



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

SEPTEMBER 2014

Next Meeting

September 23, 2014

The September meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on Tuesday, September 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.



September Brag Table Theme:

LATE BLOOMERS

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

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER:

Carmen Varcoe

**Fall Colour for your
Garden**



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



September Kitchen Duties:

Dianne Regan

1 litre of 2% milk:

Dianne Regan

Cookies/ Goodies:

We are needing volunteers to bring baked goodies to this month's meeting. Please email Dianne if you would like to participate:

Set up / Clean Up:

Volunteers are needed for set up this month. Please come early to help if you can.

Remember to bring your mug!

President's Report

Cliff Stainsby

Hi. It is September again, already. And my garden is full of weeds. Oh, and some squash and beans and carrots and so on. The beautiful, green, fresh, vibrant seedlings of spring are now somewhat battered and decrepit elders who have yielded, or are about to yield, to us the fruits of their short lives. After which they are destined to continue their servitude by becoming the compost foundation of next year's garden. And, so it goes. Familiar to all gardeners, I suspect. A metaphor, perhaps for life itself.

At the beginning of the new season, and on behalf of the Mill Bay Garden Club and our companion group the Mill Bay Community Flower and Garden Show, I wish to thank the many people and businesses in the Cowichan Valley who supported our efforts to raise money for organizations that provide important community services. Because of their generosity, this year we were able to give to various charities.

These people and local businesses supported our efforts by buying plants during our monthly Garden Club meetings and at our plant sale during the Community Flower and Garden Show, and by donating goods and services to the Silent Auction, also held at the Flower and Garden Show.

The Charities we supported are: *Somenos Transition House, Providence Farm, BC Council of Garden Clubs, Cowichan Valley Hospice, Mill Bay Food Bank and the SPCA,*

I hope to see you at our meeting on Sept. 23.

Cliff Stainsby



Vice-President's Report

Joy Story

This month's speaker is Carmen Varcoe with "Fall Colour for your Garden."

She is a retired school teacher and retired part-time plant identification instructor for the Horticultural Diploma Programme at the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific.

She is Chair of the Advisory Board for Finnerty Gardens at UVic., a gardener for 30+ years on 1 3/4 acre property in Saanich. A total plant geek.

Library Report

Janice Rose your friendly Librarian

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY:

Please remember to return the books that were borrowed at our May meeting. There are 28 people who need this gentle and friendly reminder.

We will be ordering a new batch of books this coming year. Our collection reflects the needs and desires of all our club members. If you have your heart set on a topic that needs to be included in our library or on a particular book or publication please let me know as I will be putting in orders in the very near future.

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Please remember that membership dues need to be paid by the October Meeting. Membership is very reasonably priced at \$10 . Your dues go toward running the club, paying for speakers and the donation to local charities at the end of the year. Another bonus of membership is receiving the newsletter and notifications of upcoming events. **Remember \$10 Cash Please.** Thank you!

Cards by Mary Gale



If you know of someone in the club who is sick, or in hospital please let Mary Gale know and she will send a card on behalf of the Mill Bay Garden

Club.

Mill Bay Garden Club General Meeting Minutes Tuesday May 27, 2014

President – Cliff Stainsby

- 7:05 p.m. Call to order.
- Acceptance of agenda.
- Motion to accept minutes of April's meeting:
 - Moved by Mary Gale
 - Seconded by Janice Rose
 - Carried
- Thank you to set up & kitchen crews. We required extra chairs for this meeting. Set up and clean up volunteers required for AGM, a signup sheet is being circulated.
- Cobble Hill Fair requires volunteers for the floral display.
- Our garden club has purchased a membership at The Gardens at HCP for \$50. This allows us 1 free tour as a group which will be used on the June bus tour. Barb Kohlman will help organize a trip to HCP during the winter season at which time another membership could be purchased to take advantage of the onetime free visit as a group.
Motion to move on from this topic because Executive already made the decision to purchase HCP membership.
 - Moved by Ajay Oppelaar
 - Seconded by Dianne
- AGM will be held at Bill Herring's on June 24th weather permitting. If weather is inclement, AGM will be held at Mill Bay Community League Hall. A notice will be sent to members by email if the venue changes.
- Janet Abbott, secretary, is not able to attend June meetings. A replacement secretary is required.
- A volunteer signup sheet is being circulated for the Community Flower & Garden Show.

Vice President – JOY STORY

- Shawnigan Gardens at Island Daylily Farm is open weekends through June and everyday in July and August.
- Cowichan Valley Garden Club and Mid Island Garden Club would like to receive notices about our garden tours so they can attend.
- Cowichan Green Community is looking for edible gardens to add to their tour.
- A variety of gardening workshops/seminars will be held every 30 minutes from 9.30am to 12.00pm at the Community Flower & Garden Show and will include: Bee-Loving Heathers, Elaine Scott, Fabulous Food Container Gardens, Joy Story.
Garden Design Tips, Ali Morris.
Rose Cuttings, Janice Moseley.
Drought Tolerant Plantings, Barb Kohlman.
Water Catchment, Ian Kennedy.

