



You are invited to
MBGC AGM & Dinner

Tuesday, June 25th, 2024 at 5:00 pm
in the garden of
Gayle Volker and Randy Thompson

This much-anticipated annual event will begin with a
Potluck dinner, followed by the
Annual General Meeting

Spouses, partners, children... all are welcome to join us
for the evening!

Please arrive between 4:00-5pm for setup. Please bring the following items (especially chairs!): Something to contribute to the potluck dinner, including a serving utensil; chairs; plates, cutlery, napkins, placemats; coffee cups; favourite beverage and glasses; and a light jacket or sweater, just in case.



Please bring a floral decoration for your table!



**The club will be providing tea and coffee, and
a delicious cake for dessert.**

Garbage cans and recycling bags for cleanup will be provided.

Look for directions and parking information inside.



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

Website: www.millbaygardenclub.com

Email: mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com

Inside...

- President's Report p 3
- Nomination Form p 4
- F&G Show Pix & Report p 5-7
- News & Reports p 8-10
- 2023 AGM minutes p 11-12



Mill Bay Garden Club Annual General Meeting Agenda June 25, 2024

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of minutes of the 2023 AGM (attached)
3. President's Report
 - Discussion & Approval of the proposed increase in Membership Fees
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Questions to the Executive
6. Discussion & Approval of disbursement of Club's surplus funds
 - a. Bursary Fund
 - b. Proposed charities
7. Nominations & Election of the Executive chaired by Bernie Juurlink
9. Final comments by the President
10. Motion for adjournment

President's Report - June 2024

Gill Keir

Summer will have arrived by the time you read this. We had an almost “retro” Spring this year. Reminiscent of years gone by with the rain, sun, rain, a little more sun, and cooler temperatures.

One of our members decided to downsize his garden and donated a lot of his micro-irrigation equipment to the club and we held a sale! On behalf of the Mill Bay Garden Club, I would like to thank Norman Redcliffe for his indefatigable efforts to inject funds into the club – his favourite is the student bursary. Norman is the club's version of the Energizer Bunny! Thanks Norman, we appreciate all the work you do.

At the last meeting of the executive, we decided on and voted on a list of deserving organizations to receive a donation from the Club's surplus funds. This year they are the CMS Food Bank (\$1,000), Nourish Cowichan (\$400),

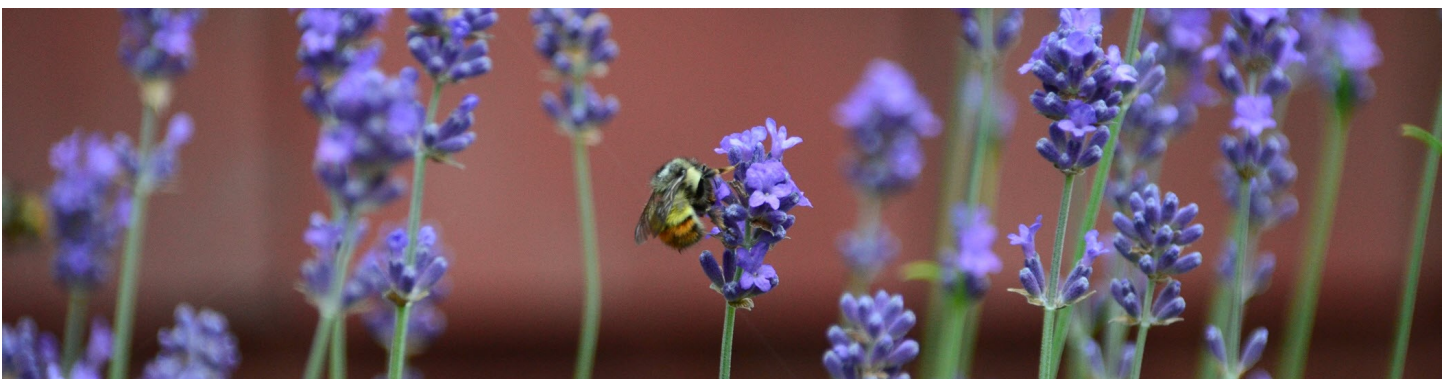
Cowichan Hospice (\$400), Somenos Transition House (\$400) and the Shawnigan Basin Society (\$400). We will discuss and approve these at the AGM.

