



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

Website: www.millbaygardenclub.com Email: mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com

OCTOBER 2012

**Next Meeting
October 23, 2012**



The October meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on Tuesday, October 23rd at 7 PM at the Mill Bay Community League Hall - 1001 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road.

The doors open at 6:30 pm to provide you with the opportunity to check out the Club library and plant sale table, buy your raffle tickets, put your exhibits on the brag table and socialize. This is a great little garden club that is very social.

October Brag Table Theme: HARVEST BONANZA

With plant and flower identification and commentary provided by Barb Kohlman, the Brag Table is a great part of our monthly meetings. It's a fun and interactive way to share what's going on in your garden without having 150 club members trying to find parking outside of your house. The bonus is a prize awarded randomly to one of the monthly participants in this program. If you've never participated, give it a fling, be it flower, vegetable or fungus

OCTOBER SPEAKER:

Jeff de Jong: Pond Gardening

October Kitchen Duties:

Dianne Regan

1 litre of 2% milk:

Addy LaVigne

Cookies/ Goodies:

Betty Underwood , Audrey Squire, Sharon Martin, Cecile Healey

Kitchen Helpers:

Eric Koob , Debbie Craig

Set up / Clean Up:

Joy Story, Barb Juurlink, Bernie Juurlink

GO GREEN

**Purchase a permanent
MBGC name tag from
Gale McIntyre for
only \$10 cash!**



Remember to bring your mug !

President's Report

Ajay Oppelaar

Rain! I never thought I'd say it but it sure is good to see rain on the forecast for the next while. At our last meeting, Ali Morris and I were discussing how continued watering into the month of September was beginning to cut into time spent doing our regular chores.

Now it's October and until just a day or so ago, nothing had changed. The lawn has now lost its shriveled appearance along with some perennials that though past their peak still have a bit of life left in them for the fall season.

Thank you to those of you who helped out at the Community League Hall clean up party on October 13. Betty Underwood for picking up ugly cigarette butts. Mary Vandenberg, Barb and Bernie Juurlink, Barb Kohlman and Cliff Stainsby all braved the wet morning and weeded, pruned and raked. It looks great, without your continued volunteer efforts these projects don't get done.

Beginning November 1st, all archived newsletters on our website from the past two seasons will be deleted due to the Executives decision to remove personal information from the website itself. The Executive Board and Committee contact information will continue to be provided to our members in the monthly newsletter, but Mary will delete it all before sending each month's newsletter off to Kerry for archiving. If there are any past newsletters you'd like to check out, please do it in the next few weeks. After that time, if you'd like to receive a copy of one of those deleted documents, you may request a copy by emailing me directly.

The Executive amended our budget as approved at the September meeting. I was able to secure a free checking account for the club and this amount of \$150 in the budget will now go to good use elsewhere.

Plans for our annual Holiday Potluck dinner are under way. Please remember to circle Tuesday December 4th on your calendar for this fun and important event. The hall will open at 5 p.m. to allow time for setting your table, and setting up the buffet. Dinner service will begin at 6 p.m.

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President's Report cont'd

Santa will be in attendance, and we will have our traditional gift exchange of unisex garden related gift items with a value of no more than \$15. Please be sure to bring your favourite non-alcoholic beverage, festive place settings including but not limited to: placemats, napkins, plates, silverware, glassware and a centerpiece for our judged competition. The centerpiece theme this year is "Christmas Bounty". We ask that no lighted candles be used due to fire hazard. Of course spouses, partners, children and friends are all welcome. We will provide the roast turkey, baked ham and Barb Kohlmans famous Christmas punch. You provide a favourite side dish, salad or dessert to share with everybody. Any questions, ask me at the next meeting or send me an email.

We also discussed the possibility of charging \$20 for new member dues in the future, with \$10 being the renewal cost. With a \$20 membership fee, it would include a permanent MBGC nametag. This was discussed due to the difficulty of getting members to order one through Gale McIntyre for \$10. This topic will be discussed and voted on at our AGM at the end of season in June.

Hope to see you all next week at our October meeting.

LIBRARY REPORT

Janice Rose

From you friendly MBGC Librarian

Come out to our general meeting early this month and check out our extensive collection of books and publications. We will be ordering new books for the coming season. Should you have any special requests please contact Janice Rose . We also welcome any donations of books so if you are downsizing or just clearing clutter and cleaning up consider your MBGC library as a place to donate gardening books.

