



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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



Next Meeting:

Date: **Tues, September 26th**

Time: 7pm (Doors open 6:30pm)

Place: **Mill Bay Community League
Hall** (1001 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd)

Activities:

Business Meeting; Members
Forum, Gardening Q&A; Library;
Raffle; Plant Sales; Guest
Speaker; Socializing!

September Speaker:

Gord Baird

"Alternative Landscaping"
(a fun, "not heavy on the technical",
presentation)

See page 2 for details

**Annual Membership Fee
is due!**

**\$10 per person!
Order a permanent
name tag for yourself!**

See the "Membership" report on page 3
for more details

September Brag Table Theme:

"SEXY 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. The bonus is a prize awarded randomly to one of the monthly participants. If you've never participated, give it a fling, be it flower, vegetable or fungus!

Kitchen Duties:

1 litre of 2% milk: *Mary Ellen Deuling*

Cookies/Snacks: *Monika Morgan; Marie Cooke*

Set-up/clean up: *Club members*

**DON'T FORGET to
bring your mug for
coffee/tea!**



2017/2018 Mill Bay Garden Club Executive

From left to right:

Marie Cooke(Treasurer); **Mary Gale**(Sunshine Cards); **Cliff Stainsby**(Vice-President); **Mary-Ellen Deuling**(Kitchen); **Ajay Oppelaar**(President); **Janice Rose**(Library); **Angie Stanta**(Newsletter Editor); **Monika Morgan**(Plant Table); **JoAnn Mulhern**(Membership).

Missing: **Pip Woodcock**(Past President); **Fran Benton**(Secretary); **Gord Hamilton**(Website); **Tracy Morris**(Raffle); **Pauline Dueck**(Facebook); **Gillian Keir**(Flower&Garden Show)

President's Report

Ajay Oppelaar

Hello all and welcome back to another busy season for the MBGC. After a long and dusty summer, your executive and committee are rolling up our collective sleeves and getting down to business.

As for my end of said business, I will be reporting club business to you here in the newsletter, not at regular meetings. Questions will be answered at meetings of course, but I won't be taking up meeting time to relay what I can here.

Our first executive and committee meeting was pretty lively and a lot of fun with much laughter and out-of-order'ness. We welcomed new committee members Gord Hamilton, Angie Stanta, Tracy Morris and Gillian Keir to a well-seasoned cast of usual suspects familiar to all here.

We discussed many topics, tied up some loose ends and giggled inappropriately at our choice of a brag table theme for this month.

First up, our contract with Kerry Park is signed and we're paid for the year. Mary Ellen Deuling holds one key, I have the other.

The bank account signers have been updated. The signers now are Marie Cooke, Cliff Stainsby and myself.

The date of our annual Holiday potluck is Tuesday Dec 5th.

It was decided we need a sub-committee to be the caretakers of the hall garden. I talked with Kerry Park to let them know we're not responsible for maintaining the walkway to the board room entrance, nor for the long bed along the front of the driveway that attaches to the Millennium Garden. We need at least 4 members to take up this task and I will be asking for volunteers at the meeting. If you would like to sign up before the please send me an email.

It was brought to our attention that the nominating process needs to be more formal. In the future all interested members names will be put forth and if more than one person is vying for a position, a true vote will take place.

We will continue to encourage the use of name tags. If you don't have a permanent one, please order one from Marie Cooke. I personally have a terrible time with names, so please help make my job even easier.



I hope lots of you are able to make it on the 26th. The hall will be open at 6:30 with extra hands on deck to get memberships renewed and register new members.

Please have \$10 cash with you for your dues, a dollar for coffee or tea and plenty of change for the raffle and plant sale tables. These programs are how we are able to give back to the community.

Ajay Oppelaar

September's Speaker

Gord Baird "Alternative Landscaping"

Gord Baird and his wife Ann co-created and personally built with their own hands the award winning Eco-Sense home in the Highland's, the world's first assessed building under the Living Building Challenge, the strictest green building rating system internationally. Gord's background prior to his adventures in creating Eco-Sense was Experimental Psychology and Business.



