

Over The Garden Wall

White Rock & District Garden Club April, 2020

<https://www.white-rock-garden-club.ca/>

Mary Openshaw, President

Johanne Mramor, Secretary

Lorna Bury, Treasurer

President's Message

New Hobby

I have a new hobby that has put me in touch with many gardeners lately. Gardeners that want to donate pots of perennials for others to enjoy as much as they do. As I'm digging over my dahlia beds, I find strawberries that have found their way by suckering and raspberries that have sent out long underground roots that have a new canes popping up every 8 inches. And there are other clumps of perennials that have grown too congested and need to be divided. Astilbes and day lilies, rudbeckia and herbs. I find myself potting up plants to go into the catalogue pages along with your donations. Who'd have thought we'd be doing online marketing?

When I get a new dahlia tuber I get an excited feeling similar to when I got a new lipstick years ago. In the spring I can hardly wait to divide the clumps and share them with others. Sometimes I look at the clump and it's like a puzzle trying to figure out where to make the first cut. I'm always amazed that that small little tuber can grow into such a large plant.

My indoor grow op is flourishing. I've moved the tomatoes down to the greenhouse to be hardened off before planting out or sold to you. The same with the geraniums and begonias that go into my hanging baskets and patio pots. I'm definitely doing my minimum 2,000 steps a day.

I'm grateful to the garden club members who have brought their own tools to help me in my yard. We're weeding out the insidious #



%&* morning glory, and getting the vegetable plot ready.

If you want to add your contributions to the catalogue pages, contact me, maryopenshaw@hotmail.com or phone 604-830-2671. I'll see you from afar on May 3rd at the foot of Donna's driveway when we deliver the tomatoes, dahlias, pots of plants and kelp products.

Mary Openshaw, President

Reaching Out

Need Help?

Margrit Elmiger-Isert (604-531-7519)

If anybody in my neighborhood needs help (groceries for eg.), let me know please.

Staying Connected

Here are some of the responses to Mary's "Note To Membership":

Louise Long

I'm doing fine and have everything I need - meds, food and social support. Thank You.

Ozana Seselja

Yes, I'm still transplanting my kale and we'll see how many will want some and many more. Also I started knitting again. Maybe all this will pass and

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we will still have our garden sale, just maybe a little later. Take care all.

Karen Matheson

Hope you & your families are keeping safe & well. I'm unable to be helpful at this time due to on-going renovations to age in place. The trades need me here to answer questions, view situations, open/close doors, co-ordinate projects as I've been elected project manager/contractor due to situations. First contractor resigned due to personal problems; Second not as focused & available due to his father could die any day & he's got 2 other jobs on-go; Third does one job at a time & still working to finish ladies kitchen. So my project has had REAL challenges from the start! My life's been challenged/up-side down although I continue to move forward; taking cautions; hoping others are too; just planning for better days ahead; staying positive, aware & moving/planning/doing, living like there will be a tomorrow - glass 1/2 full!

BUSY times/days/ moving forward with kitchen & bathroom renovations to age in place - lots of different trades in & out. Just noticed my 1/2 full bottle of 70% Isopropyl Alcohol missing? Don't know who may have this? No one asked!? Not a good feeling. Seems some people ONLY think about themselves when the going gets tougher. Hopefully can buy this on next shopping trip; no luck last night. Oh, well, tomorrow's another day.

Thanks for staying in touch. Seize the day in the beauty of nature - always a pick-me-up!

Sharon Stanley

Hi

I am doing fine and do not need any help or groceries. I drive as little as possible so I cannot be a helper.

I am never bored and have finally cleaned up some outside garden sheds. Also amazing what I have found at the back of my grocery cupboard and at the bottom of the freezer. I had some plants potted up for the plant sale but think this virus thing is with us for awhile so planning to

set the plants outside my yard for free when the weather warms up. I am on the run usually so I am enjoying this quiet time even though the reason is bad.

Diane Kew

So many people are getting bored; especially ones that are in apartments etc.; that don't have hobbies!. I,m suggesting puzzles to help pass the time. In spite of the cool weather; things are coming up in the garden; starting to feel like spring. Hope you and yours are all fine. Take care. Cheers, Diane.

John Davidson, Newsletter

Members Taking The Initiative

Are You a Newbie Veggy Gardener or a VegetAbler?

Is Vegetable Gardening new to you? Do you feel you need guidance and have questions about how, when, where to plant your plot? Many people are interested in Vegetable Gardening this year during their time staying home, hoping to become a little more self-sufficient. Our Club has many members who are experienced vegetable gardeners. It would be great if we could match up newbies and experienced members (VegetAbler) for mentoring. While keeping social distancing, mentors and newbies can communicate by phone and email, meet in gardens for demonstration and suggestions (while 6 feet apart), and share websites or books. A new gardener could even help an experienced garden in their yard and have hands-on training. If you are interested in either being a VegetAbler (mentor) or learning from one, contact Melanie mjrpharm@telus.net and she will help bring you together.

