



THE BULLETIN

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

APRIL 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(PLEASE FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER TO ALL YOUR CLUB MEMBERS – THANK YOU!)

BY CINDY TATARYN
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Please join us on April 9 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. We will be having our AGM on Zoom as it is accessible to all our club members throughout the province and it was too late to rent a venue. We will send out a Zoom invite as we get closer to the date.

We are pleased that we have a number of entries for the AGM contest. The winner of the draw has to be in attendance at the AGM to win the prize of a Lee Valley gift certificate. 🌹

We will have Brenda Woosnam, the previous Scholarship Trust Fund Trustee, and Lorna Fraser, the previous President, explaining the changes to the Scholarship Trust Fund and the resulting changes to the BCCGC Constitution and Bylaws. Your club liaison should have received these documents in February. They are also available on our website

<https://bcgardenclubs.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022-BC-Council-of-Garden-Clubs-Motion-to-Amend-the-Constitution-and-Bylaws-1.pdf>

Each affiliated club member in good standing is allowed one vote. Your club must pay the affiliation fee prior to the AGM in order to vote. Please contact BCCGC Secretary Pam Robertson at secretary@bcgardenclubs.com to change or confirm your club voting delegate. Each voting delegate will receive an email from Pam on April 9-10 in order to vote. Please return the email vote by 11:45 pm on April 16, 2022.

The speakers will be Maria Valana doing a presentation on Getting to Know Your Soil. Our scholarship recipient will be Emily Lemke from SFU Pest Management doing a presentation on wireworms and click beetles.

We still need someone to step forward to join the Scholarship Committee. They will be giving away over \$13,000 in scholarships this year —a very rewarding experience. Come and join our team! Send me an email at 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com.

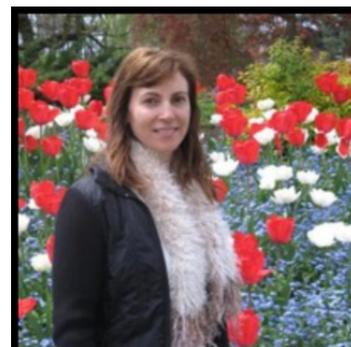
We also need someone to step forward to complete the one year remaining of the President's position. Again contact me by sending an email to 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com.

Cindy Tataryn

First Vice President, BCCGC

1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com

www.bcgardenclubs.com



Maria Valana

SCHOLARSHIP FUND NEWS

BY PATTY MOLNAR, SCHOLARSHIP FUND TRUSTEE

ROSE BANCROFT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Dear BC Council of Garden Clubs,

Thank you for your generosity, I am grateful and honoured to have been a recipient of the 2021 Rose Bancroft Scholarship! I am currently wrapping up my degree in Sustainable Agriculture and the Environment. I have learned so much in my four years at UBC and have gained lots of knowledge and experiences that continue to be put to good use. I have largely succeeded in aligning my education with my passions, which include food production, agroecology, and the relationships between food, communities, and people. As someone who deeply enjoys gardening in their free time, I know the importance of gardening and gardens cannot be understated, both as a tool for producing food and medicines and for bringing together people and improving the health of individuals and communities.

I believe that sustainable food production will only continue to grow in importance as one of the defining issues of our time, and my studies have provided me with tools on how to be a part of addressing this issue. I spent a year working at an agricultural research lab at UBC, where I collaborated with researchers and farmers in the Lower Mainland on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the soil via changes to farm management practices. As I wrap up my studies, I am completing a self-directed research project that is investigating nutrient use-efficiency between wheat varieties, as well as working at the UBC Farm and Centre for Sustainable Food Systems as a seed crop worker, where I harvest, process, and ensure good seed quality for seeds that are used by the farm and bought by other growers and gardeners in the community. This award has allowed me to better focus on these pursuits and my studies, and in part enabled me to get to where I am now. Thank you again for your gift, it is very much appreciated.

Inbar

Inbar Avrahami Saraf



We are looking for a new **Scholarship Fund Committee member. URGENT!**

Who can apply? What does the committee do?