His passion is plants and water, two things that grow well together, and his concerns are ensuring our resources are not squandered in a changing climate.

Visit the Baird's website at: <https://eco-sense.ca/>

Mary Vandenberg & Cliff Stainsby

Membership

Welcome to a new season of monthly meetings! We will open the doors a few minutes earlier than is customary in order to facilitate the renewal of membership and the registration of new members.

Please come prepared to contribute the modest, yet invaluable, fee of \$10 before the meeting is called to order, or, during the break. Marie will take your money and I will note any changes in your address (street or email) or phone number. I will also be registering new members' contact information.

See you Tuesday, Sept. 26.

[Join or Renew Your Membership](#)

JoAnn Mulhern



Library



At our meeting last May a record number of books were borrowed for summer reading. I hope you found time to enjoy them. It is now time to return them at our September meeting so others may have an opportunity to borrow them. If you are unable to return the book to the meeting please phone and I will arrange to pick it up.

*Your Friendly Librarian,
Janice Rose (250-743-5897)*

"Sunshine Mary"



Our esteemed Lifetime Member, Mary Gale, has for a very many years, been sending cards and kind words to those members who are experiencing illness or loss. She does this on behalf of the Mill Bay Garden Club, bringing a spot of sunshine into what is often a stressful time for a club member.

If you know of someone in the club who is sick, in hospital, or has lost a loved one, please let Mary know and she will send a card on our behalf.

And should you have any blank cards (handcrafted most welcome!) that you would like to donate toward this endeavour, they would be very much appreciated.

Mary's phone number is 250-743-9329



Social Media

If you use Facebook, don't forget to check us out and "**LIKE**" us at:



www.facebook.com/millbaygardenclub

Pauline Dueck

Plant Table

If you had some bumper crops of whatever this summer, & you'd like to donate to the plant sales table, you are very much invited to do so. Eager to see what success people have had this summer.



We hope to have a few plant donations from our members on our table also.

Alpaca pellets should be available, so remember to bring your \$5 for a bucket if you would like some. Please bring your empty buckets back so we can fill them up again soon.

See you soon
Monika Morgan & Sharon Martin

Gardening Tips for Fall

by Barb Kohlman

- Clean up all debris under plants that have fungal disease tendencies eg. Roses. This removes the spores, that winter over in the debris, from causing a problem next spring. Depends on how hot your composting gets whether you compost or destroy.
- Allow leaves from deciduous trees to remain on your beds, where they fall!!!! They provide winter protection from cold and rain to your garden beds.
- If you have a surplus of leaves: cover your veggie beds with them.
- Add any healthy (or somewhat healthy) debris that is still in your veggie beds - e.g. plants and roots that you have harvested the fruit from,
- CHOP AND DROP: chop up the debris as in stems and leaves, and drop it right back onto the beds. This offers winter protection and a valuable source of nutrients that will break down over the winter and feed your soil microorganisms.
- Don't leave soil exposed. Our winter rains can cause compaction and also cause valuable nutrients to be washed away.
- FEED YOUR SOIL !!!!!!!



Cheers,
barb k.

Cleomes -

a wonderful deer resistant flower!

Ah! Sitting on the patio admiring your garden efforts in exquisitely beautiful Vancouver Island is a dream. As much as we all whine about the bugs on our roses, the lack of vegetable production (or the excess vegetable production), you have to admit there is no place in the world as nice as the Cowichan Valley in summer.

Today I was admiring the fantastic flowers on the Lucifer Crocosmia. Bright screaming red enthusiastic blooms were all over the plants in spite of the low watering regime and lack of care and attention. When I invited Mr. Big to enjoy them he remarked, "Ah what flowers?" Indeed twenty minutes after admiring them they were gone. Thank you rotten bambies!

Why do the deer have to take out all the pretty flowers and leave us with nothing? Argggg!!! Well I have one treat to report. There is one annual flower that the bambies do not care for. Here I will issue the reminder that advice on deer applies most of the time to most of the deer. Many times a deer under stress will eat stuff they usually hate, and fawns bite everything and often spit it out.



