Vice-president.

Tuesday June 28, 2011		Annual General Meeting & Picnic
Tuesday Sept. 27 th , 2011	Patty Brown	Ornamental Grasses
Tuesday Oct. 25 th , 2011	Gordon Mackay	"Gems for the rock garden"

The June meeting will be our Annual General Meeting and picnic.

AGM/POTLUCK PICNIC

Times are as follows: Please plan to arrive around 5:30 p.m. we will serve the potluck for 6:30 p.m. and we will start the AGM for 7:15 p.m. AGM should be finished no later than 7:45 p.m. and the picnic will continue after that.

The AGM/Potluck Picnic will be held at Brenda Dumont's house, 1753 Peerless Road, Cobble Hill, BC

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

President's Message for June 2011 newsletter

Well the 64th Annual Community Flower and Garden Show is now in the books. We don't have all the figures yet, but by all accounts it was another successful show. The hall never looked better with a combination of the Club's tableclothes and additional rental tableclothes. Everyone agreed that holding the judging on the Friday night makes perfect sense and despite the cold spring, the entries were all glorious. Congratulations to our Aggregate Winner Bill Herring and our People's Choice Award winner, Joy Story. And heartfelt special thanks to the Flower Show Committee and all the volunteers for a job very, very well done.

Some housekeeping from the show.....some vases were left at the show. A large, handsome black and orange (?) vase was left and a little cut glass vase was left. Also left was a bracelet that looks like it may be copper with tiny birds on it. I have the bracelet and Heather Jenkins has the two vases. Either email or call us and we'll get them back to you.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is an overview of what happens at our annual AGM and Potluck Picnic. This year the event will be on Tuesday, June 28th at my house and the article includes directions. This event is always very well attended and lots of fun.

This is my last President's Message. Due to a number of other commitments, I will be unable to serve the final two years as Past President and a huge thanks to Barb Kohlman who will step in and serve two Past Presidents terms. In the 8 years I have been Flower Show Chairman, Secretary, Vice President and President I have met hundreds of great gardeners, learned a great deal and enjoyed playing a small part in the growing and developing of the Club. We are considered a vibrant and lively Garden Club on Vancouver Island and this is due to the extraordinary contributions and just plain hard work of a dedicated group of volunteers. I look forward to seeing you all on the 28th, and all the best in good gardening!

Brenda

Ajay Oppelaar, Vice-president.
arkengardens@gmail.com

I can hardly believe that it's been two years since Bill Herring called me up and asked if I would consider accepting the nomination for VP of the MBGC.

I asked "why me"? "Because we like that you are rather laid back". I can't remember what other qualities (if any!) he came up with, but after much discussion with my spouse and several other advisors, I agreed.

Now as these two years as VP draw to a close, I ask myself "what have I learned and where is this all going"? What I've learned is to trust committee's and to allow these volunteers to do whatever it is that they've been so generous as to have offered their time and talents for.

I've learned to trust in the advice of the many who I've used as a sounding board but to also trust my own inner sense of what is correct and right.

Over the next several years (if I am voted in as your next club President.....never assume!) I hope to be able to assist the club in continuing it's current rate of growth and development while also honoring tradition.

We've got a great future ahead. Talented and enthusiastic newer members willing to jump right in and work beside the invaluable resource of long time members. Learning from each other, getting to know and respect new friends. Ultimately, I think this aspect is one of the strongest elements of the club.

Thanks you to each of you for you continued interest and participation in the Mill Bay Garden Club and thanks to all the hard working volunteers who make everything happen.

During our break over July and August, I ask that you please support our garden tour series being held with the Cowichan Valley Garden Club. You will all receive information via email and the website with reminders of upcoming tour schedules and the Vermaculture seminar that Dustin has in the works.

Have a terrific summer and I'll see you all in September!

