



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

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

Next Meeting (ZOOM):

Date: **Tues, May 11, 2021**

Time: 7pm

Place: Your desk or a comfy armchair
in your home

Activities:

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



**REMEMBER - TWO MEETINGS THIS MONTH!
SPEAKER NIGHT IS 4 MAY, AND
OUR GENERAL MEETING (ZOOM) IS ON 11 MAY**

May Speakers

>>Tuesday 4 May <<

**Pamela Dangelmaier &
Elke Wehinger**

*Talk shared with the
Victoria Horticultural Society*



The Brag Table

With plant and flower identification and commentary provided by **Barb Kohlman**, the Brag Table has been a great part of our monthly in-person meetings. And now in Covid and Zoom times, we are doing it virtually!

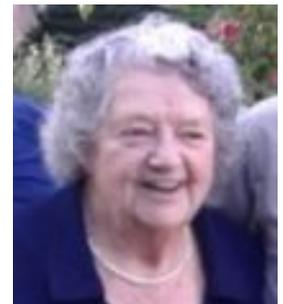
Do you have an interesting item from your garden? Share it by holding it up to your Zoom camera and Barb will comment on it (please make sure it's well lit!)

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"Sunshine Mary"

Our esteemed Life Member Mary Gale, has for 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.

President's Letter

Bernie Juurlink

After a cool April with few showers comes May with its many flowers.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 is still with us.

We are hoping that by the end of May there will be far fewer Covid-19 cases and outdoor gathering restrictions will be lifted or greatly reduced. If this be the case, then we plan to have a Garden Club outdoors plant sale on May 29th. If we go ahead, the sale will be located on the extensive grounds of the Sylvan United Church which is located on Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Road. If you do have plants that you would like to donate to this sale, please let me know which plants and possible numbers (bjjuurlink@gmail.com). Of course, if Covid-19 case incidence does not improve we will not be holding this sale.

We have two meetings in May. We joined the Victoria Horticultural Society on May 4th where Pamela Dangelmaier and Elke Wehinger spoke about summer-flowering bulbs for your garden. Our second meeting will be on May 11th where we will

conduct Club business, have the Brag Table and have a Question & Answer session with our Master Gardeners. We will also discuss the upcoming Annual General Meeting that will be held on June 22nd, 2021 via Zoom. This meeting will start with a speaker followed by Club business. The AGM is where the Executive for the coming year is elected. Cliff Stainsby has volunteered to be the Nominations Chair. If anyone would like to be nominated to an Executive position, please let Dave Byrnes know* and he will forward this information to Cliff. If no one wishes to be nominated to an Executive position, the current Executive have agreed to remain in their positions. Sadly, as you know, our Vice President, Gillian Keir, has stepped away from her position because of a personal tragedy; hence, we are seeking an Interim Vice President.

Bernie

* Send to mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com

March 9, 2021, Mill Bay Garden Club Agenda

- 1) 8:00 p.m.: Club Business
 - a) Approval of the agenda
 - b) Approval of the minutes of March 9, 2021 Club Zoom meeting
 - c) President's Report – Bernie Juurlink
 - Possible Plant Sale
 - Upcoming AGM
 - d) Executive Committee reports
 - e) Virtual Brag Table
 - f) Garden-related Questions with our Master Gardeners
 - g) Questions for the Executive?
 - h) Adjournment

Committee Reports

MBGC Plant Sales

We have some SMART POTATOES donated by the Juurlinks. I have 3 dozen that are very eager to get planted (large eyes). (They must be good. Look how SMART the Juurlinks are☺)

These potatoes have a lower glycemic index than most potatoes, which makes them excellent for people with diabetes or people who want to reduce their starch intake.

While high GI foods are digested quickly and can cause a big spike in blood glucose and insulin levels in the body, low GI foods digest more slowly, creating more stable blood sugar levels. Depending on how they're cooked, potatoes can rank from medium GI to high GI, so there's certainly a market for low GI potatoes.

