

LSGC Snippets

The Ladysmith Saltair



Garden Club

PLANT SALE

Saturday May 13th 9A.M.

Aggie Hall Ladysmith (Symonds & First)

DOORS open at 9 a.m. until 'SOLD OUT'

Mothersday Gift Plantings & Raffle Table

Perennials, Annuals, Shrubs,

Houseplants, Vegetable Seedlings

Plus ~ Experienced Garden Equipment

Master Gardeners in attendance to answer your questions!



Cash Sales Only



NEXT MEETING: April 20th at 7:00 in the Eagles Hall

MARCH MEETING

Ladysmith Saltair Garden Club Club Meeting Minutes Held Thursday March 16, 2023 Eagles Hall, Ladysmith.

President Carol Henderson called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
39 people were in attendance, including 5 new members and 6 drop-ins.

Carol thanked a number of our members for their contributions to the club:

- Ione and Auty - for representing and promoting the club at Saltair Seedy Sunday
- Pam - for acting as alternate secretary for three meetings and organizing club trips
- Marianne and Jim - for steering our Facebook page and being tech savvy
- Marianne - for instituting the seed exchange and Little Sales at meetings
- Jim - for chairing the plant sale committee
- Carmen - for organizing and tracking our library
- Gail - for heading up a great speaker committee and tea making
- Barb and Mi - for years of tea and coffee prep, storage and hauling of equipment

Carol reminded people to sign up for duties for the plant sale May 13.

Pam reminded people to sign the attendance sheet.

Speaker - Don Mac Watt

7:04 pm. Carol introduced our speaker Don Mac Watt. He spoke about the spring ephemerals, cyclamens and trilliums. Don gave a very engaging talk with many beautiful slides and great descriptions of many different varieties of these plants.

Tips for growing Cyclamens and Trilliums

- need some sun and shade, grow well under trees.
- go dormant in summer, so denser shade then not an issue then
- they are quite drought tolerant
- like soil with lots of sand and compost, amend heavy clay soils
- need good drainage, do well on a slope
- Don feeds them with leaf compost, but not every year
- If growing in a pot they like a deep one

Don concluded by answering audience questions. Presentation ended at 7:55. His sale table for cyclamens and trilliums was later enthusiastically swarmed by audience members.

April made a presentation of an electric trimmer to Jennifer Forrest and Joanne Armstrong in thanks for their 21 years of maintaining Queen's Park. Also in recognition of their work at the Doris Gallagher Memorial Gardens (behind the Health Unit) and the gardens at the Ladysmith Museum.

Break time

Cookies and squares supplied by Joanne and Haydi

MARCH MEETING

Trips

Pam Fraser explained next trip to Satin Flower Nurseries and Horticultural Centre of the Pacific on April 15, as well as two other upcoming outings. Sign-up sheet for April 15 trip circulated.

Correspondence

- 1) Request from coordinator of Saltair Seedy Sunday for someone to take over next year. April reported that a replacement coordinator has been found.
- 2) request from Rosalie Sawrie that we have a table at the “Neighbours Sharing Food” event on March 25. As there was no interest we will not have a table.

Treasurer’s Report

Assets total - \$10,552

Expenses - \$4456. 83 (includes hall rentals, insurance, speakers and Sept. ’23 to May ’24 expenses)

Anticipated balance - \$6,095.26

Note 1: our 2023 scholarship is already paid with \$500 remaining credit on our account

Note 2: Do we need to increase our insurance? We currently pay \$200 annually to the BC Federation of Garden Clubs for our club insurance. With growth of our club (20 new members since Jan. 2023) Starla made inquiries to find out if our coverage is adequate to cover our growing membership. She received contradictory replies and will continue to follow up.

Newsletter

Lynne Fletcher was introduced as our new newsletter editor. Thanks Lynne. Please forward items for inclusion in newsletter to clfletcher@protonmail.com.

Plant Sale

Get lots of seeds planted now for the sale on May 13 at Aggie Hall. Coming up fast.

Jen Forrest has soil available at 375 Chemainus Rd. Leave extra pots there, particularly one gallon ones or bring them to next meeting.

Joanne will do the raffle items once again, thanks Joanne

Sign-up sheets for jobs needing doing at the sale to be circulated next meeting.