BUT! Try Cleomes. These plants known as spider flower are sticky and prickly. These characteristics are unappealing to deer. The term spider flower refers to the shape of the leaves. However the cleome repels bad insects in your garden as well as deer. The flowers are held on the top of the stem in a spray of individual pink or purple blooms resembling a sparkler. There is even a variety called sparklers.

Cleomes bloom here in mid to late summer and will continue on well into the fall. They seed profusely so save your seeds for next year!

Fran Benton



**Mill Bay Garden Club
General Meeting Minutes**

May 23, 2017

Minutes

Call to Order: 7 p.m.

Acceptance of April 2017 Minutes

Moved Cliff Stainsbury

Seconded Michelle

All in favour, Carried

REPORTS

President: Pip Woodcock

Still looking for Vice president.

We have have a new website guru Gord Hamilton.

Raffle Tracy Morris , she would like to help with the raffle

3 days before the show

potential executive members.

Pip has 3 sandstone planters available for a donation

Cliff spoke to the fun nature of the vice pres job

Treasurer: Marie Cooke

We have \$598.72 in bank and \$1000 in bursary money.

Website: Marie Cooke

Received some pictures of silent auction items which will be on website. Also available is a video of garden visit

Membership: Jo-Ann Mulhern

Diana Lee new member welcome!

Flower and Garden Show: Bernie Juurlink

This Saturday is the show! Don't forget to submit vegetables and flowers to the show. Lots of silent auction items will be available. Silent auction closes at 1:30. 13 vendors will be at the show. Thank you Ian Kennedy for this! Elaine would like plants delivered on Wed or Thurs to her house.

Library: Janice Rose

The judging standard books are available now! If you take a book out tonight you can enjoy it until September.

Raffle: Bobbie Burns

Lots of great stuff in raffle

Kitchen: Mary-Ellen Dueling

There is a sign up sheet for the AGM

MBGC Meeting Minutes for May 23, 2017 cont'd

Facebook: Pauline Dueck

There is an event link on the page for the garden show.

Members Forum

Carolyn Morris spoke about the homesteading fair on June 4.

AJay gave an excellent description of how to prepare dandelions for the show.

Brag Table: Barb Kohlman

Coffee Break

Raffle

Speaker: Gord Baird gave an excellent talk about grey water.

Adjourn: 9:05 pm



Upcoming Events

Gord and Ann Baird - ECO-SENSE

- **FIRST OPEN FARM SALE of Perennial Edible Plants (fall season)**

Saturday, September 23, 2017

10am-2pm

3295 Compton Road (East Highlands), Victoria, BC

P.S....you don't have to buy plants to come out and walk around...but please park below (by our lower gate), and save upper parking for people buying plants.



- **NURSERY SALES**

Saturday, September 23, 2017

Saturday, September 30, 2017 and

Saturday, October 7, 2017

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

3295 Compton Rd (East Highlands), Victoria, BC

Fruit and Nut tree sales -- plus 150 other edible perennial plants for a resilient forest garden.



Time	Topic	Description	Instructor
Saturday September 23 10 a.m.	Principles of Composting	Learn to make backyard compost.	Cowichan Compost
Saturday September 23 10 to 3 p.m.	Master Gardener Clinic	Get your garden questions answered.	Cowichan Valley Master Gardeners
Saturday September 30 10 a.m.	Fall and Winter Planter Workshop	Create a colourful hardy planter. Come and make your own.	Dinter Staff Charge for material used.
Saturday September 30 10 a.m.	Apple Tasting From Local Growers	Sample apples to select varieties suited for your garden.	Sarah and Pat of Dinter's
Saturday October 7 10 a.m.	Cuttings and Propagation	Save/increase the number of your favourite plants by cuttings.	Della Dinter's Greenhouse Manager
Saturday October 21 10 a.m.	Winterizing Your Pond	A few simple chores will prepare your pond for spring.	Scott Stevenson Van Isle Water Services

Seminars are free unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Events, cont'd



Creating a Bee Friendly Garden

A seminar where you will learn:

- What are the bees frequenting your garden?
- Why and how are they being threatened?
- What can you do to reverse this trend?

