



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

APRIL 2016

Next Meeting

April 26, 2016

The April meeting of the Mill Bay Garden Club will take place on Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 pm at the Mill Bay Community League Hall, 1001 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Doors open at 6:30pm.

Participate in library, plant sales, raffle, brag table, question & answer period, members forum, etc. Socialize over coffee and goodies, and enjoy and learn from our monthly guest speaker!

April Brag Table Theme

"Flowers To Make You Smile"

With plant and flower identification and commentary provided by Barb Kohlman (club member & Master Gardener), the Brag Table is a great part of our monthly meetings. A way to share what's going on in your garden and ... a chance to win the prize awarded randomly to one of the participants!

April Kitchen Duties:

Dianne Regan

1 litre of 2% milk:

Bonnie Mills

Cookies/Goodies:

Mary-Ellen Deuling; Heather Jenkins; Betty Underwood

Kitchen Helpers:

Bonnie Mills; Deb Justin

Set up/Clean Up:

Bonnie Mills; Al & Wendy Mikalishen; Tracy Morris

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MUG FOR THE BREAK!



April Speaker:



Connie Thompson
"All about Dahlias"

Connie loves dahlias! She has been growing and showing these flowers since 1989, learning the ins and outs through club meetings, dahlias shows and being an active member in the Nanaimo Glad and Dahlia Society.

Connie and husband John started "**Connie's Dahlias**" from their farm in Nanoose Bay in 2007 and now have over 800 dahlia plants in raised beds, a tuber storage shed, and a 20x14ft greenhouse! Their business includes the sale of cut flowers for weddings and special events during the summer months, as well as tuber orders for the following year.

Connie will be bringing dahlia tubers to her presentation, so bring your \$\$\$ to purchase some of these lovely plants!



President's Report

It is coming to that time of the year when we shall be celebrating the camaraderie of the Mill Bay Garden Club at our AGM to be held in the informal garden of Bobbie Burns, which has been carved from the forest over the last 25 years. Along with the Crazy Hat contest, enjoying good food and relaxing in a beautiful setting we also have to do a little business as required by law.

I gather that over the many years of AGMs there has seldom been an election for any of the Executive positions. So is this the year we will have one? I doubt it as it is proving difficult to find people to fill the upcoming vacancies. This vibrant club is extremely fortunate to have some very dedicated executive members who have done more than their fair share of nurturing this fine organisation but who are now ready to relinquish their posts and become regular members again.

How can we help them do this? By stepping up and volunteering and not hesitating because you might not have the experience you feel is needed. I didn't have any experience either when I was asked to be President last year but I was willing to have a go because I knew that many people would help me and they have. I still have a lot to learn so I welcome the cheerful advice and reminders I receive. One of these meetings I will remember to get the Minutes proposed, seconded and passed without a gentle prompt from someone in the audience!!

The positions we are wanting to fill, which will come with help from the previous holder (in brackets) are :

Vice-President (Mary Vandenberg)

Membership (Arlene Dench)

Website (Kerry Davis)

Secretary (Janice Abbott)

So, who would like to join the merry band of the MBGC Executive? We meet, in person, 8 times a year for less than 2 hours and sometimes use email so this is not arduous and we do have fun. If you are interested please have a chat with the present position holder or with myself. Otherwise?!!

Thank you,
Pip Woodcock



Vice-President's Report

It's really feeling like spring out there. We are all out in our gardens and it's so much fun!

Speaking of fun. Don't be shy. Consider coming forward to volunteer in one of the 5 positions we have available in the Club. For the next Garden Club season, starting in September 2016, we need:

- ◆ **Vice-President** (for one year, moving on to president)
- ◆ **Secretary**
- ◆ **Membership Chair**
- ◆ **Website Administrator**
- ◆ **Raffle** (to help Janet and Bobbie)

The Executive and Committee are a fun bunch of people who all work together for you. Consider joining them! If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact me at mpvan@telus.net

Would you like to share your garden with the club? I am looking for gardens for touring for this spring or summer. It's a lot of fun to share and see what others are doing in their garden space. Let me know and we can set up a date and let club members know.