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Please remember that membership dues must be paid by the November meeting to ensure you continue to receive the benefits of a monthly newsletter and notifications about those wonderful garden tours. Membership is very reasonably priced at **\$10 cash**.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT

Sandra Goth

Oct, 2012

We now have 64 Paid Members, thank you to all those who renewed at the September meeting.

If you have not renewed please bring your crisp \$10 bill to the next meeting to renew your membership to continue your newsletter, garden center discount and the opportunity for many laughs, intentional and unintentional, at the monthly meetings.

We are encouraging name badges which are another \$10. In the future there will be fun draws and games that will be for 'badged' members only.

Last meeting was my first and the gardening tips I got from the brag table and Bill Herring's



presentation doubled my garden knowledge in one evening, not too shabby.

Thank you to Gale and Heather for all of their work during registration at the September meeting. The assembly line strategy for new and renewing members flowed with only a few bumps in the conveyor belt here and there. All took the line up in good humor and with amazing obedience to process.

Sandra Goth

Ride Sharing

If you need a ride to and from MBGC meetings, please send your name, phone number and exact address to Mary Vandenberg at mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com. For privacy issues we will post your request in name and general location only (i.e. close to Kilmalu and Telegraph Roads). When a club member responds to the request, we will then provide that person with your phone number and exact address.

RIDES NEEDED

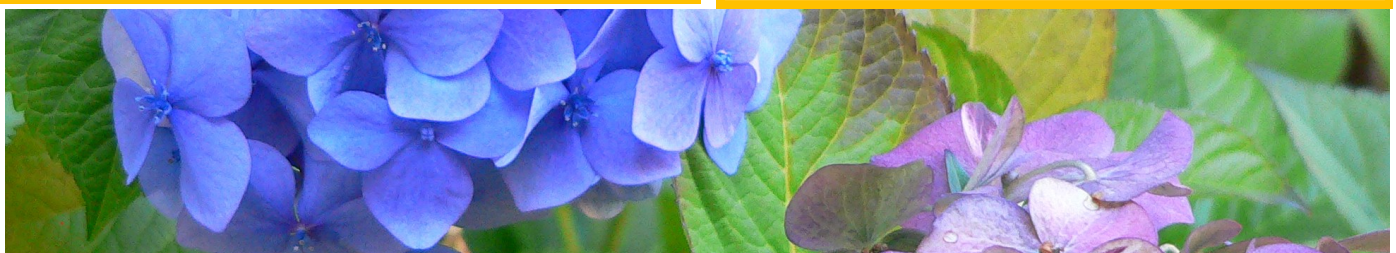
Can you Help?

We have two people looking for rides to the monthly meetings:

1. Marion Clapham—Shawnigan Lake Road, south of Cobble Hill Village, before Cameron-Taggart Road
2. Glad Roth—Arbutus Ridge

If you can help with a ride for either of these people, please email us at :

mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com



Gardening Tips

Barb Kohlman, Past President

Mill Bay Garden Club Tips

November 2012

In our warmish climate you can still plant container grown trees and shrubs, or even move some established specimens.

I know you still have blooms on your roses, but pick a bouquet, and cut off the rest of the blooms and strip the leaves. Clean up the ground, discard the leaves in the garbage and mulch the plants with some compost.

You can continue to clean up your garden beds if you have not finished, but leave some seed heads for the birds.

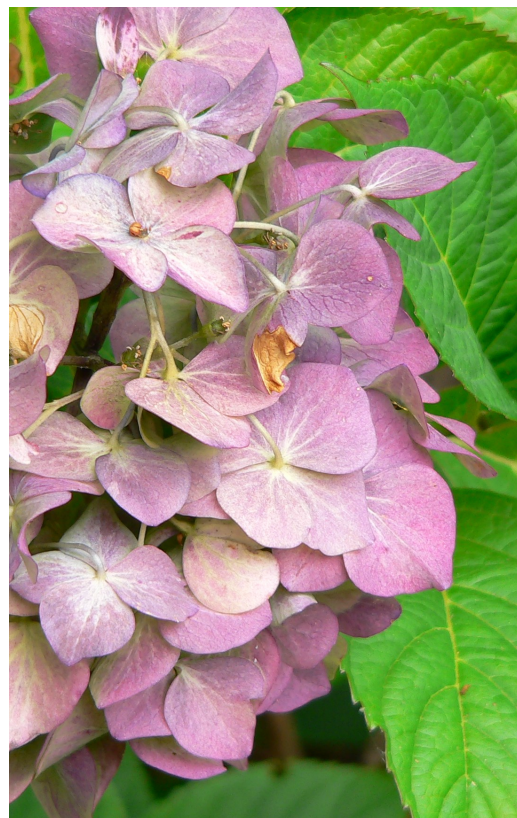
Plant a "winter" arrangement in your pots to last through the whole season. They can be augmented with holy and evergreens for the holiday season.

