



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

MAY 2013

**Next Meeting
May 28, 2013**



The May meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on Tuesday, May 28th 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.

May Brag Table Theme:

MAY BEE!

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

MAY SPEAKER:

Lynda Dowling

**Of Happy Valley
Lavender and Herb
Farm**

Her Topic:

Edible Mandelars

Edible Flowers

May Kitchen Duties:

Dianne Regan

1 litre of 2% milk: Valerie Robinson

Cookies/ Goodies: Janice Moseley,

Hennie Roke and Carol Goodger-Hill

Kitchen Helpers: Kathy Edmunds

Set up / Clean Up: Kerry Davis,

Al Mikalishen and Nicole Kelly

Remember to bring your mug!

Sooke Secret Garden Bus Tour:

Please note the **correct day** for the Garden Bus Tour is **Sunday June 2nd**. (Not Saturday, as previously reported.)

President's Report

Ajay Oppelaar

Wow, what a weird, unsettled weather month we've been having. One week I'm actually watering my lawn in May for the first time I can ever remember, the next my lawn is flooded naturally by rain. Just yesterday I encountered three separate weather systems on the ferry crossing over from Crofton to Salt Spring Island, it happened again on the way back!

Thank you to those of you who showed up to help with the hall gardens spring clean-up. There were 7 of us and it took the usual 2 hours to make it all look neat and tidy for summer. We're thinking of expanding the native plantings this fall in the bed behind the memorial bench. It's currently a broad expanse of nothing but bark mulch. Please pot up a few native plants from your garden and grow them on over the summer so we can have some good potted material to add to the bed in the fall...any native plants that do well in dry conditions under fir trees would be greatly appreciated. Sword ferns, mahonia, huckleberry, ribes (flowering currant), pearly everlasting, coastal strawberry, these are all great plants to add and many of you have them in your garden.

At our May Executive and Committee meeting, we discussed our charitable contributions for this year and have approved three organizations to receive equitable amounts from the club, amounts that will not be determined until after we have our financial report from this year's plant sale. Be sure to get your plant donations to Elaine well in advance of the Flower and Garden Show held June 14th and 15th. The more donations Elaine receives for the sale, the more money we can bring in to give back to the community.

It seems that we may have all the positions on the Executive and Committee filled, but would still ask for a financial wiz to step forward and accept the position of Treasurer. Gale assures me that the job really only takes a few hours of time each month. The reality is that we only write 3 or 4 checks most months so it's not like dealing with a large corporation. Simple math, Excel spread sheets, making deposits. Many of you have these skills and more! Please talk to myself or Pip if you're interested in helping out and having some fun.

We will circulate the Flower and Garden Show volunteer sign-up

(Continued on page 3)



President's Report cont'd

sheets one last time at this month's meeting. Most positions are filled but a few remain open. Please help us out by adding your name to the list for either or both days if you haven't already.

Please check with your friendly librarian Janice for a copy of judging standards for the flower show. For novices, we will be making entering the show easy for you this year by having experienced members helping out at the hall while submissions are brought in. We will be able to assist you in choosing your best selections and helping you to exhibit them to their highest potential. Our goal is to help all of you have fun with it!

Notes From the Library

Janice Rose, Your Friendly Librarian

Anyone wishing to borrow books for the summer may do so at our May meeting and return them when we meet again in September. Please return all current books to our May meeting so others may have the opportunity to borrow them.

Flower and Garden Show

The Flower and Garden Show Committee is working on a **silent auction** for the show. They would welcome donations for the auction. We know there are a lot of talented people in the area. If you have something to **donate** please contact Monika Morgan Thank you!

A GREAT BIG THANK-YOU

A great big thank-you from Sharon Martin, Barb Kohlman, Ali Morris and Elaine Scott to those members who attended our charity plant sale on April 27. We made a total of \$1,805. The cost of a full scholarship for one girl in Malawi is \$1,000. This covers all room and board, teaching and learning costs, uniforms, exam fees and medical care. Therefore we will send \$1,000 (plus a private donation from a Garden Club member) to that program and a cheque for \$805 to the Mill Bay Food Bank. Thank you one and all for your support.