The Scholarship Fund Committee has three volunteer members. We connect with twelve post-secondary programs across the province, four for each member. We get to hear from the scholarship recipients, decide which recipient would be a good speaker at our meetings, and deal with donations from garden clubs. Every year at the BCCGC AGM one member leaves the committee and a new member is recruited for a three-year term. Any BCCGC member can apply.

I have been privileged to meet some fabulous horticultural students from across the province in my past three years on this committee, and work with wonderful people on the committee and the BCCGC executive.

The range of student ideas and innovation is amazing. I have talked to students whose focus has been dealing with fire ants, creating research projects for feeding wildlife, designing waterway diversion for flooding, working in innovative greenhouses that cohabit with fish farms, and growing the annuals we love to plant in our gardens. Other fields of focus include horticultural therapy and healing gardens. You could find out what comes next.

The person who fills the vacancy can look forward to meeting incredible individuals via Zoom or in person once Covid restrictions allow. We have generally had Lower Mainland members as we have met in person in the past. It would be lovely to have someone from outside of the Lower Mainland. Scholarships are also awarded in Northern BC, Vancouver Island, and the Interior. **Why not a committee member from further afield as well?** Come join the committee and help connect with our future.

The Scholarship Fund Committee has been very efficient in the past. There are new contracts with each of the educational institutions and constitutional and bylaw changes have been initiated, so the administrative framework is in place. Just the fun stuff is left. Come and Zoom with committee members Shonagh MacRae and Patty Molnar. How often do you get to give thousands of dollars to a worthy cause?

To apply for this rewarding position, contact Cindy Tataryn: 1vicepresident@bcgardenclubs.com.



How to Donate to the BCCGC Scholarship Fund

If you wish to make a donation by cheque please send it to:

BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Fund
c/o: BC Council of Garden Clubs
10952 McAdam Road
North Delta, BC V4C 3E8

Please ensure that the cheques are made out to the “Vancity Community Foundation” and the memo field shows “BC Council of Garden Clubs.” If the person or organization that the donation is from does not clearly show on the cheque, please include a brief note with the cheque indicating who the donation is from and a return address (so that an income tax receipt can be issued).

If you wish to donate online with a credit card:

1. Go to www.vancitycommunityfoundation.ca
2. Click the “Funds” button on the top right side of the home page
3. Locate the BC Council of Garden Clubs Scholarship Fund, either by scrolling through the list or searching “garden clubs” in the search bar
4. Once on the BCCGC Scholarship Fund page, click “Give to this Fund” and complete the form

OR

1. Go to www.bcgardenclubs.com.
2. Go to the “Scholarship Fund” on the top bar and click on the “Donate” page below
3. Scroll down to the link to Vancity Community Foundation and click on it. This will take you to the BCCGC Scholarship Trust Fund page
4. Click on “Give to this Fund” and complete the form

Thank You





YEAR OF THE GARDEN 2022

Celebrations continue with our commitment to participating in the Year of the Garden 2022, in partnership with the Canadian Garden Council.

We invited you to submit a photo of your favourite **red**-flowered plant, shrub, or tree, or plants that showcase **red**-coloured leaves/stems, in celebration of gardening in Canada. We received some great submissions!

We will be drawing for a gift basket of open-pollinated **red** themed seeds. There is a good variety of plant forms in the gift basket, both annuals and perennials. Most will need full sun.

There are 20 to 30 seeds in each package in the gift basket including seeds of **red** annual poppies, scarlet runner beans, sunflowers, nasturtiums, Mexican torch flower, cosmos, hollyhock, **red**-stemmed Swiss chard, **red**-tipped salvia, lupins, zinnias, burgundy *astrantia* major, and Maltese cross *lychnis*. Can you imagine the glorious Canadian-inspired garden filled with **red** colours?



Patti Wolczuk



Celia Owen

'Red Knight' Amaryllis



Barb McCullough

Echinacea 'Sombrero Baja Burgundy'



Jennifer Zuk

'Hy Sockeye' Dahlia



Angelika Hedley

Bees in Papaver



Angelika Hedley

Amaranth

Just a reminder:

Remember to add your upcoming gardening events to the Year of the Garden's Live The Garden Life Agenda <https://livethegardenlife.gardenscanada.ca/agenda/>

DO DAHLIAS HAVE SEEDS?