Jen has the road signs advertising the sale.

Elections

Elections for next year’s executive to be held at April 20 club meeting.

Queens Park

Gardening to probably start next week.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Our Executive:

President – Carol Henderson

Treasurer – Starla Arkin

Membership – Bennye Miller

Vice-president – April Johnston

Secretary – Trixie Neufelt

Speakers – Gail Wiseman-Reed

PLANT SALE

PREPARING FOR THE PLANT SALE

Getting Your Plants Ready:

When you are **labelling plants** your plants for the sale, please include the name and if known, the colour of the blooms, its growth preferences and habits. If plants are potted well before the sale they will be happily established by the big day.

Extra Soil for Potting:

If you will need additional soil to pot your plants, there is some available at Jennifer Forest's home, located at 375 Chemainus Road. This location is just at the end of the cement block wall – look for the ugly blue tarp (on the soil pile). If you can, please bring and drop off any one gallon pots that you could share.

Sign Up Lists for the Sale:

At our April meeting on the 20th lists for volunteers will be distributed. We are looking for energetic volunteers to run the Sale.

On the evening of May 12th, from 6:30 onward, please bring your sale offerings to the Aggie Hall.

Once the set up and pricing has been completed, members will have the opportunity to make one pre-sale plant purchase.

On Saturday, May 13th, before and during the sales event, helpers should not expect to set aside plants for themselves.

Donations Wanted:

As well as plants and seedlings, the following items would be much appreciated:

- ➔ Raffle Prizes
- ➔ Used or unneeded garden tools, garden related equipment or garden ornaments.

Flyers:

Flyers will be available for distribution by members at our April meeting.

Thanks in advance to the helping hands and all the member support of our major fundraiser.



Volunteers Needed

for Set Up & Clean Up
for our meetings.



- * April 20th meeting:
- * Doors open at 6:15 to set up,
Meeting begins at 7:00

**SPEAKER for April Meeting:
Bernie Dinter
Container Gardening**

Bernie Dinter, with daughter Tamara, owns **Dinter Nursery**, a long standing (and huge) family nursery in Duncan. Dinter Nursery Garden Centre was originally started by Bernhard Dinter and his wife Gertrud (Bernie's father and mother) in 1973.

Bernie grew up working in the family business, studied at UBC and continued in the family business. He has taught gardening classes as part of the adult education programs offered at Vancouver Island University for over 20 years. As he says, "Every plant has a story to tell and I enjoy sharing those stories with others." Bernie enjoys sharing horticultural knowledge with others and is a welcome speaker at gardening clubs, radio programs, and other community groups.

He share his father's stated mission to "make the Cowichan Valley more beautiful."



**Vancouver Island
Rock and Alpine Garden Society's
ANNUAL SPRING SHOW & SALE**

Friday, April 21st from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Saturday, April 22nd from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Lambrick Park Church at 1780 Feltham Road,
Victoria

This juried show features alpine, woodland, succulent, bonsai and bog plants. Sale of plants grown by the Club: sales will begin on Friday and continue through the Show. More details: <http://www.virags.com>.

**Canadian Western Association of Floral Art
Clubs - FLORAL ART SHOW**

Saturday, April 22nd from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Emmanuel Baptist Church,
2121 Cedar Hill Cross Road
Exhibiting in the Floral Art show is open to the public and there is no charge to stage an exhibit. Show Schedule & rules is available at: www.cwafac.weebly.com or contact Cindy Tataryn at ctataryn@telus.net. Public is welcome by donation, quality vases & door prize draw tickets for sale by cash or cheque.

**Victoria Cactus and Succulent Society
SPRING SHOW AND SALE**

Saturday, May 6th from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.
Sunday, May 7th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Church of the Advent,
510 Mount View Ave., Colwood
More info: *Facebook: Victoria Cactus & Succulent Society*

**Victoria Conservatory of Music
MOTHER'S DAY MUSICAL GARDEN TOUR
FUNDRAISER**

Saturday, May 13th & Sunday, May 14th
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Our garden tour travels to 8 special gardens around Victoria, Saanich and the Westshore. Two-day passes: \$40 Mail order tickets available until Wednesday, April 26th at noon.