**Guest Speaker:
Mr. Ted Leischner**

Former College instructor, dedicated to improving conditions for bees as pollinators for flower and food production



Sponsored by the Vancouver Island Heather Society

REFRESHMENTS AND
DOOR PRIZES

OCTOBER 14TH

2 PM – 4 PM

DUNCAN UNITED
CHURCH HALL
246 INGRAM ST.

TICKETS: \$5
@ The door or
From Norma
250-746-1994
Or Earl
250-722-2345



Vancouver Island
Heather Society

www.bcneathersociety.org/

Upcoming Events, cont'd

Juicing apples at McBarleys every Saturday & Sunday in September, October and November

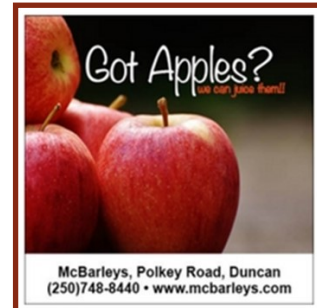
First Juicing:

Saturday, September 23rd, 2017 - Sunday, September 24th, 2017

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

As seen on *Dragons Den* our state-of-the-art juicer can wash, grind, press, juice, pasteurize and bag 1700lbs of apples/pears per hour.

We are juicing every Saturday & Sunday from Saturday, September 23rd to mid-November. To find out more please call (250) 748-8440 or check out our website www.mcbarleys.com under the tab 'Juice It'. 100lbs minimum. NO maximum.



The Gardens at HCP (Horticulture Centre of the Pacific) 505 Quayle Road, Victoria, BC

Lots going on at the Gardens this Fall. Below is a sampling of events/workshops for September and October. Go to their webpage: <http://hcp.ca/events/list/> to see the complete list.

- **Creating a Cut Flower Garden Workshop - Fall**
September 24, 9am - Noon
- **Fall Plant Sale**
September 30, 9am - 4pm
- **Backyard Beekeeping Workshop: The First Year**
October 1, 11am - 3pm
- **Herbs for Immune Health Workshop**
October 7, 1pm - 3:30pm
- **Kombucha Workshop**
October 14, 10am - 1pm

Upcoming Events, cont'd



Victoria Master Gardener Association

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM



February to May 2018
Thursdays 6pm to 9pm and Sundays 9am to 12 noon
****Registration now open ****
Call 250 479 6162 to add your name to the interest list.

Lifelong learning is at the heart of the Victoria Master Gardener Association, the idea that no one can possibly know it all; that there is no shame in saying "I don't know but I know who to ask". Amazing gardeners here at the HCP say it all the time. The thing is you have to start somewhere and the Master Gardener Program is the place. You will learn current, reliable home gardening basics – the framework to pin everything else to. You will also learn how to look it up, who to ask and how to share that knowledge of sound, environmentally responsible gardening practices with the community.

The course is taught at the HCP by a Pacific Horticulture College instructors and Master Gardeners and consists of 26 3-hour sessions that combine classroom instruction, home study, hands-on practicum, assignments and in-class projects. Guest lecturers add their knowledge, contributing immeasurably to the experience. The cost including all handouts and texts is \$745.00.

Following the completion of the classroom course, graduates can become members of the Victoria Master Gardener Association (VMGA) as a Master Gardener in Training. To receive Master Gardener Certification completion of 60 hours of volunteer training over a 18 month period is required.

Master Gardeners combine a passion for gardening and the dedication to share their knowledge with the community. As part of an international, non-profit organization, the main focus of the VMGA volunteers is towards educating the home gardener through answering gardening questions at clinics at assorted gardening events, nurseries, fairs etc. throughout the south island community; participating in a choice of a wide variety of community outreach projects, i.e. the Junior Master Gardener Program, and researching and writing horticulture articles and resource materials of interest to gardeners. Gardening education opportunities for members are ongoing.