Happy gardening -
Mary Vandenberg

69th Community Flower & Garden Show 2016 Report

We are a little more than a month away from the Community Flower & Garden Show. We need several things from the membership:

- 1) items for the Silent Auction, please bring these to the next meeting;
- 2) volunteers for the set-up (9:00 a.m. Friday, May 27) and take-down (2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 28) as well as running of the Show, please see Angie Stanta;
- 3) entries for the Show, submissions between noon and 7:00 p.m. of Friday May 27 – submission details can be found in the brochure on the MBGC website: www.millbaygardenclub.com or Facebook page: www.facebook.com/millbaygardenclub
- 4) volunteers whose properties face busy roads to place sandwich board signs advertising the Show on their property.

Bernie Juurlink
Flower & Garden Show Chair



69th Community Flower & Garden Show 2016
SILENT AUCTION REPORT

Remember to get your auction items ready for the next meeting on **April 26**. Your donations are needed to make this auction a success! Less will be asked of local businesses this year as some of them are showing signs of fatigue. A separate mailing will be sent to you shortly along with a PDF form to fill in as much as you can and bring with your item to the meeting.

If you have any questions contact Glad Roth OR Carol Goodger-Hill

Ed and Sharon Arnold, Silent Auction Chairs

Raffle Table Report

MARCH RAFFLE NEWS

Bill McMillan, our speaker this month donated a lovely companion plant for the Rhodo Garden.

**THRIFTY
FOODS™**



**RUSTICANA
COFFEE**



**gentle
earth**

Donations of an Easter lily from Thrifty Foods, \$25 gift certificates from Rusticana and Tools 2 Go, and garden soap from Gentle Earth.

And... anonymous donations of non-GMO seeds for the vegetable garden and a tiny narcissus that can be planted out for next season.

Your Raffle Team for March: Janet Abbott, Bobbie Burns and Carmel Haley

Thank you! everyone for supporting the MBGC Raffle

From the Library

Just a reminder to return books so others may borrow them. If members are unable to make the meeting please contact me for a private pick up!

Janice Rose (your friendly librarian)

Plant Sales Table

Thank you for the great contributions we got last month. Keep them coming!

Monika Morgan:)

Help for Syrian Family -- Satellite Park

Beth and Terry Black are looking for any volunteers who would like to help re-establish the gardens at the home of the new Syrian Family in their neighbourhood. If you can help, please contact them at: terry-beth@shaw.ca or (778) 356-0470.

Social Media

"Share" the **COMMUNITY GARDEN & FLOWER SHOW** posting on our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/millbaygardenclub

to help promote our flower show this year and encourage your friends to come and enjoy all the activity of this event maybe even submit an entry or two!

*Pauline Dueck
FaceBook Coordinator*

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.

Gardening Tips

for April/May 2016

by

Barb Kohlman, Master Gardener



Shear winter blooming heath/heathers lightly to remove old flower heads.

Deadhead large flowering rhodos as they finish blooming.

Make sure shrubs have adequate water while blooming and an inch or so of topdressing should already be done---either compost or bagged manure or well-aged chicken manure.

Plant dahlias and other tender bulbs when the ground is dry enough to work without damaging it's structure.

Snap off faded tulip and daffodil heads to prevent energy going to produce seed, leaving the foliage to wither naturally.

Finish planting cool weather crops. When soil is warm plant beans, corn, cucumbers, pumpkins, winter squash and zucchini.

Stake tall flowers now before they start to flop.

If you purchase annuals now (or are growing from seed) make sure you do not put them out too early. You can harden them off now by putting them outside in a protected spot - no wind or direct sun) for a few hours each day but bring them back into the garage or shed for the night. Gradually increase this time outside until ?May 24th? Or at least close to that date, when you can plant them.

Harvest rhubarb, and soon we'll see and pick asparagus.

Keep weeding. I have acquired a crop of *Adenophora confusa* (common ladybells), perhaps from a load of mulch. Persistence-dig out/persistence-dig out etc.

Cheers barb k

Mill Bay Garden Club
General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 22, 2016

President – Pip Woodcock

- 7 p.m. Call to order.
- Motion to accept February 23, 2016 meeting minutes.
 - Moved by Elaine Scott
 - Seconded by Dot Garbet
 - Passed
- AGM – a garden with parking for 30 cars is required.
- Beth Lischeron is selling seeds tonight during our meeting for a friend who was unable to get to the Seedy Saturdays due to illness. This is a one time event.
- Millennium garden was worked on by a few of our members. They were unable to complete the job. Volunteers required to complete the job, which entails removing grass.
- Signup sheet being circulated. 2 volunteers required for setup and cleanup for April and a few required for May.
- The chairs we use come in two different sizes. When putting them away please match the sizes, otherwise they won't stack properly.
- Life member cards handed out to Elaine Scott, Jim Cawker and Joan Cawker.
- Syrian refugees have been offered a lawn mower. Money and housing required for other refugee families.