The Mill Bay Garden Club Plant Sale Committee (Margaret Martin, Margo Johnston, Ali Morris, Loraine Little, Heather and Nick Jenkins, Ruby Armour, Janis Feurer, Sharon Martin, Sonya McKay, Barb Kohlman, Mary Gale and Elaine Scott) would like to thank all of those members who donated plants for our annual plant sale. We had more members donate plants this year than ever before and that was just fantastic. We also made more money than average. We took in \$1029 which goes a long way to providing the funds the Club needs to support the community based activities that it supports. We could not have done it without all of those wonderful donations. Thank you very very much.

Secretary – Elizabeth Coulter
elizabethcoulter@shaw.ca

GENERAL MEETING, MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB
Tuesday, May 24, 2011
MINUTES 7:00 pm

Welcome

Motion to Adopt Minutes from April 2011 meeting

Moved by Pip Woodcock

Seconded by Cecile Healey

That the minutes of April 2011 meeting be adopted as circulated. Carried.

President's Report – Brenda Dumont

- ✚ Flower Show – Thanks to everyone who has already volunteered. We are circulating the sign-up sheet for volunteers for the Flower Show. Members are encouraged to exhibit in the Show.
- ✚ Last meeting before the AGM/Potluck Picnic June 28th at the Dumont's house. Check the website for directions and for instructions; the meeting will be followed by the pot-luck.
- ✚ Thanks to the Elaine, Joy, and Dustin committee for their work as the Nominating Committee.

Vice-President's Report – Ajay Oppelaar

1. Tonight's speaker is Barrie Agar from Royal Roads/Hatley Castle
2. Garden Tours update: Ajay is working to get more gardens for our tour;
3. Update on rent situation for the Mill Bay Community Hall 2011/2012: rent was restructured and as kitchen fee was not charged us, we have been in arrears; rather than paying them \$244 we will clean up the beds around the building and pay the new amount in the future.
4. We need a volunteer who can take pictures of our summer garden tours for the website.

Treasurer's Report – Gale McIntyre

The written report is posted and Gale gave us a verbal report.

Website:

Our new page: Buy, Sell, Trade page – if you have anything for that page please send it to us to post. Please send us pictures to use on our Website; We also need pictures of members gardens.

Library – Janice Rose

Books can be checked out for the summer.

Plant Sales

We have house plants that need good homes.

Membership – 174 members

Historian – Jack Long, an original member died last week at age 99 years. Mary gave us a summary of his contributions to the forest industry and to our local club.

MBGC Plant Sale – Elaine Scott – Appeal to members for donations and thank you to members for the donations of plants; be sure the plants are at Elaine's house by the 9th for grooming for the show; leave them by the green house if you come by.

Dustin's events:

Vermaculture: at Victoria Regional composting centre; worms are sold by the pound;

We will post the date in the website of the vermaculture workshop;

Checkout: www.compost.bc.ca

How to exhibit at a Flower Show – Dot Garbet

Conditioning of the flowers:

- Sharp cuts are needed; cut early in the morning or the evening – never in the heat.

- Put directly into lukewarm or cool water, at least 5 inches of water; warm water will force a flower to open;
- Remove thorns from roses;
- If your flower has a milky sap, put directly into water; dip in alum; cut again under water
- With woody stems split well;
- Lilacs – remove ALL foliage;
- Peonies – cut when half open; keep in fridge until ready to display;
- Remove all greenery off stem which is in the water;

Brag Table – “The Merry Month of May” – Barb Kohlman
Barb discussed the various displays and interesting blooms;

Next week is the American Iris Society Convention;

Coffee, Tea

Raffle – Joan Cawker

Many prizes of plants, mushroom starters and other interesting things;

Question and Answer Period – Bill Herring answered questions about vegetable growing and invited the members to his garden this Saturday.