CYCLAMENS

I enjoyed the pictures and the advice from our March speaker, Don Mac Watt. His advice will help me sort out some very sad cyclamen plants that I bought in February:

The cyclamen commonly sold by florists is *Cyclamen persicum*, which is frost-tender. Selected cyclamen cultivars have white, bright pink, red or purple flowers. While flowering florists' cyclamen should be kept below 20 °C (68 °F), with the night-time temperatures preferably 6.5–15 °C (43.7–59.0 °F). Temperatures above 20 °C (68 °F) may induce the plant to become dormant.

As I read through some sources online, I found pictures and names of the species that Don shared pictures of.



Cyclamen coumbs



Cyclamen hederifolium



Cyclamen pseudibericum



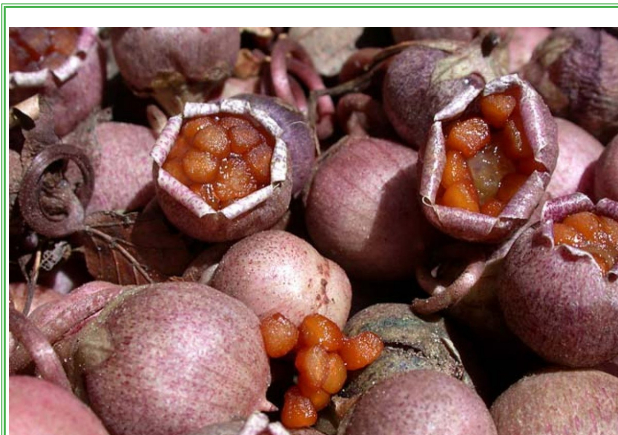
Cyclamen mirabile

CYCLAMENS



C. Hederifolius leaf forms

I also discovered this advice from the Alpine Club's site, about growing the seeds from cyclamen plants.



Cyclamen hederifolium seeds

The seeds have a sticky, sugary coating, which dries as the capsules mature. This is indicated by them splitting at the apex to reveal the seeds within. Their sugary coating makes the seeds irresistible to ants and other invertebrates, which carry them off, thus aiding dispersal. This explains why you often find cyclamen seedlings far removed from their parents in the garden.

For that reason, if you wish to harvest the seed it is wise to collect the pods as soon as ripe. Then sow the seeds immediately. If this is not possible, for example when donating seed to a seed exchange, seed will remain viable for months if not years. Just store it dry in a cool place or refrigerator. However, this may induce a deep state of dormancy that is not easily reversed.

GARDEN NEWS

Bat Guano : Organic Fertilizer

Bat guano is a natural fertilizer that is safe for both indoor and outdoor applications. It will benefit vegetables, herbs, ornamentals and soft fruits.

The guano can be applied as a soil conditioner, top dressing, or infusion for watering. The nitrogen level may vary between 7 and 19 per cent and is quickly released. This is quite a strong level of nitrogen and guano should be used sparingly to prevent burning or excessive growth.

Applications:

Soil Conditioner: Soil may be amended with guano at a rate of 2 to 5 pounds per cubic yard thoroughly mixed into the soil or 3 heaping tablespoons per gallon of soil.

Vegetable, cane fruits or flower gardens:

1 to 2 pound per 100 square feet and thoroughly mix into the top 3 inches of garden soil. Repeat once a month during the growing season.

Established Plants and House Plants:

Infuse 1 tablespoon of guano per litre of warm water for 12 hours. Apply 1 tablespoon of infusion per 4 inch pot once per month after watering. Do not store the infusion to prevent bacterial growth.

Or: top-dress and mix into the soil at a rate of 1 teaspoon per gallon of soil once per month.

Compost activator:

Sprinkle 1.0 to 2.0 pounds per cubic yard to compost. Best applied when turning the heap.

Storage and safe handling:

Store in a cool, dry place. Avoid breathing dust. Use gloves or wash hands thoroughly after handling. Keep away from children or pets.

For information, or to purchase please call:
John Bunning at (250) 924-0734

Ladysmith Saltair Garden Club

Upcoming Program & Events 23/24

April 20, 2023

Container Gardening.
Bernie Dinter

May 18, 2023

The Healing Powers of Gardening.
Karlin Creed

Plant Sale: Aggie Hall.