BY PETER KRUEGER, PRESIDENT, VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY

This is not an unreasonable question as most people purchase dahlias as tubers and they are propagated through tuber division. Often, the only dahlia seed people are familiar with are the seed packages of border dahlias that are available through seed catalogues or nurseries. The answer, of course, is "yes," except for a very few highly hybridized varieties that are sterile.

The modern dahlia that we have today first arrived in Europe about 200 years ago. Once there, the hybridization began. Seed was collected and select seedlings were kept for further seed production. In the process, various forms (shapes) of blooms began to emerge until we have the 20 described forms that we have today: all the way from the tiny two-inch pom poms to the ten-inch-plus giants.

Dahlias originated in the highlands of Central Mexico and the Central American countries. In the wild, they are often single (one row of petals) or have a few rows of petals. They are still there in that form today.

When hybridizing dahlias, you need to choose the varieties you want to cross. Blooms that are the most alike in form give the best results. These then need to be planted next to each other and other dahlias that you do not want in the mix need to be planted farther away. The bees will then do the work for you. Some people choose to hand pollinate their blooms. This way you can be more sure of the parentage but it is time consuming and the seed production is not any better than if the bees do it.

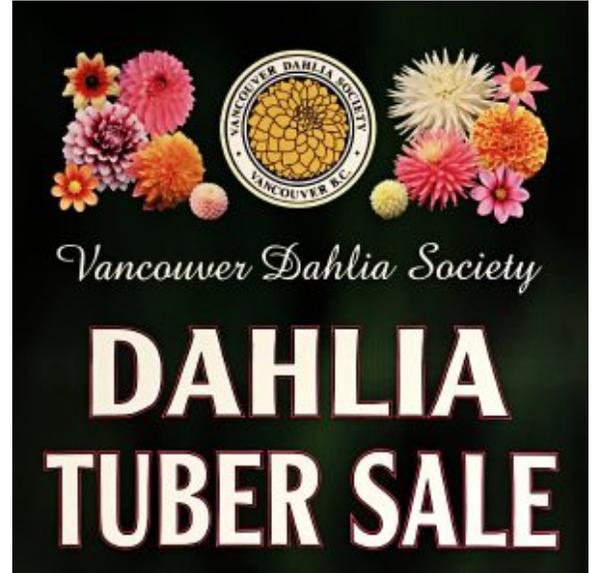
When dahlia blooms are fully open, the pollen will be revealed. The pollen is first carried away by the bees and then it is time for the pistils to open. This is the way the plant avoids self pollination. The pistils open one row at a time and, if you are hand pollinating, you will need to do it at least twice a day to achieve maximum pollination.

Open-centred blooms such as singles or collarettes make the most seeds. Fully double blooms have less pistils and stamen and often make no more than two or three seeds. Fully double blooms often need to have their petals plucked so the seed pods can close properly and the petals do not cause the seeds to rot.

Once fertilized, the seed pod will close and the seeds will begin to develop. By September, the pods will begin to ripen and turn brown. Occasionally they will open to reveal the seeds. They need to be picked before this happens or they will fall to the ground or be eaten by birds. Once the seeds are completely dry, they can be separated from the chaff and stored in a container until it is time to plant in the spring. It is not a good idea to store them in a sealed container as they can be destroyed by mould. It is not necessary to keep them cool.

In the spring (early April), the seeds can be planted in trays and allowed to grow for three to four weeks. Make sure that there is enough room between the seeds so that you do not damage the roots when you separate them to plant them in the garden. One way to give them a boost at the start is to keep the trays in a warm room until the seeds start to germinate. They will germinate in about one week. They can then be put outside in full sun and they will continue to grow, even if the temperature is still quite cool.

A more labour-intensive way to start your seeds is to place the seeds under moist paper towels until they start to grow. (Make sure the towel does not have chemicals in it.) The seeds can then be picked up individually and planted in pots. This has two advantages: you do not disturb the roots when you plant out and you plant only the viable seeds.



Dahlia seedlings will bloom in the first year and will also produce tubers.

One of the joys of hybridizing dahlias is in the diverse genetics of the plant. You never know what you are going to get; very seldom are the blooms the same as the parents. When the buds on the seedlings begin to open in mid summer, there is great anticipation to see what you have created. Each morning feels like **Christmas** morning when you will open new presents.