Treasurer's Report – Gale McIntyre

- \$2,335.13 balance
- 147 members, 13 lifetime members and 134 regular members

Facebook – Pauline

- You can share The Community Flower and Garden Show with your friends and contacts as an "event" on facebook.

Library – Janice Rose

- Heather and Monika will pick up 5 boxes of books from Janice to be sold by donation at the Cobble Hill Flower & Garden Show.
- Books borrowed at May meeting are to be returned at September meeting.
- There are many gardening magazines donated by Elizabeth Coulter which are free to members.

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Members Forum

- Dustin has donated edible mushrooms which can be used as part of mulch in a garden and will proliferate.
- Monika Morgan tells us there will be a "card reader" available at the Community Flower & Garden show to make purchases easy. Still receiving donations for the silent auction from club members including pottery, framed nature photographs, alpaca socks and manure.
- Joy Story from Grow Food has a new young gardener she is working with. William has grown tomatoes from seed and is available for weeding jobs. Buckerfields has donated some gypsum which Joy and William will dig into clay soil to see if it helps break up the clay.
- Elaine Scott reminds us to pot up our extra plants for the Community Flower & Garden Show in June.
- Ajay Oppelaar has a Solaris rechargeable lawn mower he is giving away. He bought it 3 years ago for \$450. The batteries will need to be repacked.
- Bill Herring's vegetable garden will be open to members Saturday May 31st from 10am until noon. He is located at 3231 Kilipi Road.

Coffee Break

Raffle

Speaker – Shirley Cook

- Shirley spoke about judging and how to prepare plants for the flower and garden show.

Meeting adjourned.



PHOTOS FROM JUNE AGM





Cowichan Green Community
Where Community and Environment Meet

Organic Master Gardener Course

October 14 – December 6, 2014

**Tuesday and Thursday Evenings
Cowichan Green Community (CGC)
360 Duncan Street, Duncan**

A comprehensive 8-week course taught by Gaia College instructors. This accredited program covers:

- soil biology
- botany
- composting
- soil fertility
- waterwise gardening
- permaculture
- garden installation
- tree pruning
- landscape health
- garden design

Learn to create fabulous food and ornamental gardens without pesticides and other harmful chemicals.

Be prepared for a paradigm shift!

Tuition: \$695 + GST

Register at CGC Office, 360 Duncan St.

VISA , Debit or Cash. Pay online with paypal
at www.cowichangreencommunity.org

Limited space, please register early.

For more information, call Nora at 250 748-8506

www.cowichangreencommunity.org

Free Information Session

September 18, 2014

6:00 pm

CGC, 360 Duncan Street

Mixing it Up in the Urban Garden 2015

Fresh ideas & expertise for new and seasoned gardeners

Adapting to Change ~ Working with Nature

Changing Patterns, Trends & Strategies

Keynote Speaker: Martin Galloway

"The Secret World of Gardens" TV Host

Community Gardens – Jim Harris

Sex in the Garden – Lyndon Penner

Permaculture – Jessica Bloom

Native Plants – Louise Goulet

Plus

Local Vendors & Resources

Silent Auction, Delicious Food

Saturday, January 31, 2015

8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney B.C.

COST Until Oct. 31 – \$60

Nov.1 on – \$75

Great value – includes lunch,
breaks and free parking

Register early. We always sell out!

Information & Registration

www.mgabc.org

(Victoria Chapter)



Victoria Master Gardener Association

Mixing it Up... Program

Community Gardens: Always Changing

Jim Harris – Protection Island (Nanaimo)

Retired teacher & gardening senior, Jim is a driving force in this small-island garden which has been evolving with its community since 2007. He teaches weekly garden lessons to the "Little Diggers".

www.seniorlivingmag.com/articles/Island-greens

Sex in the Garden: Botanical Sex That is!

Lyndon Penner – Calgary & Saskatoon

Horticulturist, educator, broadcaster and writer: Lyndon is passionate about all things garden, including the birds and bees. "Prepare to be scandalized, horrified, enlightened and possibly swooning" by the end of his talk.

jadecypress.wordpress.com/

Break: Refreshments, Vendors, Resources
& Silent Auction Viewing

Permaculture: Adding the Layers

Jessica Bloom – Bothell, Washington (near Seattle)

Award winning landscape designer Jessica Bloom is a professional horticulturist and arborist who emphasizes ecological systems and sustainability in her company and her work – and making functional gardens beautiful!

<http://nwbloom.com/>

Lunch

Native Plants: Keeping it Natural

Louise Goulet – Victoria

Louise is a well known wildlife biologist with more than 35 years of experience in ecological protection and restoration across Canada. Since retiring she has built her own native plant garden and now designs and helps others to do the same.

www.zoominfo.com/p/Louise-Goulet/461669025

Break: Refreshments, Vendors, Resources
& Silent Auction Viewing

Keynote: Changing Patterns, Trends & Strategies

Martin Galloway – Uxbridge, Ont.