Prepare empty vegetable beds for next spring by digging in compost---be sure they are weed-free. Cover crops can be sown as soil protectors and used for soil enhancement next spring.

If winter veggies are in the ground they may need to be protected with row covers.

Garlic should be all planted by now.

Start imagining new and creative designs for next year's beds.



MBGC MARKETPLACE

Plants for sale:

I live near Maple Bay in Duncan and wanted to let you know that I have a small home based nursery, but don't plan on continuing it next year, and I'm selling off all my stock.

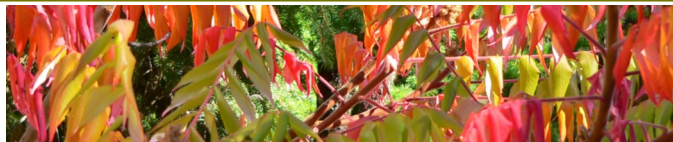
I have things like Grasses, Cape Fuchsia, flowering red currant, hydrangeas, Portugal laurel and other plants.

If anyone in the club is interested I can give you a complete list. Email Janice Norris .



Mill Bay Garden Club

September 25, 2012 Minutes



Arlene Dench, Secretary

Moved by Mary Vandenberg that the minutes of the AGM be accepted as distributed. Seconded by Cecile Healy. Carried

Thanks to this evening's kitchen crew as well as those setting up and those who will be helping with the clean up. Sign up sheet for next month circulated.

Thanks to the membership crew. A busy evening! Introduced Mary our new newsletter editor and Kerry Davis our website administrator.

Review of Presidents report: nothing brought forward.

Community League garden clean up sheet circulated for sign up. Clean up will be Oct. 13, 9 to noon.

Waiting for approval to post club banner at hall. Met with Tony Little, hall manager who is awaiting approval from Doug Higginson.

Contracts signed and paid. Amount is up \$55 because of having the extra meeting.

Budget: any questions? None. Need amendment to remove bank charges. \$150 less. Motion to accept proposed budget – moved by Heather Gibbins, seconded by Mary Gale Carried

Donations are not included in budget because they are not an expense.

Get together with CowVal club to discuss joint ventures has not happened yet.

Brag Table names: 'October Harvest', 'Naked November', 'December Bounty'

Committee Reports:

Vice-President – Cliff Stainsby, no report

Treasurer – Gale McIntyre – present balance \$1432.19

Secretary – Arlene Dench, nothing to report

Membership – Ajay introduced our new

membership person, Sandra Goth. Sandra reported lots of renewals this evening

New Members – Heather Gibbins introduced 11 new members

Raffle – Carmen Stanek, flowers and pots this evening

Plant Sales – Heather Jenkins, lots of plants available

Library – Gill Seal-Jones for Janice Rose, please return overdue books

Kitchen – Dianne Regan, no report

Historian – Mary Gale, cards sent to Dustin's family on the birth of their second child and to Ruby Armour.

Members forum: Elaine Scott. Does anyone know who sells llama manure in Glenora?

Spoke about "Mixing it up in the Urban Garden" being presented at the Mary Winspear Center, by the Victoria Master Gardener Association. January 26th.

Brag Table – Barb Kohlman, Ali Morris: Seedy September"

Members brought seeds from leek, dill, orach, basil, calendula, lettuce, summer heathers, monks head (deer resistant), hypericum, tree peony, rose, berkia (thistle family), rogersia, hydrangea, stipa gigantia, angelica, phlomis, Nigella, centaurea, iris, grasses, tanacetum (mouduy), jack in the pulpit, cardiocrinum gigantia, safflower, arum italicum pictum, arubra, actea (snake root), Himalayan honeysuckle (shrub), monarda, kiringestoma (waxbells), rose hips, fuchsia, hosta, bellumcanda (blackberry lillies), sea holly, red hot poker, joe pye weed, Echinacea, gaillardia and a rhodo in bloom (blooms three times a year).

