



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

MAY 2014

**Next Meeting
May 27, 2014**



May Brag Table Theme:

KISS MY TULIPS

The May meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on Tuesday, May 27th 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.

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:

Shirley Cook

**Flower and Vegetable
Show Presentations**

May Kitchen Duties:

Dianne Regan

1 litre of 2% milk:

Addy Lavigne

Cookies/ Goodies:

Mary-Ellen Deuling, Kathy Edmunds,

Marie Cooke

Kitchen Helpers:

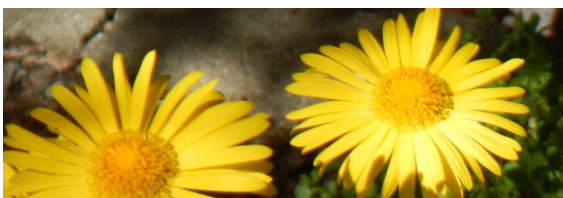
Rosemary Kennedy, Ian Kennedy

Set up / Clean Up:

Marion Johnston, Pat Stevens, Stephanie
Walter



**DON'T
FORGET!
BRING YOUR
MUG FOR THE BREAK**



Remember to bring your mug!

Vice President's Report

Joy Story

May Speaker

This month's speaker is Shirley Cook. She will be presenting us with tips on how to show our prize winners at this year's Flower and Garden Show in June.

If you have never shown before, this will be your chance to find out how.

Since not all plants respond the same way when we cut them and put them into water, Shirley will help us avoid drooping flower heads and give us the secrets to a successful showing.

This Year's Garden Tours

Even more gardens to tour!

Both Duncan's Garden Club and the Mid Island Rose Club want to share garden tours with our club. That means there will be even more gardens to explore, but it also means that you may see a few new faces when you open your garden up for a showing.

If you would prefer to have only our club at your garden opening, please indicate that when you send me the details of your garden showing.

Please include:

Date:

Time:

Directions:

Brief Description:

Open to All Gardening Clubs: Yes / No

Garden tours are a great way to get to know other club members and share common interests, plants and seeds. We would love to see your garden, please consider opening your garden this growing season.

Thanks

Joy Story





GARDEN BUS TOUR

From the Saanich Garden Tour organizers: There are a few seats left on the bus, for the journey to Saanich to view a variety of gardens, each with a different focus. Join this lively group of Cowichan Valley gardeners to learn how other people's love of gardening manifests itself.

Date: June 25, 2014

Meeting Place: Mill Bay Community League Hall

Time: 8:15 departure

Cost: \$30.00

Thanks to the Cowichan Garden Club for the invitation to join them.

For a Ticket contact **Pat Stevens**



SILENT AUCTION

If anyone is still interested in making a donation to the silent auction for the Flower & Garden show, it's not too late. You may bring the item to the next garden club meeting or contact Monika Morgan .

If you are not making a donation, remember to save a little money for the opportunity to bid on some of our great donations from local businesses and our own club members. Proceeds will once again go to the Food Bank.

FACEBOOK

Facebook Tip: For those of you on Facebook, please help us get the word out about the flower/garden show. **Go** to the Mill Bay Garden Club Facebook page. **Click** on the **EVENTS** tab, just below the top banner photo. Then **click** on the **67th Annual Community Flower & Garden Show**. **Click** on the **INVITE** button, just below the photo on the right. Now you are able to send a special invitation to the friends that you select to invite.

<https://www.facebook.com/millbaygardenclub>



MBGC AGM and Potluck Dinner

Tuesday June 24th

6:00PM at the home of

Bill and Mary Herring

Please be sure and mark your calendar for our Annual General Meeting held in lieu of a regular meeting at the Community League Hall. Our traditional potluck dinner will begin at 6PM with the meeting held afterward. We will be voting on Executive and Committee positions and charitable contributions.

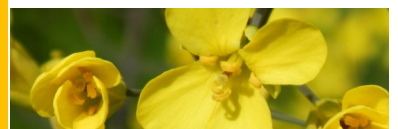
Please **arrive between 5PM and 5:30 for set-up**, come early for a tour of the gardens if you like. **Bring** your own **chairs** (we'll provide the tables as well as coffee and tea service), **your favourite potluck item**, as well as **plates, cutlery, napkins, place mats, coffee cups and your favourite beverages and glasses**. **Also bring a light jacket or sweater**.