Vice President – Mary Vandenberg

- Tonight's speaker is Bill McMillan, member of Vancouver Island Rhododendron Society. He will be talking about companion planting.
- Drought tolerant plant list from Dinter Nursery available.
- Open gardens - contact Mary to arrange a date.
- Nominating Committee to find replacements for the positions of:
 - Vice President for a one year term, following year will become President.
 - Secretary
 - Membership
 - Raffle – one more person required.
 - Website

Treasurer – Marie Cooke

- \$1769.95 balance.

Newsletter – Cori-Lee Fisher

- Round of applause for Cori-Lee.

Membership – Arlene Dench

- 1 renewal.
- 2 new members.

Bernie Juurlink – CFGS

- **Committee members:**
 - Treasurer - Janice Rose
 - Miscellaneous - Megan O'Hara
 - Judges – Dianne Regan
 - Outside Vendors – Ian Kennedy Publicity – Pat Spezowka
 - Signs – Gail Bemrose
 - Setup/takedown – Angie Stanta
 - Silent auction – Ed & Sharon Arnold
- Ed Arnold requires help with the silent auction on May 27th or 28th. Bonnie Mills is contacting larger businesses for donations. Ian Kennedy will ask the vendors for donations. The membership is being asked for donations including anything you do or make. Examples include bread, pies, gardening service, hosting an afternoon tea or lunch for 4, etc.
- Auction items required by next meeting or at latest May 10th. Bring them to the next meeting or drop them off to Glad & Merv.

Plant Sales – Heather Jenkins

- Snow drops donation.
- Seed potatoes – banana.
- Chili seeds.

Historian – Mary Gale

- Cards sent to:
 - Derrick Woodcock.
 - Ruby Armour (Nick says she is doing ok, things are looking up).
 - Card to Ali Morris' husband.

Facebook – Pauline Dueck

- Pauline is promoting CFGS. Send posts to your friends.

Member's Forum

- MBGC carousel projector is not used. Ajay will take it to the Salvation Army store.

Mill Bay Garden Club
General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 22, 2016 (cont'd)

- Gale McIntyre is giving away 10 planters. 22" long x 11" wide by 11" deep.
- Elaine Scott reminds us to pot up our plants for the CFGS plant sale. 5 plants per member would be awesome. April newsletter will tell you where and when to bring the plants.
- Plantaholics plant sale Saturday April 23. Half the proceeds go to 4th year Malawi students. Half the proceeds go to Somenos Transition House.

Brag Table – Barb Kohlman

- Theme – Marvelous March

Q & A – Ajay Oppelaar

Coffee Break

Raffle – Bobbie Burns

- Volunteer required for help at the raffle table.
- Signup sheet circulated for 3 volunteers each month to be given \$10 each to spend on a prize.
- Rusticana \$25 gift certificate.
- Tools2Go \$25 gift certificate.
- Lily from Thrifty Foods
- Scented daffodil from Bobbi's garden.
- Heritage seeds.
- Mystery prize.
- Grayswood hydrangea from Bill McMillan.

Speaker – Bill McMillan, Vancouver Island Rhododendron Society, companion plants

Meeting adjourned 9:00pm.

Name Tags for Club Members

Order your permanent name tag from our treasurer, Marie Cooke

There are two options available:

Pin-backed: \$7.50 or **Magnetic: \$10.50**

MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDARS: JUNE 28, 2016, 6:00 PM !!

This is the date of our Annual General Meeting and Potluck
Dinner

Bobbie Burns has kindly offered her garden as a relaxed, informal venue for this gathering. More details to come in May's Newsletter.



We need your plants!

For the Mill Bay Garden Club Plant Sale at the 2016 Community Flower & Garden Show!

See page 10 of this newsletter for full details

Upcoming Events

MILL BAY PLANTAHOLICS PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016 9am to 2pm

Location: 2836 Oceanside Lane, Mill Bay (east off Trans Canada Highway at Kilmalu, south on Church Way, east on Welch Road and south on Oceanside Lane).