Helping The Community With Handiwork

Some of WRDGC Members are putting their skills towards sewing these days as well as gardening. They are making face masks for friends and neighbours from material they have on hand. Look online for one of many patterns of varying complexity to find one to suit your sewing skills. They are also making

scrub bags for Peace Arch Hospital for nurses to put soiled uniforms to be sent to the laundry without contaminating others. (A big Thank You to **Joyce O'Brien, Plants Plus** and **Margie Philips, Member** - JD, NL)

Re-Inventing The Plant Sale



Even though we can't hold our usual Plant Sale, we still have plants that we have been growing for the sale. So we are looking for a different way to distribute them without compromising social distancing. The best way seems to be to sell by pre-order and pick-up. So to start, Mary Openshaw's tomato plants are being sold by pre-order for distribution from the end of Donna Lawson's driveway on 33rd Ave. On the same day, Patti Wolczik and Linda Bradley will be offering hanging baskets (haven't heard if they are taking preorders yet - maybe ask Patti). People stay in their cars for the curb side

delivery on Sunday, May 3rd. (Those with Last Names 'A' through 'J' arrive at noon and Last Names 'K' through 'W' come at 12:30).

Ozana Seselje has been growing herbs as she does every year. Contact Melanie mjrpharm@telus.net for a list of herbs available and put in an order to be picked up on May 3rd at her house, 1389 Kerfoot Rd. Here is the full list:

Herbs and Plants for Sale at 1389 Kerfoot Rd., White Rock on May 2nd. Most are 4" pots.

- 8 x Lemon Balm
 - 6 x Spearmint
 - 2 x English Thyme
 - 15 x Lavender
 - 2 x Dill
 - 6 x Sage
 - 6 x Oregano
 - 4 x Chives
 - 5 x Garlic
 - 12 x Italian Parsley
 - 4 x Sorel
 - 6 x Red Sorel
 - 6 x Flowering Currant
 - 4 x large pots English Daisy
 - 20 x Tuscan Kale
 - 6 x Hens & Chicks
 - 1 x Lilac
- Melanie Rantucci, Member*

Staying-at-Home

Top Ten Tips

As we all do our best to limit the spread of COVID-19, we appreciate more than ever how important health and wellness is for ourselves, and our family and friends. And since many of us are spending a bit more time at home than usual, we've gathered our best staying-at-home wellness tips for you and your family.

1. Consider food as medicine. Eat well, consume for nutrition, and limit the excess.
2. Continue to take your daily supplements, especially those that boost your immune system and help the body manage stress.

3. Settle your thoughts by enjoying nature (while social distancing from others - stay 2 metres away).
4. Exercise daily at home or outside while respecting social distancing. Make it fun!
5. Get fresh air every day. Whether it's a simple walk around the block or a short escape into nature. Just be sure to exercise good social distancing.
6. Stay informed through credible and trusted sources of information.
7. Be cautious of misleading, click-bait stories on social media. Consider limiting social media as it may lead to increased anxiety as you try to decipher fact from fiction.
8. Self-isolation shouldn't mean total isolation! Keep in-touch with friends, family, and people you know that may need someone to brighten their day. A quick text, facetime, or phone call could be the uplifting message someone needs right now.
9. Buy only what you need and avoid panic purchasing, so we don't stress the supply chain more than we already have during this pandemic.
10. And, of course, keep washing your hands frequently!

Most importantly, when you can't control what's happening, remember that you can control the way you respond to what's happening. **That is where your power lives.**

Submitted by Margrit Elmiger-Isert, Program

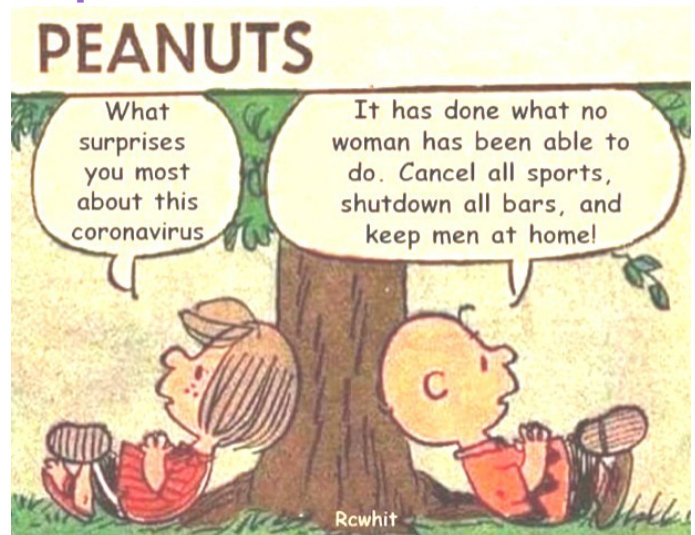
Giant Hornets

Spotted Locally

For interest sake, in the Peace Arch news, Thursday, March 26, (only printing 1 day a week) on page A3 there is an article on "giant hornets" spotted in the area.

Diane Kew, VP

Juicy Bits Surprise



Submitted by Mary Openshaw, President

Be Careful Ordering On Line

Jim Unger, Herman 3rd Treasury



"That bamboo chair you sold me is still alive!"

Submitted by John Davidson, Newsletter

Next Meeting

No Meetings

Until Provincial Government gives OK.