The executive also decided to increase the annual Membership Fees from \$10 to \$20. The last increase was in 2010 and demands on budgets change. This decision will be on the Agenda of the AGM, listed under the President's Report. Please refer to Article 5:2 of the club's constitution.

I will move on from the president position to join the ranks of past presidents after the summer and thank all the members of the executive of the past two years for their help in ensuring the club ran well.

Please make time to attend the AGM. It is an enjoyable social event as well as one for taking care of business!

Gill Keir



Executive and Committee Nomination Forms

If you wish to nominate someone for any position, please fill in this form and return it to Bernie before the AGM.

Nomination form for Mill Bay Garden Club

I hereby nominate _____ for the
position of

_____.

Nominator _____

Secunder _____

I (nominee) _____
accept the nomination. Date: __/__/____

Submit nominations to Bernie Juurlink at bjuurlink@gmail.com

Nomination form for Mill Bay Garden Club

I hereby nominate _____ for the
position of

_____.

Nominator _____

Secunder _____

I (nominee) _____
accept the nomination. Date: __/__/____

MBGC Diamond Jubilee Flower & Garden Show

Janice Rose, Chair

What a Day! With glorious sunshine our 75th Flower and Garden Show was indeed a day to be remembered. Over 500 people were in attendance including the people who came through the gate, our entrants, over 70 volunteers, the Strawberry Tea Ladies and the vendors.

Congratulations go to Bill Herring who won our Aggregate Trophy this year. This is an outstanding achievement considering this is Bill's 4th win since 2006 when our current trophy was established.

The People's choice Award was won by Pat Spezowka for her creative and classy design. Congratulations Pat.

A huge shout out goes to the members of the steering committee who worked tirelessly for 5 months in order to put on the show. Their team work, cheerfulness and dedication made it such a pleasure to work with them.

We would also like to sincerely thank all those who contributed to the Plant Sale and the Silent Auction. You are the reason our Show was such a success.

And finally, many thanks all the volunteers as well who helped out for long hours with tons of energy and smiles on their faces.

Mark your calendars! Our 76th Flower and Garden Show will be on May 30 & 31, 2025 at the Cobble Hill Farmer's Institute.

And a note from the Past President...

As Past President I thank Gill Keir for leading the Club for the past two years. As there are many new members in the Club, I would like to point out Gill's remarkable service to the Club. Gill was the Chair of the Flower & Garden Show in 2018 and 2019. In 2020 Covid shut down our Flower & Garden Show until 2022. Gill became Vice President in the fall of 2020. In 2022 no one stood up to Chair the Flower & Garden Show, so Gill volunteered despite having the responsibilities of Vice President. In the fall of 2022 Gill became President of the Club. Again in 2023 no one volunteered to Chair the Flower & Garden Show, so Gill took this responsibility over again. Gill has performed an enormous service for the Club.

This year, Janice Rose took over the Chair of the Flower & Garden Show. We owe her and her team much gratitude for the wonderful job they did in organizing the 75th Flower & Garden Show – it was a great success as have been our past Flower & Garden Shows.

A Club can only stay healthy when people are willing to assume responsibilities. Our Flower & Garden Shows have always been successful because a large number of our members pitch in to organize and help run the Show. The Silent Auction (Chaired this year by Carol Goodger-Hill) and the Plant Sale (Chaired this year by Kathleen Mercer) brings in much of the monies we spend on bursaries and donations to charities.

It is also important for the health of a Club that different people assume the positions of Vice President and President. We still have the position of Vice President open for the coming year. I hope, for the health of the Club, that someone will stand for nomination to this position. You will be joining a welcoming and supportive team.

Bernie Juurlink

MBGC Community Flower and Garden Show 2024



*Photos by
Dave Byrnes*



MBGC Community Flower and Garden Show 2023



Committee Reports

Membership

Hello Gardeners,

The good news is that we had 5 new members, 2 returning members from a few years ago and a couple of our regular members sign up for 2024/25 at the Flower and Garden Show.

Our next membership drive is at the Cobble Hill Fair on August 24, 2024 . We are registered with the fair assn. and I am asking for volunteers for the booth before we adjourn for the summer. I need 4 people to manage the booth, 2 shifts of 2, and a couple to help set up the booth the day before. Your admission will be paid for you. If you're available please let me know.

Thank you for all the support I've gotten from our general membership in the last 3 years. I know you will be the same happy group for the next membership chair.