Be sure to **craft a unique and outrageous garden hat** from materials found in your garden, we'll have special prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and a special door prize for one lucky winner!

Your spouse, partner, children and friends are welcome to join us for the evening. Please remember that only members who have a paid membership for the current season are able to vote.

Should **inclement weather** occur, we'll move to the Mill Bay Community League Hall. Watch for a confirmation email midafternoon on June 24th.

Hope to see you all there!





Flower and Garden Show Volunteers Needed

The Flower and Garden Show is just around the corner and we still need a few key positions filled , such as helping the exhibitors arrange their treasures and letting people in through the gate - very important I'm sure you'll agree . So please check your calendars and try to help out for a couple of hours . For those who have already volunteered , I thank you sincerely, and if any of you would like a reminder , by phone or email , please let me know at our next club meeting . By the way , I'm the Raffle lady !

Gillian Seal-Jones



A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO CLUB MEMBERS

Thank you to everyone who attended our Charity Plant Sale on April 26. The sale was a great success and we made \$2,060. That money will be divided 50/50 between Somenos House in Duncan and Malawi Girls on the Move. Agness Chazeza is the young woman that we are supporting in Malawi and the money that Malawi Girls on the Move will receive from the sale will be more than sufficient to support her for her education during this calendar year. The Cowichan Women Against Violence Society will be using the funds from us for general support of Somenos House. Thank you one and all. If anyone is interested in helping us with propagation for next year please contact Elaine. (Barb Kohlman, Sharon Martin, Ali Morris and Elaine Scott.)



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL PLANT SALE

JUNE 14 FROM 9:00 - 2:00

AT THE COMMUNITY FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW.

Your plant sale committee (Barb Kohlman, Mary Gale, Ali Morris, Margo Johnston, Lorraine Little, Heather Jenkins, Fran Benton, Pat Stevens, Bernie Juurlink, Barbara Juurlink, Marie Cook, Ruby Armour, Sharon Martin and Elaine Scott) is organized for our annual plant sale but we need loads of plants to make it a success. The plant sale will take place during the Community Flower and Garden Show at the Cobble Hill Farmer's Institute Hall on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 9:00-2:00. 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 very community minded and the sale is important to us.

Last year a record number of you potted up plants for sale and we actually had to call for help to transport them to the hall. This year we are hoping that we get the same number of plants and have made the necessary transportation arrangements in advance. So please pot up loads of plants so that we can put on a great sale.

The plants should be delivered to Elaine Scott's home (2836 Oceanside Lane) prior to Thursday June 12 as the committee will be organizing the plants and pricing them on Friday June 13. If I am not home just put them in the fenced vegetable garden area just inside the gate. That way no deer can get at them.

We would kindly ask you to refrain from donating invasive plants. Sometimes you may not realize that your plants are invasive. The Committee will help you out there and will remove any plants from the sale that it considers to be invasive.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, Elaine .

Thank you one and all.



Mill Bay Garden Club's 67th Annual Community Flower & Garden Show

**Cobble Hill Hall, 3550 Watson Avenue, Cobble
Hill**

Saturday, June 14th, 2014

9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Admission: \$2.00 Children Free

For the gardening communities in the Cowichan Valley including Mill Bay, Cobble Hill, Shawnigan Lake, Duncan and more, this is a must-attend event.

This **easy-to-enter show** is open to members of the public 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, Flower Arrangements.

Pick up an Exhibitor's Program with a list of classes at Buckerfield's, Thrifty Foods, Country Grocer, Valley Vines to Wines and Dinter Nursery or download From the Mill Bay website: www.millbaygardenclub.com.

Included in the show are **Plant Sales, Commercial Plant Vendors, Garden Accessories and a large, unique and wonderful Silent Auction.**

The **Master Gardeners** will be there to help solve your garden queries.

Every year the **Lake Bay Hill Ladies Auxiliary** produces their famous **Strawberry Tea** plus refreshments.