These potatoes are:

- Very tasty
- Non-GMO
- Easy to grow, nice oval potatoes with shallow eyes.



\$2.00 a dozen (or whatever you choose to donate to the garden club.)

See you soon...

Monika & Sharon

The Plant sales team

More Plant Sales!

Starting May 17, Elaine will have some vegetable starts on a table at the top of her driveway. Just drive up the driveway and they will be at the end of the driveway. There will be a note regarding cost and an honesty box. Mainly tomatoes, leeks and broccoli. Just take what you want and put the money in the box. **The cash raised from these sales will go to the Garden Club.**

Still More Plant Sales!

Donna and Luciano are hosting a yard sale for plants and other things, on May 15th and 16th, at their place.

We are going to be very careful with protection and disinfection...

The contents, more or less, are: fig trees, loquat (nespera tree), edible Chinese lanterns, tomato plants, sweet and hot peppers, Portuguese leaf cabbage, petunias, hydrangeas, poker plants, etc. Also growing lights, prawn traps, some furniture, antic and in great shape grape press to make wine, little wine barrels (5 gallons each), books, etc.

9 to 4 on May, Sat. 15th and Sunday 16th.



PERENNIAL RIDGE FARMS

At Perennial Ridge Farms life goes on with plants and animals.

PLANTS FOR SALE

Every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

10am - 5pm

I hope everyone is keeping well. We are very fortunate to live in a beautiful area of BC, and to have our own yards and spaces to enjoy and feel safe.

*I have created a small fenced area up by the front gate, filled with plants. **COVID PROTOCOL IS #1 and is strictly maintained in this area.***

This area is restocked with new plants from the nursery every weekend:

**Many, many rhododendrons and azaleas,
Japanese maples, fig trees, hydrangeas,
asparagus, rhubarb, red and black currants,
succulents, perennials, hosta, ferns, gentian,
and many more**

*If you have an enquiry, you can send an email to
perennialridgefarms@gmail.com or call (250) 748-0098*

*Thank-you, and hope to see you soon,
Rose Rogan*



Roses, stupid roses, a poem by me (Fran Benton)

Japanese beetle

black spot rust

aphids rose gall

leafhopper crown gall

scale Scale?!!

Thrips, mites,

mildew, skunks,

money draining away.

New soil new garden year

spider mites

powdery mildew

rose scales and did I mention THRIPS!

OMG I forgot to add nematodes

And cats.

There, I hope I have this out of my system and we all have rose success this year. Yes I know I am being a drama queen here but hey, so are the roses! They are so pretty and like all very pretty things they are high maintenance. For what it's worth just put lots of well rotted manure around them, water them reasonably and be sure they are in full sun. Forget the chemicals, actually no, - use the chemicals on yourself - I am talking caffeine and caramelized bread products (fresh from the Cow Bay bakery). So when your roses first come out in bloom enjoy the afore mentioned chemicals and sigh because in no time it will be -

Japanese beetle black spot rust.....etc

Happy gardening!



MINUTES FOR GENERAL MEETING

7:00 pm Tuesday, April 13th, 2021

Via Zoom

Because of technical difficulties the meeting started with the Brag Table hosted by Barb Kohlman. This was followed with Liz Lindquist and Fran Benton giving a wonderful talk on how one can use gutters to ensure continual watering of container gardens.

1. President's Report: Bernie Juurlink had little to report other than Covid-19 is still rampant on the Island and he thanked Monika Morgan's Committee and Norman and Gwen Redcliffe for their ongoing efforts in generating funds for the Club.
2. Acceptance of the revised Agenda moved by Pip Woodcock and seconded by Barb Kohlman.
3. Acceptance of minutes from March 9, 2021 moved by Dave Byrnes and seconded by Janice Rose.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Plant sales: Monika Morgan reported \$325 in sales of Alpaca poo and plants but noted that the supply of Alpaca poo is decreasing.
5. Garden Questions: There were a number of questions including one about New Zealand Daisy bushes – these were answered by Elaine Scott.
6. Motion to adjourn made by Dave Byrnes.