Have a wonderful summer

Thanks,

Pat

Notes from the Library

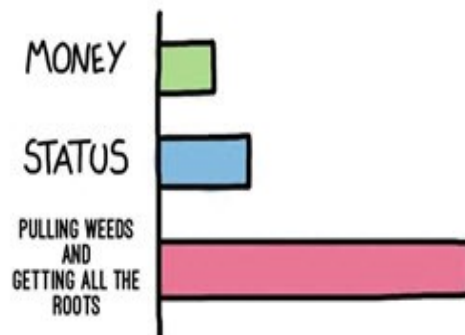
Happy Summer Reading
Everyone! Enjoy the books you have signed up and I hope they are useful to you, or at least an enjoyable read.

See you in September.

*Katherine
Club librarian.*

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Committee Reports etc

2024 Bursary Recipients

The Bursary Committee is pleased to announce the 2024 recipients of our two \$500 bursaries. Both students have shown had exemplary academic accomplishments, and extra-curricular involvements. Congratulations to Sierra McCaffery from Frances Kelsey Secondary and to Richard Goble from Cowichan Secondary who were presented with their awards at school ceremonies earlier in June.



Sierra plans to become a landscaping entrepreneur and has already begun her studies in the Horticulture Technician Program at Vancouver Island University. She has had experience working for Dinter's Nursery and a gardening company as well as volunteer experience/

fundraising with several charities, such as the MS Walk.

Richard plans to enter Vancouver Island University majoring in Geoscience, leading to a career in the environmental protection and monitoring industry. He has worked at Canadian Tire and on many local yard work jobs. An avid mountain biker, he has volunteered at the BC Summer Games.



Best wishes to these two deserving students.

The Bursary Committee: Norman Redcliffe, Robert Liston, Reyna Jenkyns, Heather Jenkins, Al Mikalishen, Janice Rose and Ann Baty

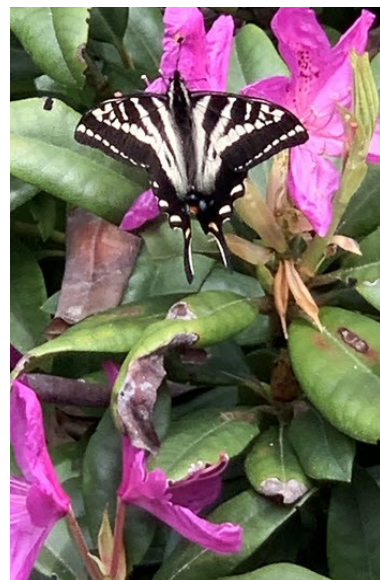
Ann Baty

Social Media

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

www.facebook.com/millbaygardenclub

Pauline Dueck
Facebook Coordinator



Committee Reports etc

Plant Sales Table

Hi Everyone,

Here we are already in the middle of June with days until the Summer Solstice.

I'm sure by now your gardens are filled with lovely flowers and you are hoping for a little rest from all the planting.

On behalf of Carrie Nelson and myself, we would like to say a big thank you again to all the members who brought plants to the monthly meetings. It's always so nice to see what you bring and chat about your gardens.

And a huge thank you to all the members who contributed plants or volunteered for the Mill Bay Garden Club Plant Sale .The sale was a success and we raised over \$1,700.00. Everything went smoothly and our volunteers worked tirelessly with the unloading and setup. The weather stayed sunny and we had lots of people stopping by to pick up the plant bargains at our table and chat about gardening.