Garden Club Annual Plant Sale

By Elaine Scott - Plant Sale Chairperson

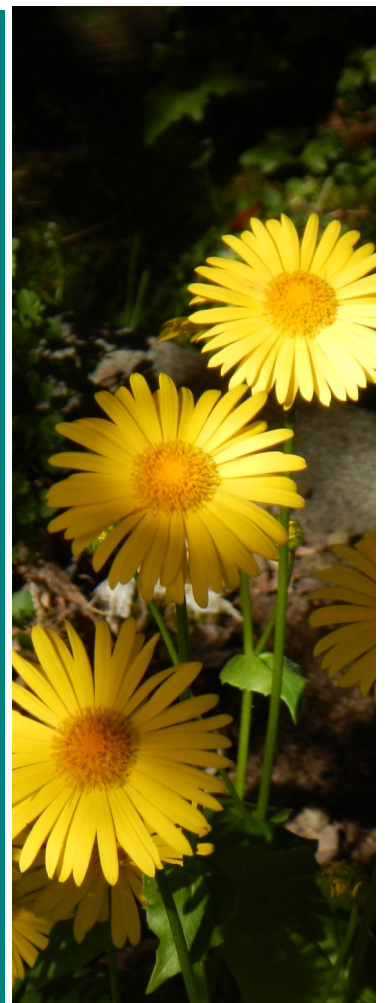
Your Plant Sale Committee (Sharon Martin, Barb Kohlman, Margo Johnston, Ali Morris, Ruby Armour, Lorraine Little, Fran Benton, Heather and Nick Jenkins, Mary Gale and Elaine Scott- with the help of Mary Vandenberg and her husband setting up tents and tables in the morning), once again remind you of our annual plant sale. The Mill Bay Garden Club Plant Sale will take place during the Community Flower and Garden Show at the Cobble Hill Farmer's Institute Hall on Saturday, June 15, 2013. As you know, the money that the Club makes from the plant sale helps to support our contributions to projects ongoing in our Community. Our Club is a very community minded club and the sale is important to us.

Several members have already called me to arrange to deliver the plants and/or obtain advice about plants to pot up. We really need you to pot up plants for the sale and deliver them to my place prior to the day before the sale. We would kindly ask that you refrain from donating invasive plants and the Committee does have the prerogative to remove, from the sale, those plants that it considers to be invasive. It is important that we continue to be good stewards of our environment.

Gardening Tips for June

Barb Kohlman, Past President

- ◆ Time to sow warm season beans, squash, melons, peppers, cucumbers and basil.
- ◆ Feed and water containers on a regular schedule (including perennials kept in pots).
- ◆ Stake tall plants NOW that may fall over as they get taller.
- ◆ Check roses for signs of black spot (definitely on mine already). Pick off and destroy diseased leaves.
- ◆ Remove moisture, sunlight, nutrient robbing weeds from your garden.
- ◆ Mow lawns leaving 2 1/2 inches high to shade the roots and allow enough foliage for photosynthesis. Water less often but deeply to encourage strong roots.
- ◆ Fertilize bulbs that have finished flowering to encourage good bloom for next season, and leave foliage till it dies back naturally.
- ◆ Prune spring flowering shrubs that are now finished blooming.
- ◆ And have a glass of wine and enjoy your garden. Mine is looking lush and happy from the cooler spring and adequate moisture.



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB
Presents
The 66th Annual
ANNUAL COMMUNITY FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
15th June 2013 9am to 2pm



On Saturday June 15th 2013 Mill Bay Garden Club presents the 66th Annual Community Flower and Garden Show which is a great event that is of interest to all.

This easy-to-enter show is open to gardeners of all ages and experience. We have volunteers on hand to help you select the correct class and give advice on displaying your flowers. The show includes over 70 classes from Cut Flowers through Seedlings, Potted Plants, Vegetables & Herbs to Flower Arrangements.

Pick up an Exhibitor's program with a list of classes at Buckerfield's, Thrifty Foods in the Floral Department, Country Grocer, Laughing Llama, Dinter's Nursery or download from the Mill Bay website: www.millbaygardenclub.com.

For the early birds the show starts with a Rotary Pancake Breakfast at 8.00 am, with the Grounds and Flower Show Exhibition opening at 9.00am. Included in the show are Plant Sales, Commercial Plant Vendors, Garden Accessories and a large Silent Auction. The Master Gardeners will be there to help solve your garden queries and the Lake Bay Hill Ladies Auxiliary will be serving their delicious Strawberry Teas

This is one of the Mill Bay Community's highlights of the year. It is so easy to enter. Just wander through your garden the evening before and pick your best flowers. Check the exhibitor's brochure and enter the correct number of flowers for that class.