May 13 (second Saturday)!!

September 2023

Growing Flowers for Bouquets.
Starla Parkin.

October 19, 2023

Member Plant Auction.

November 16, 2023

Bonsai.
Phil Crouch

January 18, 2024

Healthy Soils.
Tamara Dinter.

February 15, 2024

Growing Tomatoes.
Colen Henson.

March 20, 2024

Care of Rhodos.
Chris Southwick.

April 18, 2024

Hanging Baskets.
Alex Limberis.

May 16, 2024

My Favourite Vegetables & How to
Grow Them.

Dorothee Kieser.

COMPANION PLANTING

Plant:	Good Companions:	Poor Companions:
Asparagus	Basil, Tomato, Nasturtium, parsley, dill, marigold,	Onion, Garlic, Potato
Bean	Corn, Carrot, cauliflower, beet, cuke, cabbage, celery, potato, marigold	Chive, leek, onion, garlic
Beets	Brassicas, onion, sage, lettuce	Pole beans
Broccoli, cabbage	Dill, potato, sage, rosemary, mint	Strawberry, tomato, pole bean
Brussel sprouts	Potato, thyme	Strawberry
Carrot	Bean, lettuce, onion, pea, parsley	Dill, parsnip
Cauliflower	Bean, celery, oregano	Strawberry, tomato, pea
Celery	Bean, spinach, tomato	Parsnip, potato, corn
Corn	Bean, cucumber, pea, pumpkin	Tomato, celery
Cucumber	Bean, radish, corn, dill	Cauliflower, potato, basil
Leek	Carrot, celery, strawberry	Legumes
Lettuce	Carrot, radish, strawberry, dill	Parsley
Onion	Beet, carrot, lettuce, tomato	Pea, asparagus
Pea	Radish, carrot, cuke, corn, bean	Onion family
Potato	Bean, corn, cabbage, pea marigold	Cuke, squash, sunflowers spinach, tomato, parsnip
Pumpkin	Corn, melon, squash	Potato
Radish	Beet, bean, carrot, cuke, lettuce Parsnip, pea	Cabbage, cauliflower, brussel sprout, turnip
Spinach	Strawberry, pea, bean	Corn, potato, cabbage, cauli- flower
Tomato	Parsley, marigold, basil, bean	Cabbage, broccoli, Brussel sprouts cauliflower
Fruit trees	Chives, nasturtium, garlic	
Strawberry	Bean, lettuce, spinach	
Roses	Garlic, onion, chives, marigold parsley	

Note: Some good companions work because of their scents, which confuse or repel harmful insects. Others attract beneficial insects. Some will stimulate growth, and others will improve taste. Adding companion flowers and herbs to your vegetable garden will also make it more visually pleasing.

Source: April 2010 Saltair Snippets



PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS

PLANTS THAT ATTRACT BEES

Following the advice of our February speaker, Hannah Auer, I checked the website that she had recommended looking for listings of native plants that are favourites for our local pollinators, particularly bees. This site also has lists for other pollinators, including butterflies, hummingbirds, and more. Each listing also has advice on growing conditions for that plant, helpful for garden planning.

Satinflower Nurseries info@satinflower.ca
741 Haliburton Road in Saanich 778.679.3459

I found a list of native plants that attract bees, with pictures and growing details.

Acer macrophyllum Big-leaf Maple

Achillea millefolium Yarrow

Allium cernuum Nodding Onion

Anaphalis margaritacea Pearly Everlasting

Berberis aquifolium Tall Oregon-grape

Berberis nervosa Dull Oregon-grape

Collinsia parviflora Small-flowered
Blue-eyed Mary

Grindelia hirsutula Hairy Gumweed

Heuchera micrantha Small-flowered Alumroot

Lupinus bicolor Bicoloured Lupine

Oemleria cerasiformis June Plum / Osoberry

Philadelphus lewisii Mock Orange

Ribes sanguineum Red-flowering Currant

Rubus leucodermis Blackcap Raspberry

Sambucus racemosa Red Elderberry

Symphyotrichum chilense California Aster

Trifolium wormskioldii Springbank Clover



Pearly Everlasting



Tall Oregon Grape



Flowering Currant