A variety of gardening workshops/seminars will be held every 30 minutes from 9.30am to 12.00pm which includes:

- ◆ 09:30 am -Bee-Loving Heathers, Elaine Scott-Rogers.
- ◆ 10:00 am -Fabulous Food Container Gardens, Joy Story.
- ◆ 10:30 am -Garden Design Tips, Ali Morris.
- ◆ 11:00 am -Start Your Own Roses, Janice Moseley.
- ◆ 11:30 am -Drought Tolerant Plantings, Barb Kohlman.
- ◆ 12:00 pm -Water Catchment, Ian Kennedy.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Gardening Tips by Barb Kohlman

Tips for May June 2014

Using coat hangers as garden "stakes". From wire hangers, cut the bottom in half, cut the top off = staples to secure soaker hoses, row covers, and plastic cloches.

Hardy Ferns made Easy: If you have some shady sites perhaps some ferns would add texture to your garden--- a few favourites ---native western sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*) is good for dry shade, so under cedars and firs. There are many cultivars with finer foliage that add interest to the garden. How about maidenhair ferns--- (*Adiantum* spp.)--- there are many variations, all beautiful.

Employ colour to attract birds and pollinators; red and orange for hummingbirds; blue, purple, violet, white and yellow for bees; and dark pink, purple, red, orange and yellow for butterflies.

Birds don't require much to be attracted to a home in your garden. A wooden box in partial sun with a hole near the top and an overhang to keep out the rain is usually enough. Rough interior walls help the young to climb out.

Your tender bulbs are happy to be planted out now – dahlias, cannas and gladioli.

Indoor tropicals can be moved outside to enjoy warm sunshine, but let them acclimatize gradually to avoid scorched leaves.

Use an edger to set your beds and keep grass at bay. In perennial beds, keep weeds under control by weeding often and using mulch to cover bare patches, or plant thickly to crowd out those invaders.

Stake those tall growing perennials NOW.

You are likely already using your lawn mower. Keep it in good condition with sharp blades for the best results, mow to a height of 2 ½ inches and when the heat comes, let it go dormant---less work and so much easier on the water bill and environment.

Mill Bay Garden Club General Meeting Minutes Tuesday April 22, 2014

Past President – Ajay Oppelaar

- 7:05 p.m. Call to order.
- Acceptance of agenda.
- Motion to accept minutes of March's meeting:
 - Moved by Mary Gale
 - Seconded
 - Carried
- Thank you to set up crew & kitchen crews. We required extra chairs for this meeting.
- Volunteers required for work party April 26th 10 – noon to tidy up the Millennium Garden here at the hall.
- AGM elections: existing members willing to stand. No objections.
- It was decided at the Executive Meeting that Membership runs September 1st – August 31st. Fiscal year runs July 1st – June 30th. Those who have not paid their membership dues by October 31st will stop receiving the newsletter.
- Saanich garden tour is set for Wednesday June 25th. Pat Stevens has the signup sheet with her tonight.
- Dot Garbet's garden is on tour Thursday April 24th 4 – 7pm.
- Our garden club is purchasing a membership at The Gardens at HCP for \$50. This allows us 1 free tour as a group.

Treasurer's Report – Gale McIntrye

- \$2,298.44 balance

Membership – Arlene Dench

- 3 new members tonight.

Facebook – Pauline

- Cowichan Flower and Garden Show will be featured, please share forward with friends.

Library – Janice Rose

- Suggestions for new books to purchase are always welcome.

- A new book about clematis has been purchased from Lee Valley.
- Books borrowed at May meeting are to be returned at September meeting.

Plant Sales – Heather Jenkins

- Brochure/flyer for Community Flower & Garden Show is ready for anyone who would like to take and post.

Members Forum

- Heather Gibbins thanks all those who showed up the other Sunday to help spring clean her garden.
- Al Mikalishen tells us Bill Herring has 3 lawn bowling greens and is looking for new members.
- Elaine Scott reminds us to pot up our extra plants for the Community Flower & Garden Show in June. It is our club's way to raise money to give back to charities. The Mill Bay Plantaholics –Barb, Sharon, Ali & Elaine – are having a plant sale Saturday April 26th starting at 9am. Proceeds go to Malowi Girls and to Somenos House. The Cairnsmore plant sale raised \$2700 last weekend.
- Pip Woodcock has been writing the garden column for the Mill Bay Newsletter for 3 years and would like someone to take over.
- Monika Morgan says there is still time to make a donation to the silent auction for the Community Flower & Garden Show.