If you've got it - flaunt it

Please come out and show your support at the Cobble Hill Hall, Watson Avenue, Cobble Hill.

Mill Bay Garden Club General Meeting

April 23, 2013

By Arlene Dench



circulated.

Membership -Sandra – three new members this evening.

Mary V. -Newsletter – nothing

Library – Gillian for Janice – nothing

Raffle -Carmen – lots of goodies tonight

Plant Sales -Heather J. – lots of plants this evening. Has F&G show advertising posters available for display. Jim C. has made mason bee homes which are available for \$10.

Kitchen – Dianne - nothing.

Monica – Silent Auction F&G show - Love to get more donations from our members for the silent auction. Planters, hobby creations? Contact Monica.

Member's Forum - Elaine – Plant sales at flower and garden show raises general club funds which in turn allows us to contribute to the community. Really need donations of members plants. Start to pot plants up. After May 15 can be dropped off at her place. Average about \$1000 from the plant sale.

Plant Sale at Elaine's this Sat. Funds raised are used for the education of girls in Malawi and given to the Mill Bay Food Bank as well. 9 to 2 Sat. April 27.

Pat Stevens: Mill Bay Historical Society. Outlined a project which will take place this summer. Further information is available at www.mbcl.ca.

Brag Table – Barb Kohlman.

Q and A: Wireworm, does lime get rid of it? Bill does not know. Lime on soil after seeding worth trying.

Next meeting May 28, 2013.

Called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Motion to accept last month's minutes: Moved by Heather, seconded by Sandra G. Carried. Thanks to set up and kitchen crew.

President – Ajay – Any questions about last month's President's Report? None. Bobbie Burns has bus tickets available for \$60. Has sold nine. Available during break. Updates coming to bus tour, stops may change. Nominating committee is Pip and Ajay. Still need Treasurer, Gale will assist at beginning. Flower and Garden Show chair needed as well. Good committee already in place. Card sent to Marion Johnston who lost her husband last week. Any 'not for profits' seeking donation from club need to send request letter to Ajay before next month. Amounts given are variable. Revenue is down slightly as membership is down. F & G show donated \$1000 last year to food bank.

Exhibiting for F&G show: several books in library, info in newsletter and on website have overview of what judges are looking for. Fairly self explanatory. In the interests of organic gardening, bug bites are now acceptable! There will be people available at the show to help novices with their displays. Entrants were way up last year and we don't want anyone to be intimidated. Heather says if everyone brought in one thing, the show would be fantastic. Its fun and well worth it and only 50 cents!

Sign up sheet circulated for F&G show volunteers. Still need more.

Vice-President - Cliff – two open gardens.

Treasurer -Gale – 2210.31

Secretary - Arlene – nothing.

F&G show – all is going well. More volunteers required for day of show. Sheet being

Perennial Ridge Farms

5605 Jordans Lane, Duncan, BC, V9L 6J1

Ph. / Fax. 250-748-0098

Spring Plant Sale

May 23, 24, 25 and 26 / 2013

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Hello Perennial Gardeners!!!

What a warm sunny spell we had at the end of April and beginning of May !

It was starting to get dry out there, and the watering was a regular routine already. As I write this, we are having a nice rain, drenching everything out there, but all is loving it. Nothing like a good soak overnight, especially if transplanting has been done earlier. We have been potting up a huge amount of stock this spring season, and still have much more to go. The rhodo's and azaleas seem to be a bit earlier in their bloom this year, and perennials also are budding.

Our little goat herd has now grown to a population of five !!, Poppy had twins last year, Flash and Dash !!! Star had a single baby this year, Lily (or Lilybug !!) she is 3 weeks old as of this date. She can keep up to all the big goats with her ears as wings !!!

We are looking forward to our spring sale at the end of May, and hope to see you all out here at the farm. This year the sale will be four days, starting on the Thursday. We are hoping for warm, sunny weather.

We will have hostas, lilies, rhodos, azaleas, blueberries, raspberries, currants, rhubarb, deciduous trees, flowering shrubs, and perennials, many varieties of hen and chicks, all available for sale here at the nursery.

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 forward to seeing you here at the farm, drop in
and have a look around !!!!**



Celebrate Spring

Pancake Breakfast - Cittaslow Cowichan Bay

8:00 - 9:30 am Breakfast in Hecate Park, made with local ingredients including bacon and sausages. By donation, please bring your own plates and utensils.