The proceeds from the sale will be divided between the **Malawi Girls on the Move** program (where the money will provide a scholarship for a young Malawian woman, Agnes Chazeza, to complete her fourth year of secondary school education) and **Somenos Transition House** - a program of the Cowichan Women Against Violence Society.

A great selection of healthy plants will be available for purchase. Members of the Victoria Master Gardener Association will be on hand to answer your gardening questions.



The 2016 COWICHAN VALLEY GARDEN FAIR

Saturday, April 30, 2016 10 am - 2 pm

Cowichan Exhibition Park, Mellor Hall, Duncan, BC

This Fair offers a great rhodo truss show, rhodo plants galore & many companion plants including a wide selection of Japanese Maples.

Visit website: www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com for more information.



ATTENTION MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS !!!

Cowichan Valley Garden Club Flower Show

May 14th, 2016

The Cowichan Valley Garden Club invites you to enter their Flower Show on Saturday, May 14th.

In particular the CVGC would like to see what you could contribute to the decorative division in the show. This section of the schedule has not been as fully represented over the past few years and they would love to see a bigger display this year.

See link below for the Show Schedule:

<http://cvgardenclub.com/wp/wpcontent/uploads/2016/02/2016SS-Schedule-decorativebooklet.pdf>

Please contact Don Sinclair, CVGC President at sinry@telus.net or 250-246-4291 if you have any questions.

Upcoming Events, cont'd



Volunteer Gardeners' Annual Plant Sale
Cairnsmore Place
250 Cairnsmore Street, Duncan
Saturday, May 7 from 10:00 to 1:00

The Volunteer Gardeners at Cairnsmore Place are holding their annual plant sale. There will be hundreds of plants ready for planting. You will also find birdhouses, pot trivets and faerie doors made by members of the group.

The group is made up of 16 volunteers who work half a day a week from Spring to Fall. There is no Island Health budget for this work, so money is raised through donations and the plant sale.

These funds pay for fertilizer, mulching, new plants and new projects. This work can only be done with the support of the Cowichan Valley's gardening community. Thank you.



SYLVAN UNITED CHURCH

SPRING FLING !

Saturday, May 7th, 2016
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

985 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd., Mill Bay

We have been sorting our books, splitting plants and will be doing lots of home baking. Our focus is on presenting quality items in our gently used clothing section and in our pre-approved selection of "Good Stuff".

In addition to individual items in the Silent Auction, we have made up lovely baskets to bid on: "Welcome Baby Basket", "Homespun Basket", "Gardening Basket", "Picnic Basket" and a "Homegrown Spirituality" Basket.

Bring your friends, family and appetites - there is a concession as well!

Upcoming Events, cont'd

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE !

MAY 28, 2016 9am - 2pm

**AT THE 2016 COMMUNITY FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW
COBBLE HILL COMMUNITY HALL - 3550 Watson Avenue**

Your plant sale committee (Barb Kohlman, Mary Gale, Margo Johnston, Lorraine Little, Heather Jenkins, Pat Stevens, Ruby Armour, Sharon Martin and Elaine Scott) want you to think about what plants you are going to donate to the plant sale, pot them up, label them and make sure that they look great. 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.

This year we are hoping that we get loads of plants for the sale. We 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 remove any plants from the sale that it considers to be invasive.

The plants should be delivered to Elaine Scott's home between May 24 and May 26. The Committee will be organizing the plants on May 27 so we do need them a couple of days before then. Please only deliver the plants on May 24, 25 or 26 as then Elaine can ensure that they are watered.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Elaine Scott

Thank you one and all.



2016 Quadra Island Quilt and Garden Tour

Saturday June 25 and Sunday June 26

10 am - 4 pm

This is a self-guided tour of 11 gardens many displaying beautiful quilts. This year 8 of the gardens are in Granite Bay. The gardens are a unique blend of new homes and old homesteads, growing food accented by flowers.

Tickets: \$15.00 Good for both days and can be purchased on Quadra Island at:

- Tourist booth (up the road from the ferry on the right)
- Inspirations (in the plaza at the top of the hill)
- Works of H'Art (in Heriot Bay)

If you wish more information please contact Bev at johnbev@gicable.com

