

SEEDERS AND WEEDERS NEWSLETTER

May 2026



Armstrong & District Garden Club

WEBSITE: <https://armstronggardenclub.com>

FACEBOOK: Ken Barr

EXECUTIVE:

President – Heather Hayes 250 546-4969

Vice president – Vacant

Secretary – Mary Jackson

Treasurer – Paul Peacock

Membership Secretary - Chris Williams

Past President – Carolyn Farris

Director at large – Glen Gytenbeek

Speaker coordinator – Suzie Sims

Tour Coordinator - Vacant

Newsletter Editor – Dianne Lockton

Website Manager - Mary Jane Duford

Sunshine - Dianne Lockton and Heather Hayes

Door Prizes – Sue Rook

GUEST SPEAKER

A speaker was not available for the May meeting.

GENERAL MEETING

First Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm, September to June (except January) in St James Anglican Church Hall, Armstrong.

Next meeting : June 2, 2026 6:30 pm

MINUTES



Minutes for TUESDAY, May 5, 2026 ARMSTRONG AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

1. Call to Order -President Heather called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda -Rea motioned to approve the agenda. CARRIED.
3. Approval of Minutes -Paul and Sue R. moved to approve the minutes of April 7, 2026, as circulated. CARRIED.
4. Correspondence
Response to Armstrong Preschool re: our involvement in Children's Garden. If members are interested; they can follow-up directly with the Preschool on Rosedale.
Letter sent to Green Farms Nursery and Landscape in Salmon Arm for Club discount.
5. Treasurer's Report - Paul reported that our club remains in good financial condition. Sue W. motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. CARRIED.
6. Old Business
 - a) Plant Sale Preparations
Glenn reviewed the preparations for this year's sale.

-Ken Ritchie delivered Jesse's potting bench. We plan to offer it as a silent auction item, with a reserve bid.

-Erin volunteered to pick up and return tables at Sue Lendrum's and also collect the rope for the stanchions.

- Sue, Aviva and others offered to bring their tents so Glenn will cancel the Chamber reservation.
- Paul provided the float to Mary
- Cashiers will include Mary, Jacqui and Aviva
- Yvonne will bring buckets and rags
- Chris W. will bring tablecloths
- Sue R. will bring boxes
- If you have a watering can, please bring it
- Glenn will help to deliver Black Diamond soil
- if you have a wheelbarrow or wagon, please bring it
- we will be pricing plants at 6 a.m. on Saturday
- please bring your plants with labels – name, size, sun/shade, flower colour, etc.
- we will have a holding table for plants, but the orders must be paid before any discount is announced
- Heather will identify when, or if, any discount will occur
- sale goes from 8 am to 1 pm
- aprons will be available
- Glenn is posting signs around town
- Mary advertised the sale in local community events pages
- bring treats for our hard working members and
- HAVE FUN SATURDAY!

b) 100th anniversary (2027) Update

c) The Club has adopted the Museum's plant bed, as part of our Anniversary projects. Some clean-up has already occurred, and more plants will be added. The Museum offered the Club the use of their meeting space at no charge. There will be signage added to the beds "100th Anniversary Bed."

ACTION: Heather/Glenn will provide more information on the rental and will bring forward to members at the June meeting for a vote.

d) Volunteers for Petunia Garden – Glenn circulated a sign-up sheet to care for the 22 petunia beds on the south side of PV Boulevard.

Thanks to Armstrong for providing the plants this year! There may still be some spots available – see Glenn if you are interested.

ACTION: See Glenn if you can volunteer for some shifts.

e) A visit to Bob Marten and his bonsai garden has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 13 at 10 a.m. Carpooling from Askew’s will leave at 9:30 am.
Eight members are interested.

ACTION: Mary will send reminder, and a map, to members on May 11.

(f) Interest in Swan Lake Discount – If enough club members sign up for the discount, Mary will forward the names to Swan Lake.

7. New Business

a) Planting at PV Manor – The Manor has invited the Club to help plant their gardens. As members were interested, we set a date of Thursday, May 14th at 9 a.m. Members are asked to bring gloves and a trowel and meet at the Patten gate at 9 a.m.

ACTION: Mary to send reminder on May 11.

8. Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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May 9th Plant Sale





Unexpected guests!

Thank you to our members Mary, Rea and Aviva for bringing some very good baking for our volunteers to enjoy.

GARDENING INFORMATION

Growing Clematis Vines

A popular and beautiful addition to yards across Canada, the clematis comes in a variety of colours, sizes and growing zones. Colours range from white and yellow to several shades of pink and purple.

Clematis need at least 6 hours of sunlight per day but require a cool root zone.

Plant low growing perennials at the base to provide shade to the roots.

When planting a clematis bury the crown 10 to 15 cm below soil level. The hole should be about 45 x 45 cm. Planting deep will protect against wilt disease.

Mix in compost and add lime if the soil is acidic. Clematis prefers a pH of 6.5 – 7.

Fill the hole with soil and water well.

There are 3 pruning groups:

#1 – prune only after flowering. Do not prune back in fall or early spring. This would cut off the flower buds for next year. This group will still bloom well without pruning. Zones 3 - 4

#2 – needs a light pruning in spring. After the first bloom cut back one third for a second bloom. Zones 4 – 5

#3 – do a hard prune in early spring by cutting all stems back to 20 – 30 cm above soil level (before new growth appears). Zone 3

Group three is the easiest to care for in Canada.

If the group type is not known do not prune in the first year. Wait to see what time of the year the plant blooms to determine the group.

Some popular varieties:

Jackmanii - Very hardy zone 3 Height: 12ft Spread: 5 – 10ft
Heat resistant. Full or part sun. Fast growth.
Blooms June and July. Purple flower.

Allanah - Zone 4 Height: 10ft Spread: 2ft
Large Red flower

Blue Ravine - Zone 4 Height: 8ft Spread: 2ft
Blue with violet streaked flower

Dr. Ruppel - Zone 4 Height: 10ft Spread: 2ft
Light pink with fuchsia striped flower – attracts hummingbirds

source:

Okanagan Xeriscape Association www.okanaganxeriscape.org
Art Knapp Kamloops www.artknappkamloops.ca
Growers Guide www.growersguide.ca

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Members of the Armstrong & District Garden Club receive discounts at a number of local garden centres:

Shepherd's Home Hardware Outdoor Living in Armstrong: 15% Discount on Regularly-Priced Garden Plants

Blue Mountain Nursery in Armstrong: 10% Discount on all products

Swan Lake Market and Garden in Spallumcheen: See notes under Section 7 in the minutes of April 7th meeting. Let Mary Jackson or Carolyn Farris know if you are interested in joining.

Nicholas Alexander Nursery in Vernon: 10%-15% Discount on Regularly-Priced Garden Plants Show your membership card at the till before the cashier rings up the total and kindly request your member discount.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS Next Meeting: Tuesday June 2 6:30 pm