Vancouver Dahlia Society Annual Tuber Sale

When: April 2, 2022, 10 am to 3:30 pm

Where: VanDusen Botanical Garden, Floral Hall, 5251 Oak Street, Vancouver

At the tuber sale you will be able to purchase tubers from some of the area's best dahlia growers. The sale is open to the public. No membership required, club members get early access.

Please bring your own bag or box for your purchases.

VanDusen Botanical Garden requires proof of vaccination to enter the Floral Hall. Masks are optional.



VICTORIA
CONSERVATORY
OF MUSIC

MOTHER'S DAY MUSICAL GARDEN TOUR

— Celebrating 40 years! —

Don't miss
our special event
"MAKING THE
MODERN GARDEN"
May 7 | \$40
SEE WEBSITE
FOR INFO!

May 7 & 8, 2022 10am-4pm

Your two-day pass grants exclusive access to
Victoria's most enchanting gardens while enjoying
music from VCM students and faculty

vcm.bc.ca/victoria-garden-tour
250.386.5311

PRESENTING SPONSORS



CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



SPONSORS

Parker Johnston
Industries Ltd.
The Market Stores
Bartlett Tree Experts
Canadian Tire
MAC Renovations
Munro's Books
Parkwood Place
by Revera
Splashes
Bath & Kitchen
Costa Verde
Landscaping
Garden City
Tree & Landscape
Tom Lee Music

TICKETS \$40

when purchased in person

Available through the
**Victoria Conservatory
of Music**

Online and in person
250.386.5311

Full list of ticket outlet
locations and online
sales available on
VCM's website

Separate ticket required for Making the
Modern Garden speakers event



@THEVCM

COVID protocols in place



Making a Difference... Together



Supported by the Province of British Columbia

DENMAN ISLAND HOME AND GARDEN TOUR

Don't miss this incredible tour, long considered one of BC's top horticultural events. This year features the renowned home and garden of award-winning broadcaster and writer **Des Kennedy**, as well as eleven other glorious rural properties.

The *Globe and Mail* has called Denman Island "a 5-by-10 kilometre swath of horticultural gems." After a three-year hiatus, Denmanites are ready to throw open their garden gates, inviting the public for a rare up-close look at the creativity, skill and passion they pour into their properties. The gardens are accomplished, imaginative, and full of variety — lush blooms; tranquil ponds; artisanal stonework; hand-crafted arbours; permaculture practices; and stunning ocean views. The houses offer exquisite craftsmanship, innovative design, inspired use of local materials, and unique island touches. This weekend event provides an unforgettable experience for lovers of gardens, homes and rural living. Many people return year after year from all over Canada and around the world, and are never disappointed.

Denman Island Home & Garden Tour

June 11 and 12, 2022

9:30 - 5:00

Info and early bird Tickets \$20 starting March 15:

<https://www.denman-conservancy.org/home-and-garden-tour/denmanisland.hgt@gmail.com>



DENMAN
CONSERVANCY
ASSOCIATION

DENMAN ISLAND
HOME & GARDEN
TOUR

JUNE 11-12
9:30am-5 pm

TICKETS \$20 (\$25 AFTER MAY 15)
WWW.DENMAN-CONSERVANCY.ORG



KELPMAN IS BACK KELPMAN IS BACK KELPMAN IS BACK

Organic Kelp Nutrition for your Indoor and Outdoor Plants

CELEBRATING SPRING AND OUR NEW STORE

We hope all of our gardening friends are safe and well !

KelpMan® has missed our valued BC garden club members,
garden club events and shows.

Our common bond ... love of plants, nature & people
SO NOW ... LET'S GET BUSY!

Your Online Club Discount Code is

Kelpman1405

If you live in Vancouver come by our new store.
Bring your club card and get a 10% in-store discount!