Guest Speaker – Barrie Agar

Barrie gave us an entertaining and informative slideshow presentation on hardy perennials in the Royal Roads gardens

Top 3 perennials * are deer resistant;

Campanula lactiflora – is wonderful – tall, long-blooming;

Aconitum (monkshood) – deer resistant & poisonous;

Columbine – self-sows; reliable;

Lady’s mantle; - drought resistant

Achillea – (yarrow) – deer resistant; drought resistant;

Bergenia – reasonably drought tolerant; nice foliage;

Japanese anemone – wind flower – spreads but worth it;

Canterbury bells – biennial – blooms in June - fills a gap in the blooming; old favourite;

Sea Kale – ornamental – large leaves; similar to baby’s breath; even dried seed heads are nice; plant with oriental poppies;

Aster facardii (sp?)- deer tolerant; drought tolerant; blooms June-October; doesn’t need staking; no mildew

Brown grass – do not cut down or will die;

Cardoon – low care – interesting flower heads;

Dicentra (bleeding heart) – “gold heart” (yellow foliage) –another good one with white flowers is “d. luxuriant”

Foxgloves – self sows but easy to remove; deer resistant; hybrid yellow “carousel” is a nice one;

Geraniums “ballerina” DO NOT grow “addressee” ; blue cranesbill looks nice with Lady’s mantle;

Euphorbia – cherikias need to be trimmed – some died this year; will self-sow – likes dry sandy soil

Euphorbia giffithii – very nice

Joe Pye Weed; not deer resistant; no staking and over 6 feet

Echinops – drought resistant;

Wild Strawberry makes a great groundcover;
Ferns – Alaskan shade fern;
Osteospermum – hardy form “hardy pink” drought resistant, very hardy – evergreen;
Pulmonaria “David Ward” variegated foliage; reasonably drought tolerant;
Helleborus Feotodies*
Hellenism – easy to grow from seed (“sneezeweed”)
Red hot poker
Miscanthis
Oriental poppies
Starry eyes Forget me knots – self-sows
Phlomis – cut down when finished;
Solomon’s seal – ground woodland plants
Primulas japonica – low maintenance, wonderful
Tree peonies
Regular peonies – low maintenance
Rudbeckia *
Echinacea
Salvia –
Sedum deer love it – good late summer colour – drought resistant many forms
Schizanthus – from S Africa – blooms in November – seems to survive here
Verbascum
Tiger lilies
Calla lilies -
Romneya coulteri needs soil with very good drainage

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Elizabeth Coulter, Secretary

Kitchen Report - Arlene Dench
jaden2@shaw.ca

The following members will be responsible for helping at the AGM Potluck Picnic on June 28th, 2011. The members of this team are:

Cecile & Gordon Healey, Chris and Dee Harvey, Bonnie & Mike Mills, Tracey Morris, Linda Nelson and Sharon Nivens.

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

Janice and Laurie Moseley, Mary Palaikis, Sharon Petterson, Romey Pringle, Valerie Robinson and Davis Kerry, Hennie Roke, Merv and Glad Roth

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.

Your friendly librarian

AGM/ POTLUCK PICNIC

- ✚ Times are as follows: Please plan to arrive around 5:30 p.m. we will serve the potluck for 6:30 p.m. and we'll start the AGM for 7:15 p.m. AGM should be finished no later than 7:45 p.m. and the picnic will continue after that.
- ✚ The AGM/Potluck Picnic will be held at Bill and Brenda Dumont's house, 1753 Peerless Road in Cobble Hill. If travelling south on Shawnigan Lake Road, turn one long block past the intersection of Cameron Taggart Road and Shawnigan Lake Road and then left onto Filgate Road. Go one long block down Filgate Road and turn right onto Peerless Road. If travelling north on Shawnigan Lake Road, turn right onto Filgate Road (about a mile past the Black Swan pub) down Filgate Rd one block and then right onto Peerless Road.
- ✚ Please park outside the gate. Those who can't walk far and those dropping off supplies can come right in, drop off and then park outside. The driveway isn't too long, but we don't want anyone lugging heavy objects.
- ✚ We are borrowing tables, but with our increased numbers we are asking everyone if you have a banquet table or something similar to please bring it along. Bring chairs for yourself and partner (did I mention that partners are most welcome?? They are, but they can't vote), bring a potluck dish, glasses, cups, (we provide tea and coffee), cutlery and any liquid you'd like to consume. If you are bringing your own table, you may want to include a tablecloth and everyone should bring napkins for yourself. As mentioned, we'll have tables with tableclothes but I'm certain we'll need more than we can provide.
- ✚ You may hear that some of us wear garden hats. We do, but plenty of people don't. The hats can be sensible garden hats, goofy ones, flamboyant ones, well – you get the picture.