Martin is a biologist, teacher, public speaker, host of HGTV's Secret World of Gardens and owner of Chalk Lake Nurseries. He made an early decision to study the living things we share the planet with and to work toward preserving them.

<http://chalklakegreenhouses.blogspot.ca/>

Silent Auction Winners, Book Signing,
Vendors & Wind-up

Visit www.mgabc.org (Victoria Chapter)

Compost Education Centre Workshops

<http://compost.bc.ca/>

1216 North Park , Victoria, Call 250 386 9676 to register

Fees listed for Members/non-Members

4 Oct Sat 10am-noon Compost Basics FREE

4 Oct Sat 2-4pm Grow the Best Garlic \$15/\$20

18 Oct Sat 10am-noon Worm Composting FREE

18 Oct Sat 1-4pm Fermented Foods \$25/\$30

Dinter's Nursery

Master Gardener Clinic – Saturday, September 20 from 10 am to 3 pm

These community volunteers will be on hand next Saturday to provide advice on problems in your garden. They will be set up near the Nursery's Information Counter to give detailed information on gardening problems.

Fall Classes for Gardeners

We are now into the fall series of seminars, presented by our staff or visiting experts. The seminars last about one hour and there is no charge or registration required.

- Saturday, Sept. 20 at 10 am – **Gardening with Native Plants** – Todd Carnahan, biologist for the Habitat Acquisition Trust
- Saturday, Sept. 27 at 10 am – **Principles of Composting** – Members of Cowichan Compost
- Saturday, Oct. 4 at 10 am – **Cuttings and Plant Propagation** by Della of Dinter's
- Saturday, Oct. 11 at 10 am – **Ideas for Winter Planters** by Dinter's Staff
- Saturday, Oct. 11 at 11 am – **Rainwater Collection** by Ken Nentwig of Canadian Association for Rainwater Management
- Saturday, Oct. 18 at 10 am – **Winterizing Your Pond** by Scott Stevenson of Van Isle Water Services
- Saturday, Oct. 25 at 10 am – **Potting and Re-blooming Orchids** by Shelly of Orchid Society.
- Saturday, Nov. 8, Drop in from 9:30 am to 1 pm – **Bonsai Workshop** by Cowichan Valley Bonsai Club.

For more details, visit our web site at www.dinternursery.ca/seminars.htm

HCP Continuing Education

505 Quayle Rd, Victoria 250-479-6162

<http://hcp.ca/events/>

Fall Community Education at the HCP TO REGISTER: call 250 479 6162 FEES: first amount for HCP Members, second for non-members. Courses held at 505 Quayle Road. Dates listed as month/day

Plant ID & Culture Sat 1:30-4:30 pm 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/6, 1/24 2015 dates TBA All year, one Sat a month, Diane Pierce introduces 25 plants with botanical & common names, descriptions, cultural needs, maintenance & landscape uses. On-going course can be joined at any time. \$35.00/\$49.00 per session

Intro to Garden Design Mon 6:30-9 pm 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/18, 10/20, 10/25, 10/27, 11/3 Patty Brown covers principles, styles, site analysis, construction materials & plant selection. Students draft a residential landscape plan. Two field trips look at existing landscapes & plant choices. \$250.00/\$350.00

Intro to DynaSCAPE: Computer Assisted Design Mon 6-9 pm 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 11/24 Manon Tremblay introduces basic CAD drafting tools incl. automated labels & lists, plan dimensions, graphic images, global settings. \$550.00 (incl. software) 75.00 deposit req'd.

Fall Garden Basics Sat 9 am-12 pm 9/20 Jane Tice on making the most of garden time. Clean up & pruning incl. roses; perennial division, relocation & removal; winter protection. \$25.00/\$35.00

Organic Weed Management Sun 9 am-12 pm 9/21 Manon Tremblay identifies common weeds & what they indicate about site conditions. Learn organic techniques for remediation. Invasive species & restoring native habitats considered. \$25.00/\$35.00

Edible Native Plants Sun 1-4 pm 9/21 Manon Tremblay covers harvesting & preparing nature's bounty, and design principles of native edible gardens. \$25.00/\$35.00

Garden Art: Heron Workshop Sat & Sun 9/27, 9/28 2-day workshop with Kathryn Fudge turns a t-shirt, tin foil and glue into long-lasting garden art. \$235.00 Fee incl. all materials except old shirt

Design a Deer Resistant Garden Sun 1-3 pm 9/28 Jeff de Jong offers 5 methods for a beautiful garden without ringing the deer dinner bell. \$25.00/\$35.00

Advanced Pruning Sat 9 am-12 pm 10/4, 10/18, 10/25 Ryan Senechal offers 3 sessions covering basic techniques & advanced strategies for desirable structure, reduced maintenance & long term plant health. Bring secateurs. \$90.00/\$125.00

Green Roof Projects Sat 1-4 pm 10/4 Learn how to design & build home-scale roof gardens for sheds & playhouse with Manon Tremblay. \$25.00/\$35.00