Ajay brought seeds for people who want them. Kniphofia and gaillardia

Bill Herring spoke this evening in place of JaneTice, the scheduled speaker. /ad

UPCOMING EVENTS:

The View Royal Garden Club will hold a general meeting on Thursday, **October 25th at 7:30** pm at the Shoreline Community School, on 2750 Shoreline Drive. Speaker for the meeting will be **Brian Russell of Russell Nursery who will show photos and share stories of his recent trip to the World Horticultural Expo in the Netherlands.** Visitors and new members are welcome to attend. As well there will be a judged mini show from members' gardens and a sales table. For further information please call 250-220-5212.

Saturday, October 27th, 9 am to noon, City of Victoria Parks Yard, Beacon Hill Park.
"Winter Planter Design and Build" with Jeff de Jong.

To register phone 250-361-0705 or email parksprograms@victoria.ca.

CONFERENCE: MIXING IT UP IN YOUR URBAN GARDEN

In January, 2011, the very successful conference Mixing It Up in the Urban Garden was run and on the basis of feedback provided by the registrants, a follow-up conference. Mixing it Up in the Urban Garden 2013 has been organized to take place at the Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney on January 26, 2013. The keynote speaker is Rosalind Creasy with her stunning presentation on how to create your own Edible Landscape. Local experts will take us from the ground up with Getting Dirty: Soils, Starting with Seeds, Good Bugs, Bad Bugs and Fruit Trees from A-Z. Vendors with an interesting and related display of merchandise and information will be set up in the conference hall as will an expanded silent auction. The cost of the ticket is \$55 if purchased by November 1, 2012 or \$65 after that date. The registration fee covers all activities relating to the conference including a delicious lunch and break snacks. As registration will be limited to 200, anyone interested in attending the conference is encouraged to register early.

You may register online at <http://www.mgabc.org/content/you-are-invited> with payment through Paypal or you can download and print the registration form and mail it in with your cheque. The conference is offered at the end of January 2013 to satisfy the gardening pangs that will be occurring at that time. You might also want to consider purchasing a ticket to the conference as a Christmas present for family or friends!

Should you wish to stay overnight in Sidney, a conference rate of \$89 plus tax for a room with two queen sized beds (\$10 extra for 3rd and 4th person) is available at the Victoria Airport Travelodge, 2280 Beacon, Sidney, 1-250-656-1176. You must reserve two weeks in advance and state that you are attending the Mixing it Up in the Urban Garden 2013 conference. All bookings must be made directly through the hotel (phone 1- 866-656-1176 or 1-250-656-1176)

. Elaine Scott, Chair, 2013 Conference Organizing Committee

Victoria Master Gardener Association.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

Horticulture Centre of the Pacific:

The Floral Toolbox

Saturday October 20th 1-4 pm

Gardeners might be savvy about growing flowers but are often at a loss when it comes to using them in an arrangement; nor do they see the potential beyond flowers to foliage, leaves, sticks & stems! Floral designer Anne Bowen does and she will open your eyes too. You will work on learning the basic tenets of design and, using your new skills, create a free-standing arrangement in your own vase and a container arrangement using oasis. Please bring one small to medium size vase, small secateurs or snips- we will supply everything else.

HCP Members \$50.00 Non-HCP Members \$75.00

Basketry using Northwest Material

Saturday October 27th or Sunday October 28th 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

This workshop with Joan Carrigan will introduce students to the harvesting, preparation and weaving of western red cedar bark, west coast sweetgrass, willow bark & beargrass. A variety of techniques will be covered including regular & reverse

twining, twill weave and X-lashing. These materials are lovely to work with and students will be sure to treasure their new baskets. All material is included.

HCP Members \$110.00 Non-HCP Members \$154.00

There's a Mushroom in my Garden...

Sunday October 28th 1- 5 pm

Using lectures, hands-on activities, and a field trip, instructor Shannon Berch will provide a basic introduction to the mushrooms found in local gardens, lawns and forests. Emphasis will be on common species with special attributes including some that are edible, some that are poisonous, and others that are useful, beautiful or just plain curious. There will be 4 hours (2 hours in classroom, 1 hour field trip in gardens and forest, 1 hour back in classroom examining collections), so dress accordingly.

HCP members \$35.00 Non-HCP members \$50.00

A walk with Shannon

On November 4th Shannon Berch will be leading a foray into the Gardens and woodlands of the HCP. A walk with Shannon is like no other; it is a revelation. She sees a completely different world - one both small and very large; one plainly visible but not understood and one completely missed by most of us. Mushrooms are the main focus of this session but be prepared for your curiosity in the entire ecosystem to be aroused.

Call 250-479-6162 to register as space will be limited.

Horticulture Centre of the Pacific <gardeninfo@hcp.ca>