✚ We always have a special raffle.

✚ This hasn't actually happened in recent memory but if it is absolutely pouring rain at 5:00 p.m. then we will cancel the AGM/Picnic. Cloudy, even cool, is just fine, but a complete downpour will cancel the event and we'll re-schedule sometime during the summer. The Flower Show owns tents, but only two.....

The following gardens will be open to the Cowichan Valley Garden Club and members of the Mill Bay Garden Club on Wednesday June 22ⁿd from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Sally Smith's garden

6216 Fairview Way

From the TCH heading north from Duncan, turn left on Drinkwater Road, turn left on Lane Road, turn left on Westview St and turn left onto Fairview Way.

From the TCH heading south, turn right onto Drinkwater Road and follow the above directions to 6216 Fairview Way.

Ceci Burton's garden

238 Cowichan Bay Road

From the TCH heading south from Duncan, turn left onto Cowichan Bay Road. Follow to 238 Cowichan Bay Road.

From the TCH heading north, turn right onto Cowichan Bay Road at Valley View Centre. Follow to 238 Cowichan Bay Road.

The following gardens will be open for viewing to the Mill Bay Garden Club and to members of the Cowichan Valley Garden Club on Sunday July 10th from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.. They are both located just off Telegraph Road within a few kilometres of one another.

Barb and Bill Kohlman's garden

1121 Cheeke Road.

From the TCH heading north, turn right on Fisher Road in Cobble Hill. From the TCH heading south turn left on Fisher. Follow Fisher Road to Telegraph Road and turn right..

Almost immediately turn right on Cheeke Road. 1121 is the second house on the right, white two-story house with a veranda in front.

Welcome to DORGARLEN, home of Dot Garbet

3223 Kilipi Road

Heading north on the TCH, turn right on Kilmalu Road. Turn left on Telegraph Road. Turn right on Pemberton Road. This road is very narrow with limited sight lines. Turn left on Kilipi Road and immediately on your right is 3223 Kilipi. DORGARLEN is brick with a wrought iron fence

If heading south on the TCH, turn left at Hutchinson Road (Arbutus Ridge). Turn right on Telegraph Road, left on LaFourtune Road. Turn right on Kilipi and follow to 3223 on your left just before you get to Pemberton.

The following gardens will be open for viewing to the Mill Bay Garden Club and members of the Cowichan Valley Garden Club on Saturday July 30th from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Elaine Scott and Ian Rogers garden

2836 Oceanside Lane

From the TCH heading south, turn left at Kilmalu Road (the PetroCan is on the southwest corner and a tractor sales place is on the south east corner). Make an immediate right turn onto Church Way, turn left onto Welch Road and turn right onto Oceanside Lane.

From the TCH heading north, turn right onto Kilmalu Road and follow the rest of the directions above.

Heather and Frank Gibbins garden

2471 Arken Terrace

From the TCH heading north, turn left on Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. From the TCH heading south, turn right on Shawnigan Mill Bay Road.

From Shawnigan/Mill Bay Road turn left on Deloume (about halfway between Shawnigan Village and the TCH). If you are coming from Shawnigan Lake on Shawnigan Mill Bay Road, turn right on Deloume. Follow Deloume to Gibbs Place, turn right. Turn left on Fern Ridge Drive, right on Arken Terrace. 2471 is the 4th driveway on the left just before the cul-de-sac.

Ajay Oppelaar and Tom Murray's garden

2490 Arken Terrace

Follow directions to the Gibbins house to Arken Terrace. 2490 is the first driveway on the right when you turn right on Arken Terrace.

Did you know that....