International Low Tide Day - Kil-pah-las Beach

10:00 am - 1:00 pm Help clean up the beach, find critters near the shore with DFO biologists using a beach net, and count the critters that live in the mud with Dr. Bill Austin. Registration 9:00-11:00 am.

Ocean Activities- Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre

1:00 am - 4:00 pm All ages nature exploration activities, fun kids crafts, "Name Our Sea Critter" contest and more!

Marine Gateway Grand Opening - CVRD Parks

2:00 pm Ceremonial opening of the new Marine Gateway park.



Saturday, May 25

Hecate Park—1845 Cowichan Bay Rd



Program:

8:00-9:30 - pancake breakfast (by donation) at Hecate Park, provided by Cittaslow.

10:00 - Beach seine with DFO scientists at Kil-Pah-Las Beach

11:00 - Quadrat survey with Dr. Bill Austin at Kil-Pah-Las Beach. This is the famous "critter count"

12:00 - Music with Jane's Way, nature activities, and bring-your-own picnic lunch at Hecate Park

2:00 - Grand opening of the Marine Gateway at Hecate Park.

For those who would rather spend the morning caring for the shore, registration for beach clean-up crews is at 9:30 at Hecate Park.

The future of Kerry Park is in your hands.

The Kerry Park Commission wants your input on next steps for this aging facility.

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES & FACILITY TOURS

PLEASE JOIN US:

Thursday, May 23 ▶ 5-8pm

Tuesday, May 28 ▶ 5-8pm

Saturday, June 1 ▶ 9am-noon

} @
KERRY
PARK



We're listening.

Call 250-743-5922, email yourkerrypark@cvrd.bc.ca, or fill out our online feedback form: www.yourkerrypark.ca/feedback



you tell us

Kerry Park

Horticulture Centre of the Pacific

Tomato Day!

Saturday May 25th 9am - 12 noon

Come and join the fun for our first ever day devoted to the glorious tomato. We will have experts on hand to answer all your questions on growing and preserving tomatoes. We will have lots of unusual starts for sale and some potted up in larger containers ready to thrive.

Propagation from Cuttings

Saturday June 1st 1 pm - 4 pm

Greenhouse expert Linda Petite will teach this comprehensive course on propagation from cuttings. She will cover: set-up including materials required, how & when to take cuttings and aftercare. Participants are encouraged to bring what they would like to propagate. Please call for instructions on how to collect material. All will go home with a great collection for their gardens!

Fee includes all material & the text *Cuttings through the Year*.

HCP Members \$45.00

Non-HCP Members \$60.00



Mill Bay Garden Club

Presents

The 66th Annual

*Community Flower
& Garden Show*

'Beauty and the Feast'

Saturday June 15th 2013

9am to 2pm

Cobble Hill Hall,

3550 Watson Ave, Cobble Hill.

8am-11am Rotary Pancake Breakfast

9am-2pm Show open

Inside: Flower and Vegetable Show, Silent Auction,

Lake Bay Hill Ladies Auxiliary Strawberry Tea.

Outside: Plant Sales, Commercial Plant Vendors,

Garden Accessories, Master Gardeners.

Admission: \$2.00

Exhibits Accepted Friday June 14th 2013

Noon 'til 7pm

Show Programmes Available at: Buckerfield's, Dinter Nursery,

Laughing Llama, Country Grocer and Thrifty Foods.

*A donation from the Show proceeds will be made to the Mill Bay
Food Bank*

For more information go to www.millbaygardenclub.com

Hello fellow gardeners!

The Victoria Lily Society and the BC Iris Society would like to extend an invitation to your group for a special road trip. Come and enjoy our fabulous, combined show of irises and lilies (plus lots more). There will be an opportunity to learn about iris judging in the morning. Unusual and hard to find irises and lilies will be for sale and if that isn't enough, a wonderful tea with home baking is available too.

Our new Victoria location, 4030 Douglas Street (just off the Pat Bay Highway at McKenzie), is conveniently located for you to take in a few of our local nurseries or to enjoy further ventures to some of our local gardens, especially Glendale Gardens for viewing specialty beds with lilies, hardy plants and an incredible Japanese garden.

We're letting you know well in advance to make your planning easier. The date is July 6th, from 10 until 4. Admission is by donation. We hope to see you there.

Thanks,

Wendy wj4man@shaw.ca