Home, Garden And More
1405 Bellevue Avenue West Vancouver, BC V7T1C3
Phone: 778-279-5357 Toll Free: +1-888-(535-7626)
Email: info@kelpman.com
Kelpman.com



ALPINE GARDEN CLUB OF BC SPRING PLANT SHOW AND PLANT SALE 2022



Lewisia rediviva

Lewisia rediviva is a dryland plant of the British Columbia Interior. It can be seen near Highway 3 on Mount Kobau, west of Osoyoos. The best time to see *Lewisia rediviva* is on a cloudless day in the first week of June. The flowers of *Lewisia rediviva* will open more when it is warm and sunny. In some years the main flowering may be slightly earlier or later depending on the spring conditions that year.

Join us!

When: Saturday, April 16, 12 noon to 3 pm

Where: Floral Hall, VanDusen Botanical Garden, 5251 Oak Street, Vancouver

Free Admission

The Juried Show features exhibits in dozens of categories — many alpine, woodland, and other rare species, as well as unique trough presentations and bonsai.

The Sale includes not only alpiners and woodland plants, but many more from our members' gardens and from some small BC nurseries — rhododendrons, trees, ground covers, perennials, and of course a great collection of seeds from our members around the world.

BRADNER FLOWER SHOW

We are happy to see the return of a very important community event taking place on April 8, 9, and 10 from 10 am to 5 pm daily at the Bradner Hall, 5305 Bradner Road, Abbotsford. The 92nd Annual Bradner Flower Show began in 1928 and is attended by thousands of people from all over the Lower Mainland. It has been on hiatus for the last couple of years due to Covid restrictions, but will be back this year.

Guest speaker will be Amanda Bruce of Cedar Rim Nursery at the Opening Ceremony Friday at 1:30 pm. Decorating for the show will be done by Alexis McCloud and her



team from Simply Perfect Flowers.

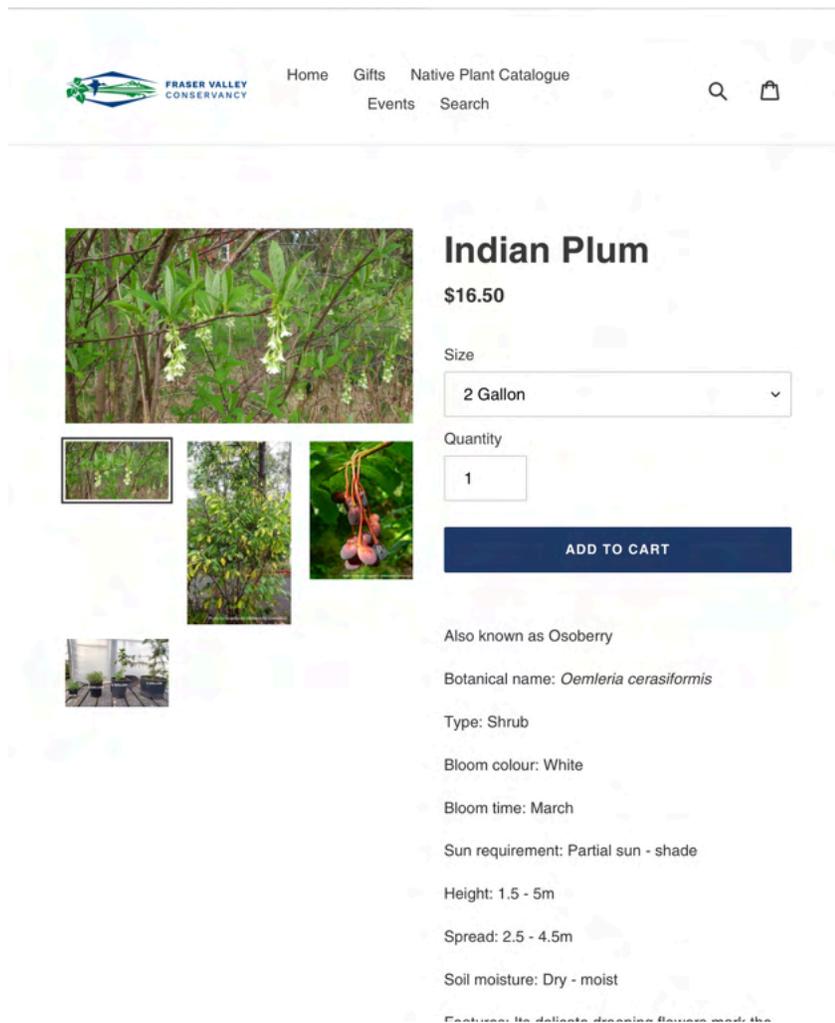
Hundreds of varieties of daffodils will be on display, most of them unusual and developed right in the Bradner area. There will also be many plants and shrubs on sale at wholesale pricing, as well as crafts from local artisans. The tearoom is always a big hit with its homemade soups, sandwiches, and goodies.