VIEW ROYAL GARDEN CLUB

ROSE SHOW

Shoreline Community School

2750 Shoreline Drive

Saturday, June 18, 2011

Public Viewing 1 - 3 pm

Show & tea \$5. (1 - 2:45pm) includes door prizes

Baked Goods and Garden Items for sale

Non-members welcome to exhibit

Information: 478-5880 & 474-3780

Summer Scentsation Garden Show & Plant Sale

Saturday, June 25

10:00 am to 3:30 pm

James Bay Community Centre

140 Oswego Street

Annual show of the Victoria Lily Society. Highlights include a display of early summer garden flowers and ornamental lilies, floral arrangements, flower arranging demonstrations, and a general plant sale (to include potted lilies). Entries by the general public are welcome for both the judged competitions and the non-judged displays. Admission is by donation. An elegant afternoon tea will be available for \$5.00. Show Handbook URL:

<http://www.members.shaw.ca/lilynet/viclil/2011showhandbook.pdf>

Jill Britton

250-652-5316

2011 Gardens in Bloom garden tour

sponsored by the Comox Valley Horticultural Society will be on Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, from 10:00 am to 4:00pm each day. Ardent gardeners will have the opportunity to visit 10 gardens in the Comox Valley from Royston, Cumberland, Courtenay and Comox in the South, to Merville in the North. Each garden is the fulfillment of its owner's passion for plants, for art, for design. Like its owner, each garden is different. One is quirky, another is traditional, or best zonal limits.

Tickets for this event are \$15.00 and can be purchased at various locations (see poster). A map is supplied with the ticket. We also recommend the use of a good area map. The heritage Old House Restaurant is offering 10% off meals to make your visit to the Comox Valley more relaxing.

For further information please e-mail Astrid at daveastrid@shaw.ca

The Victoria Master Gardener Association will be hosting Majorie Harris, Garden Author and Designer in September. She will be speaking on September 7 in Victoria. For details on obtaining tickets please contact Elaine Scott at _TheScottRogers@aol.com (mailto:TheScottRogers@aol.com) or 250-743-0965.

Seeds for Malawi plants will be available from Elaine Scott during the summer. Visit the web site at [_www.seedsformalawi.org_](http://www.seedsformalawi.org) (<http://www.seedsformalawi.org>) for the plant list. Once on the site click on BC Plants and Gifts and go to the Mill Bay Plant Catalogue. Or phone Elaine at 250-743-0965.

MARKETPLACE

Looking for a wide variety of perennials at superior prices? Arnisa Farms is holding a clear-out sale to end them all. If you visited their booth at the Flower and Garden Show you know that Arnie's plants are all healthy, grown on well, and of a wide variety. Through June and July from Thursday through Saturday, Arnie will be at his greenhouses and wants to sell you some of his best at the best prices ever. You can find Arnie's greenhouses on Holland Avenue just next to Alpine Stables. Just travel along Cobble Hill Road from either south or north and look for the Alpine Stables sign, turn up one short block and then left onto Holland Avenue. Open from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SILVER SAGE NURSERY

After the Annual Family Life Garden tour many people are on the hunt for Acer pseudoplatanus 'Brilliantissimum' - Lovely bright green foliage. I had 3 and sold out. I can get more from the mainland & would like to know how many to bring in. Deliveries are received on Thursdays so I could get them on June 23rd if I hear back from folks by Mon., June 20th.

Acer pseudoplatanus Brilliantissimum

They are top-grafted on a 1.25M standard & are \$129.99 plus tax. I can discount \$5. each if I order 10+.

I also have a number of other specimen trees that are on sale until July 3 including: Acer Griseum, Stewartia pseudocamelia, Parrotia (Ironwood), Styrax Japonica (white bells), J. Oak, weeping crab apple, lg. & small Japanese maples, Acer Pensylvanicum, Chitalpa Tash Summerbells(Chilopsis x Catalpa), Cornus (3 varieties), Corylus 'red majestic', Carpinus betula (Euro. Hornbeam), Ginkgo Biloba, Magnolia Sieboldii, Oxydendron (Sour gum), & lots of shrubs & perennials.

Thanks for your interest. Happy gardening!

Regards,

Carrie Nelson

Silver Sage Nursery

1720 Baldy Mt. Rd. Shawnigan Lake BC V0R 2W2
250-743-3679
www.silversagenursery.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 SEPTEMBER 2011 newsletter is **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011**. Loraine Little, Editor