Coffee Break

Raffle

Speaker – Shawnigan Gardens at Island Daylily Farm

Meeting adjourned @ 9:05pm



May's Grow Food Network Gardening Blog Link: <http://growfoodwithjoy.blogspot.ca/>

UP-COMING EVENTS

The View Royal Garden Club will hold its general meeting on Thursday, May 22 at 7:30 pm. in the Shoreline Community School, 2750 Shoreline Drive.

Presenting this month is **Bryan Taylor**, research scientist, avid gardener & photographer who tended the HCP heather gardens for many years & will speak on Heathers for Color all Year & Every Year. Adding to his list of accomplishments, Brian is presently volunteer in charge of the plant nursery at Government House.

As well, a judged mini show will feature exhibits from members' gardens and there will be a sales table with plants and garden items. Visitors and new members are welcome. For further information please call 250-220-5212.

Hope to see you there. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Perennial Ridge Farms

Spring Plant Sale

May 22, 23, 24 and 25 / 2014

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

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

Hello Perennial Gardeners!!!

We have three new arrivals on the farm this year, of the goat kind !!!

They are kicking up there heels with the sunny weather, and being kids !!

Be sure to come by the goat pen during the sale to say hello !

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

We will have hostas, lilies, peonies, astilbes, 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.

Please feel free to forward this message on to anyone interested.

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!



Mill Bay Garden Club's
67th Annual
**Community Flower
& Garden Show**

“Earth's Bounty”

Saturday June 14th 2014

9am to 2pm

Cobble Hill Hall

3550 Watson Ave, Cobble Hill.

Exhibits Accepted Friday June 13th 2014, Noon 'til 7pm

Inside: Flower & Vegetable Show, Silent Auction,
Lake Bay Hill Ladies Auxiliary Strawberry Tea.

Outside: Plant Sales, Gardening Workshops,
Commercial Plant Vendors, Garden Accessories,
Master Gardeners.

Admission: \$2.00

Children free

Show programmes available at:
Buckerfield's, Dinter Nursery, Valley Vines to Wines, Thrifty Foods
and Country Grocer.

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

For more information go to www.millbaygardenclub.com

Horticulture Centre of the Pacific

505 Quayle Rd, Victoria

Phone: 250-479-6162 email : communityed@hcp.ca

Upcoming Youth Workshops

WORKSHOP SERIES...learn and play with your family in the Gardens at HCP during our series of GROWING TOGETHER workshops:

Sunday May 25 10:00am - 12:00pm

Join guest presenter, local entomologist, Gord Hutchings, for a workshop on "CAPTIVITY NESTING BEES". Gord will discuss the lifecycle of native bees, their effects on successful pollination, and the benefits of attracting and managing these native species for food production in our yards, orchards, and community gardens.

(2 hours) \$15/youth under 16, \$25/adult

Monday May 26 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Vegetable Gardening for Kids (2 hours) \$25/person (7-12 years)

- • What Plants Need - review what plants need to grow & selecting a crop to grow
- • Planning a Garden - where to plant & how, tools you need
- • Plot & Soil Development - soils, amendments, fertilizer, raised beds, containers
- • Planting Your Crop & Maintaining It - how to choose the seeds, spacing, planting, creating a maintenance plan

Tuesday June 3 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Making an Edible Faerie Garden (2 hours) \$35/person cost of supplies included (bring an adult along to help if you like for free!)

(bring your own container max size 25cm x 25cm with holes in the bottom suited for outdoor use)

- • What is a Faerie Garden - what it is, how to plan one, containers types
- • What to put in it - plants to choose, material, creativity
- • Making your Faerie Garden - how to build it
- • Maintaining - watering and pruning requirements

Tuesday June 10 from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Creating a Pollinators Garden (2 hours) \$30/person (bring an adult along to help if you like for free!)

- • Pollinators in the garden - who are they & why do we need them
- • How do you attract them - their needs & what you can provide
- • Choose a project - birds, bees, butterflies
- • Collect items

Build E-mail youthprograms@hcp.ca for details!