As always, Bradner Community Club will donate all proceeds from cut flower sales to Abbotsford Regional Hospital. We know that many people will be happy the show is back and the community looks forward to welcoming visitors once again. Bradner Community Club is a registered non-profit society.

GROW FOR GOOD

FRASER VALLEY CONSERVANCY SHOP

Fraser Valley Conservancy is announcing their **Spring Native Plant Sale**, March 21, 8:00 am to May 8, 5:00 pm. You can buy now online, <http://fraser-valley-conservancy.myshopify.com>



The screenshot shows the product page for 'Indian Plum' on the Fraser Valley Conservancy website. The page features a main image of the plant in bloom, several smaller thumbnail images showing different views and close-ups of the fruit, and a detailed list of plant characteristics. The navigation menu includes Home, Gifts, Native Plant Catalogue, Events, and Search. The product price is \$16.50, and it is available in a 2 Gallon size. The quantity is set to 1, and there is an 'ADD TO CART' button. The botanical name is *Oemleria cerasiformis*, and it is also known as Osoberry. The plant is a shrub with white flowers, blooming in March, and requires partial sun to shade. It grows to a height of 1.5-5m and has a spread of 2.5-4.5m. The soil moisture preference is dry to moist.

FRASER VALLEY CONSERVANCY

Home Gifts Native Plant Catalogue
Events Search

Indian Plum

\$16.50

Size
2 Gallon

Quantity
1

ADD TO CART

Also known as Osoberry

Botanical name: *Oemleria cerasiformis*

Type: Shrub

Bloom colour: White

Bloom time: March

Sun requirement: Partial sun - shade

Height: 1.5 - 5m

Spread: 2.5 - 4.5m

Soil moisture: Dry - moist

Features: Its delicate, drooping flowers make the

SPEEDIBIN COMPOSTING FACILITY IN MERVILLE

Campbell River Garden Club members recently visited the Fresh Earth Products farm in Merville. Joyce McMenammon, co-owner of Speedibin and Fresh Farms Products, led us through her farm and showed us different composters and how to make the most of your organic kitchen waste, and turn it into a rich, soil-enriching compost. A heavy snowfall surprised us all, but 21 garden enthusiasts braved the elements and some of us came home with a shiny new Speedibin and a bucket of lovely, wriggling worms.



Photos by Elizabeth DeMunck, Campbell River Garden Club

MORE RED FLOWERS!



Hummingbird favourite - crocosmia. Photo by Lynda Pasacreta

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We would love to feature your club or community garden in the newsletter. Tell us about some of the projects your club or community garden are involved in. You are invited to submit an article at any time (please include photos). Photos should be high resolution and you should include the name of the photographer if possible. Articles should be in the range of 300–500 words. If you have an idea for a longer piece, connect with the newsletter editor in advance to discuss your idea.

Articles are due on the 15th of the month preceding publication. If they are submitted after that date, they will be held for the next issue. **The next due date is April 15 for May 1.** Submissions/inquiries: newsletter@bcgardenclubs.com.

Lynda Pasacreta, Editor
Pam Robertson, Copy Editor

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS

Vacant | President

Lorna Fraser | Past President

Cindy Tataryn | First Vice President

Derek Glazer | Second Vice President

Pam Robertson | Secretary

Ann Peters | Treasurer

Anne Sprung | Scholarship Trust Fund

Lynda Pasacreta | Communications Coordinator

Lorna Herchenson | Membership Committee

Lynda Pasacreta | Newsletter Committee

Frank Girard | Website

BCgardenclubs.com | www.facebook.com/bcgardenclubs

BC Council of Garden Clubs, 10952 McAdam Road, North Delta, V4C 3E8

Follow us:

