

Over The Garden Wall

White Rock & District Garden Club March, 2021

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

Diane Kew, President

Mary Openshaw, Acting Secretary

Tim Roark, Treasurer

Presidents Message

Great News

Great news on the vaccine roll out! Let's look forward to being together at the hall in September. What a party that will be! People have weathered the storm; obeyed the guidelines and soon we will reap the benefits.

Laying Hens

A correction to how many eggs does a hen lay. My brother has 80 hens, he gets fifty to sixty eggs a day, and can't keep up with the demand. Productive hens lay one egg a day.

Spring Has Sprung

Soon we will be in the garden; crocuses, little "green things" showing their face, a neighbour cutting their lawn. Spring has sprung, let's get out and enjoy it! Just in time, our speaker for the next general meeting is focusing on "getting ready for spring".

Thank You

Welcome and a big thank you to Linda Bradley who is now the membership director. Thanks to Mary for making up another Wednesday roster. And to everyone who is working hard to keep the club involved and informed.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to everyone.

Diane Kew, President



Virtual Parlour Shows

Variety

In order to give members more variety in choosing which categories to enter in the Virtual Parlour Shows, there will be no separate Novice or Advanced categories. Everyone will be encouraged to enter all titles if they wish. When, and if, (hopefully this year) we are

meeting again in Cranley and having judged shows, the regular Novice and Advanced sections judging rules and points given will apply. Any questions, give me a call. Thanks, Donna

Donna Lawson, Show Chair

Garden Chores

For March

With **March** brings Spring, the primroses are blooming, bulbs are bursting into bloom, the lawn is starting to grow, and it's beginning to get a little warmer. So it's time to get your spring gardening underway. Caring for the lawn, preparing the soil and planting vegetables, pruning roses, and starting seeds head the list of things to do this month.

In This Issue

- **President's Msg**
- **Virtual Parlour**
- **Garden Chores**
- **Breaking News**
- **Spring Is Here**
- **Marketplace**
- **Juicy Bits**
- **Invitation**
- **Speaker**

From Port Kells Nursery

- Aerate lawns to revitalize grass. Over seed bare spots. Eliminate moss by liming, improving drainage and creating more light through pruning.
- Return your planters and hanging baskets to Port Kells Nurseries for refilling.
- Sow radish, spinach, fennel, parsley, cauliflower, cabbage, potatoes, broccoli and carrots.
- Sow grass seed or lay turf for a new lawn. The best seed for coastal gardens is a mixture of 60 per cent perennial rye and 40 per cent blend of creeping red fescue and blue grass.
- Plant new perennials, shrubs, hedges, vines and trees.
- Divide large clumps of perennials by lifting and cutting them into two or more pieces. Replant immediately.
- Plant summer flowering bulbs such as lilies, eucomis and acidanthera.
- Mulch to suppress weeds, reduce evaporation and maintain soil moisture. When you see forsythia in bloom, do the final pruning of hybrid tea and floribunda roses.
- Pull weeds and hunt for slugs.
- Brian Minter says to prune roses after the last hard frost. When pruning shrub roses, prune back to the length of your fingers

Submitted by Mary Openshaw, Acting Secretary

Breaking News

WRGC Has A YouTube Channel!!!

The address is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW504RufydGCJQ8Kc6WQj9Q>

Clicking on this link will take you there. Also, you can easily search in any web browser by entering, "White Rock Garden Club YouTube" to find it. We will be posting educational videos to this channel. Check it out!

Club members – the website committee is looking for ideas or suggestions of what videos you would like to see. Alternatively, if you want to become a YouTube STAR and help us create videos, we will welcome you with open arms. Recordings are created following all Covid-19 rules.

Website Committee

Spring Is Here!!

Hello March

Picture by Marilyn Murphy



Social Media Update

The social media committee has been busy this month setting up our website calendar to have garden hints filled in each month. Have a look and see suggestions for what to do in your garden in March. Margrit has mastered the process to do this and Melanie is helping with notes to insert.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 2021							month	week	day
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
28 Plant spring garden	1	2 11a Website Committe	3 Fertilize evergreen	4	5 Garden cleanup	6			
7 Weeding time	8 Plan vegetable garden	9 1:30p WRGC Monthly	10	11 Aerate lawns/over see	12	13 Watch online video			
14 Spring preparation	15	16	17	18 Divide hostas/daylilies	19	20			
21	22 Plant new perennials/	23	24	25 Plant summer flowerin	26	27			
28	29 Pull weeds and hunt fr	30 2p WRGC Executive B	31 Prune Ornamentals	1	2	3			

The committee members each take responsibility for different social media: Marilyn posts on Facebook, Margrit posts on Instagram which then goes to our website, and Melanie posts on Twitter. They put a lot of the committee members own photos but also love to receive photos from members. Every 2 weeks Melanie asks for a new photo topic in the Wednesday Weekly but we welcome any photos that members take. We ask all members to take their cell phone on walks around their gardens or in the neighbourhood and snap things that interest them and send them to Parlourshow@whiterockgardenclub.ca to share with all our club members. We also plan to film more videos demonstrating plant tips or members' gardens to share on social media. If you have any interest in making a video let us know.

Bev Sass, Website Committee

Marketplace

Books

Here are the available books from Plants Plus. Pick up or delivery can be arranged by calling Joyce at 604-538-2549. All proceeds to WRDGC.

Joyce O'Brien, Plants Plus



Tool Sharpening



CHIP
604.245.6663
besharp@tuta.io

13708 20 Ave
Surrey, B.C.

Juicy Bits

From the Garden of Daily Living

Plant three rows of peas:

One for peace of mind
Two for peace of heart
Three for peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip
Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful!
Let us be kind.
Let us be patient.
Let us love one another.

Plant thyme:

Time for each other
Time for family
Time for friends

Water gently with patience and cultivate with love.

Diane Kew, President

Garden Villains



Submitted by Chip Gho, Member

Invitation to WRDGC

Gabbing About Gardening

Dear BC Garden Club Friends:

My name is Lucretia Schanfarber. I am an avid gardener, past president of Quadra Island Garden Club, current president of

Cortes Island Garden Club, and former radio host of "Healthy Stuff with Lucretia". Because I love to gab about gardening, I have launched an interview-style weekly zoom gathering for gardeners called "Gabbing About Gardening". Every week on Mondays we feature a new guest and topic. I think your members would enjoy our weekly gab. We focus on a wide range of topics. It is free and by donation. If you have a special guest to recommend I invite to gab, please feel free to send me their contact info.

Below is our calendar for March including the zoom link for joining the gathering.

You can also view our February guests by going to our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuadraIslandandCortesIslandGardens>

I appreciate your sharing this info with your club members. Be well, Lu, 250-285-2213

Gabbing About Gardening Marches Into Spring.

All of our Gabbing About Gardening zoom sessions are FREE to everyone, operating on the principles of the "gift economy" whereby folks contribute according to their willingness to support the project. Half of all donations go to our weekly guest and the other half goes towards supporting free garden education programs for all ages and abilities.

Here's a complete list of upcoming Gabbing About Gardening zoom sessions scheduled for March. For more info you can reach Lu by phone at 285-2213 or by email:

lucretia.schanfarber@gmail.com

Monday, March 8 at 3:30

Gabbing About Soil Health with soil health ambassadors Whitney Vanderleest (professional gardener & permaculturist on Cortes Island) & Marc Doll (food forest gardener, permaculturist & compost junkie on Quadra Island). Nothing is more important to the success of our gardens than the health and fertility of our soil. Due to ongoing popular demand, Gabbing About Soil Health is now a monthly session. We will continue to learn:

- How to encourage beneficial microbes to inhabit your compost & your soil
- How to optimize the worm population in your compost
- Correct commonly made mistakes when it comes to soil health

- How can we improve soil texture
- The common signs that our soil is deficient and what we can do about it

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85847630918pwd=R0ZGSEZOTU12K1NjcDVuMFNlcWMxUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 4763 0918

Passcode: 316100

Monday, March 15 at 3:30 pm

Gabbing About Growing Apples with Harry Burton

No one knows more about growing apples on the BC coast than Harry Burton.

His certified organic apple orchard on Salt Spring Island is called Apple Luscious Organic Orchard and he grows and sells over 200 connoisseur varieties of apples. Harry also hosts the annual, world-renowned Salt Spring Apple festival. Harry will share his wealth of knowledge and experience with us including:

- How to select the best variety for our garden space and conditions
- When to plant
- How to plant
- How to care for our apple trees
- Pruning, fertilizing, mulching and more
- Common mistakes with apple trees

To learn more about Harry visit his website:www.appleluscious.com

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85184257386pwd=dmNXy1ZiQ0RXNXJzKzIzWWNRMVdGdz09>

Meeting ID: 851 8425 7386

Passcode: 035163

Monday, March 22 at 3:30

Gabbing About Growing Lavender with Judy Kemchand

Nothing compares to the beauty and fragrance of lavender growing in the garden.

And no one grows it better than Certified Horticulturist and Landscape Designer Judy Kemchand, a professional gardener on Cortes Island. Judy will teach us about:

- Selecting the best varieties of lavender for our gardens
- Soil requirements and amendments for growing lavender
- Harvesting and storing lavender
- Over-wintering lavender
- Propagating lavender

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81250750566pwd=MIJjWUp4SUFwSmZyOU9NTkZrV1p5OT09>

Meeting ID: 812 5075 0566

Passcode: 315163

Monday, March 29 at 3:30 pm

Gabbing About Gardening presents veteran garden-teacher Connie Kuramoto. Connie will be "Gabbing About Growing Herbs: Culinary & Medicinal". Connie grows a prolific herb garden from oregano to cannabis. She uses her homegrown herbs in cooking, making salves & medicinal teas. Connie will teach us how to:

- Grow our best herb garden ever
- Select the best site for the herbs you want to grow
- Amend soil for specific herbs
- Tend & harvest herbs from your garden
- Optimize companion planting with herbs
- Grow bee-attractive herbs
- Make our own herbal medicines

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81594602950pwd=STBJSUdtUEI5RkNRTXFHdWpVazVLdz09>

Meeting ID: 815 9460 2950

Passcode: 520141

And here's a sneak peak of two experts who will be Gabbing About Gardening in April... Carolyn Herriot, author of several best-selling gardening books and Mike Gall, the DIY Pond Guy!

Speaker

Get Ready For Spring

What to prune, dividing perennials and grasses. Finding varieties size suitable for your garden space. He is going to do a live presentation vs a PowerPoint canned presentation which will be very exciting. He has purchased good quality camera and microphone equipment and has many real plants to show us. His website is nevernotgardening.com. Randal Atkinson has a life long career in Horticultural related services. He has a passion for plants and loves to share with others.

Frances O'Grady, Program