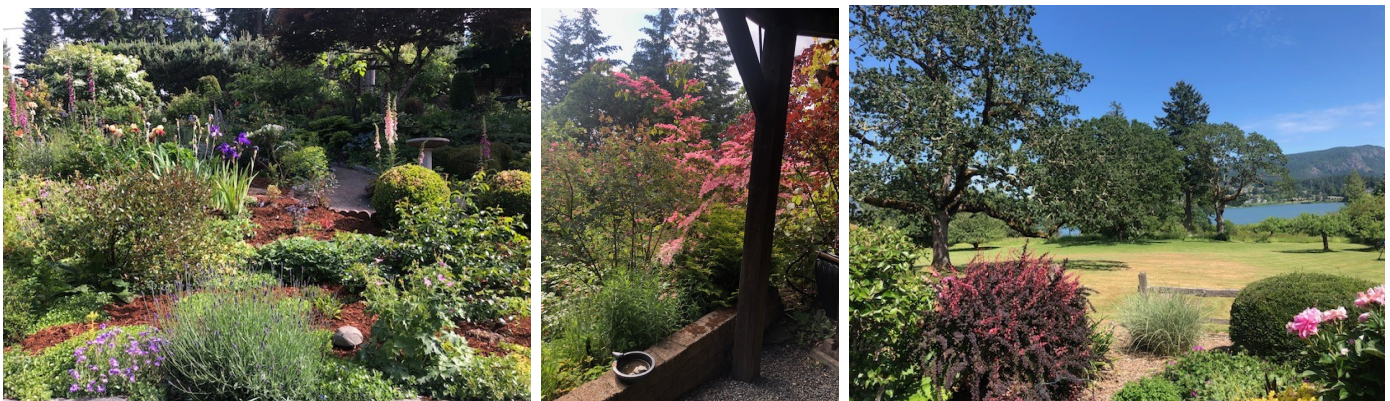
So enjoy your garden and have a good Summer. And please keep us in mind if you have plants or garden related items that need a new home. You can bring them to the Plant Sale Table at the September meeting.

Take care,

Kathleen

Open Gardens

MBGC'er Gayle Volker is organizing a series of open gardens for club members to visit. This month members were invited to visit eight gardens in the Cowichan Valley, including those of Jean Haley, Diane McAmmond, and Sylvia Scott...





Minutes of the Mill Bay Garden Club Annual General Meeting, June 27, 2023

President Gill Keir called the Annual General Meeting to order at 6:44 PM in the garden of the home of Richard Nelson.

Ron Witherspoon won the general draw, for which every attendee received a ticket.

Nick Jenkins moved acceptance of the agenda. Seconded by Diane Munday. Passed.

Dorothy Kennedy moved acceptance of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of June 2022; seconded by Katherine Miller. Passed.

President's Report: Gil introduced the two people who have been selected to receive a life membership in the club.; Pat Spezowka and Bernie Juurlinck. Bernie rejected his award because he said he had not been a member for enough years.. Pat has been a member for many years, has held several executive positions, held pop-up workshops and sales and has worked tirelessly on the Flower and Garden show. She accepted the award.

Treasurer's Report: Gord will publish the full financial report in the Newsletter in the fall when it is complete. He expects to finish the year with about \$5000 in the bank account.

Discussion and Approval of the Club's Surplus funds:

Money is always put aside for two bursaries for high school students. This year it was difficult to choose among the several excellent applicants. The two \$500.00 bursaries will go to students who are entering a BSC or are involved in Eco clubs.

Disbursements to local charities is proposed as follows:

CMS Food Bank \$1000

Shawnigan Basin Society \$750

Cowichan Estuary Conservation and Restoration Association \$750

Cowichan Hospice \$500

Nourish Cowichan \$1000

Somenos Transition House \$500

Kate Roberts moved approval of the disbursements. Approved.

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Bernie Juurlinck chaired the election of the new executive for 2023/2024. He stated that according to the constitution the executive is formed of a President, Vice President a Treasurer and a Secretary. The current members of the executive have agreed to stand for re-election. Bernie asked three times if anyone else was interested in coming forward to stand for these positions. No one came forward. The executive was elected by acclamation. They are President: Gillian Keir, Vice President: Richard Nelson; Treasurer Gord Hamilton; Secretary Carol Goodger-Hill.

The following positions were also re-elected by acclamation after Bernie asked three times if anyone else was interested in standing for election:

Bursary: Ann Baty

Facebook: Pauline Dueck

Kitchen: Judy Raimondo;

Membership: Pat Spezowka

Newsletter: David Byrnes

Plant Sales: Kathleen Mercer

Raffle: Stephanie Taylor

Website: Gord Hamilton

Both Gord Hamilton and Pauline Dueck were willing to step down if anyone else was interested. There being no one forthcoming they will remain in their positions.

The following changes were approved by acclamation. Janice Rose will take over as Chair of the Community Flower and Garden Show. Katherine Miller will take over the library but she would like other members to step up and help. Heather Jenkins will become chair of the Memorial Garden.

Gil thanked the Nelsons for the use of their garden for this Annual General Meeting and she thanked everyone for coming out and making it a success.

Bernie announced the second mini symposium on Bats will be held at Providence Farm on Thursday July 6 from 7-9 PM.

Kathleen Mercer moved adjournment at 7:57 PM.