HCP cont'd

HCP Tomato Day

Saturday, May 24th 9-noon

The Wild Foods Experience

Date/Time

Date(s) - May 25, 2014

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sunday May 25th 1 pm – 4 pm

Wild foods are bursting with unique flavours and textures and can be some of the most nutritious foods on the planet! They can also be tough, bitter and resemble poisonous plants. Learning optimum harvest timing, habitats and plant characteristics can greatly increase your enjoyment of wild foods. Embark on a 3-hour plant walk with **Katherine Harding** (The Wild Foods Experience) around the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific's Native Plant Garden, Western Woods and Conservation Park. Learn about edible plants, their poisonous look-alikes and how to tell them apart; learn where to look; what & when to harvest, while touching, smelling and tasting some of the wild foods that you might find in your own neighbourhood.

HCP Members \$25.00 Non-HCP Members \$35.00

Katherine Harding is a wild foods enthusiast and the sole proprietor of The Wild Foods Experience, a company geared towards teaching people about sustainability, wild foods, and the ecosystems they inhabit. Her knowledge of plants comes from her work as a Garry Oak Recovery Technician for Parks Canada, her diploma in Environmental Technology, her work as a gardener and a lot of time hanging out with ethno botany literature. Currently she forages a large part of her diet both in her neighbourhood and out in the forest, and enjoys experimenting with her recipes in her kitchen. She has taught wild foods workshops around Victoria for the last couple years and plans to extend her business to taking guests on multiday foraging adventures in the rainforests of Vancouver Island.

Willow Chair Workshop

June 15, 2014

Date/Time

Date(s) - Jun 15, 2014

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Willow Chair Workshop: Sunday June 15th 9 am – 5 pm

In one day, with **Andrew Kent's** expert instruction, you can make and take home your own Bent Willow Rustic Chair as introduction to rustic building. Learn how to make a square frame from pieces of alder & work with different sizes of willow to create a classic! All tools provided. **Work with a friend or alone.** Please wear appropriate clothing & bring a lunch. One chair **including all material \$250.00.** Call (250) 479-6162 to register.

9th Annual Teeny Tiny Garden Tour

Sunday, June 08, 2014



Discover the beauty and surprises that await you on the Teeny Tiny Garden Tour

Don't miss your chance on **Sunday, June 8** for a rare glimpse into some of Victoria's smallest backyard gems when a dozen garden owners generously open their gates for the 9th annual TTGT in support of Victoria Hospice.

Also included in this year's tour is Abkhazi Garden which at only one-acre is a truly hidden treasure!

Tickets are **\$25**, on sale now at Thrifty Foods, Dig This, Capital Iron - Downtown, Mayfair Shopping Centre Concierge Desk, and Victoria Hospice.

Compost Education Centre Workshops 1216 N Park , Victoria

Call 250 386 9676 to register

31 May Sat 1-3pm Day & Nite in the Garden (kids 6-8) Cost \$10

7 June Sat 10am-12:45pm Composting Basics

7 June Sat 1-4pm Herbal Teas Cost \$25/\$30

VICTORIA CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW/SALE

Friday and Saturday, May 30th and 31st

During Mall Hours

Tillicum Mall

<http://victoria.cactus-society.org/>

VIEW ROYAL GARDEN CLUB SUMMER SHOW

Saturday June 21st 1-3 pm

Shoreline Community School, Victoria

2750 Shoreline Drive Saturday,

\$5 Admission includes door prize ticket and refreshments

plants, garden items & baked goods for sale

<https://viewroyalgardenclub.wordpress.com/>

PLANT SALE

ANNUAL SPRING SALE

ANNUALS

PERENNIALS, HERBS

SMALL FRUITS & VEGETABLES

TABLES

SHRUBS, GRASSES,

HOUSEPLANTS

*MASTER GARDENERS WILL
BE PRESENT*

SATURDAY MAY 24

9:30 - 2:30

NANAIMO NORTH
TOWN CENTRE

4750 RUTHERFORD ROAD

Nanaimo Horticultural
Society



WANTED !!!

GREEN OR ALIVE

YOUR GARDENS

OPENED

TO VIEW

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO OPEN
YOUR GARDEN TO MEMBERS,
PLEASE PICK A DATE AND TIME
AND DO A SHORT WRITE-UP
OF YOUR GARDEN WITH
DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO GET
THERE. ONE WEEKS NOTICE
REQUESTED.

EMAIL

JOY

WE'LL GET THE DETAILS TO THE
CLUB MEMBERS.

REWARD

APPRECIATIVE
COMMENTS AND ENVY!