



May
2026

THE GARDEN

THYMES

A PUBLICATION OF
THE VERNON AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

Website : www.vernongardenclub.ca
E-mails: vernongardenclubbc@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/726546522485514/>

*Our next meeting will be held:
Tuesday May 26 at 7pm.*

*at the
Vernon Community Arts Centre
2704, Highway 6, Vernon.*

Speaker: Mario Lanthier
100 years of pest management -
past, present and future



*Celebrating Centenarians in 2026.
In May were no Centenarians in
facility care to deliver to.*

Room Set Up crew at 6 pm:

Fran King
and help!

Clean up: Everyone

This month for the **floral art workshop** we will give the hogarth curve a try. Defined as a S-curve it can be angled in any direction from vertical to horizontal. It is sometimes created by placing 2 crescents end to end curving in opposite directions. Traditionally for proper proportion the top curve of the S is longer than the lower one. 2/3 vs. 1/3. The focal area is concentrated at the center or just above the rim of the container.

For those not wanting to take on this challenge try a vertical line exhibit.

Workshop will take place at Linda Andrews on Thurs. May 21 at 7 pm

Coffee Break Snacks
Thank you in advance for the
May Snacks:

Roberta Drinkwater
Joyce Gaines
Kim Topolewski



www.vernongardenclub.ca

Historic Newsletter Tidbits

ANNUALS

Shrubs, trees and perennials are all essential parts of any landscape. However, their peak time of beauty tends to be very seasonal and limited. For a continuous supply of colour and blossom through the hot summer months one should grow annuals. These are plants that live just one season in the garden. They are the least difficult plant to grow - requiring little attention. Annuals may be sown directly in the ground or started indoors for transplanting. Bedding plants raised by local greenhouse men are the surest source of vigorous plants which will assure an early and constant supply of bloom. Set them out in the flower bed or shrub border when all danger of frost is past.

Annuals are well adapted to a wide range of conditions and uses. If you are going to plant an entire bed of annuals use low kinds like verbena, alyssum and dwarf marigolds for edging; petunias, calendulas and French marigolds in the middle and for a colorful tall background use African marigolds, cleomes or giant zinnias.

Perennial borders lend themselves readily for a few fillers of annual plants - particularly the spreading kinds. Try a few petunias, verbenas, ageratums or browallias. For patio planters, along split rail fences and new hedges, annuals can't be beat. Keep in mind that most annuals like sun, but impatiens, coleus, clarkia and nicotiana will do well in the shade. If your soil is poor, as it often is around a new home, try some celosia euphorbia or portulaca. Remember, masses of similar colours in the same variety create a more pleasing affect than one or two plants each of several different varieties.

Brian A. Hodge,
Horticulturist.

May 1962

May is the busiest month of the year for gardeners. The bulbs should be doing their best and do note any new and different varieties so that you will know what you want to purchase come September. How are those Annual plants you started from seed last March? Did you get some of the "All American Award" selections? If you didn't you should be able to buy started plants at your favourite nursery. The frost should be almost over now so the bedding plants may be set out any time. It's not too late for gladiolus, how about planting a few corms every two weeks till the middle of June. This will give you the longest show of glads possible.

May
1963

Now is the time to get your garden set for a full summers show. If you use a good mulch to avoid too much weeding and watering, then you won't be tied down during the summer months. Prune forsythia, and all other spring - blooming shrubs as soon as bloom is over. This is a good time to renovate old out-of-hand plantings. Take some of those ancient trunks out at the groundline, cut tops back perhaps a third but NOT evenly, Prune don't BOB.

Horticulturally, the month of May is opening night, Homecoming and Graduation Day all rolled into one

Making a garden, no matter how simple, is a creative endeavour and should relate to the person who owns it and be in someway a conscious expression of him/herself.

April 28 ,2026 General Meeting Minutes

Viv A and Bruce A welcomed everyone at the door.

Co-President Roberta D welcomed everyone, some new members and guests. Thank you Faithe and Rodger P, Kevin S, and everyone helping with the room setup.

Presentation - Janet S introduced Roy Reinmuth. Very informative presentation on composting: gardening and growing the natural way, without poison.

Sale Table - Terry L highlighted the many great items available tonight, including some planters donated by Save On. There are also pots available for transplanting to donate to the Plant Sale. There is a Donation tin on the table for cash donations. If your donation is not purchased tonight, please take it back home at the end of the meeting. Jen pointed out all of the flats of tomatoes. These seedlings need homes to care for them and bring them to the Plant Sale. Please take a tray or two.

Refreshments - Thank you Susan O, Vickie B, and Dawn P.

Previous Month Minutes - Roberta asked if there are any questions about the March minutes published in the newsletter. None. Sharon H made a motion for the minutes to be accepted. Seconded by Viv A. All in favour.

Financial Report - Roberta asked if there are any questions about the report that was emailed. None. Elisabeth R made a motion for the report to be accepted. Seconded by Terry L. All in favour.

100 Year Celebration

Centenarian Birthdays - Viv let us know that at the beginning of each month the schedule of deliveries is confirmed. The Team then organizes delivering flowers.

Club History - Janet S let us know about the scrapbooks for the 75th and 80th Anniversaries. A scrapbook is being created for the 100th. Interesting to see what we did in the past and what we continue to do. Please submit your comment card on what the Club means to you. Paper or email submissions accepted. Please include a photo as well.

Hospice House Garden - Linda A updated us that the front boulevard garden is looking great. So good that people are picking the flowers. We are asking people not to. More planting continues. Janet has updated the photo on the anniversary poster board displayed on the back table.

People Place Garden Tour - Linda A reminded us the tour is on June 6 9am-2pm. 6 of the 8 gardens are Club Members. Also the Hospice House gardens are included. Tickets are \$20 each and will be for sale soon. Rusty Spur, Nicholas Alexander, Swan Lake, Buckerfields are all selling tickets.

April 28 ,2026 General Meeting Minutes

Plant Sale - Saturday May 9. Danielle H asked if everyone is doing well with their seedlings growing, and digging and potting up perennials. Please participate as this is our Club's fundraiser. To help with pricing please pick up pricing popsicle sticks tonight and bring your plants already priced to the sale.

Flower Show - June 20 at Schubert Center. Lisa D encouraged everyone to participate. Posters are available.

Hospice House Rose Garden - Rodger P updated us that the roses are growing wonderfully, best ever! The irrigation system has not been working properly so work is ongoing.

He showed us the Bloom Bringer Award we have received from Hospice House. Thank you to everyone that helped with the Spring clean up. The summer deadheading schedule will be coming out soon.

Grow and Show - Janet S expressed disappointment in tonight's participation. If you think a flower or plant is beautiful please bring it and participate. This is good practice for the Flower Show.

Facebook group - Jen O reminded us about our Facebook page. There are a lot of followers that may not be aware we are a physical Club. Please add posts to the page, photos and comments. Our participation is needed especially in preparation for the Plant Sale and Flower Show.

Floral Arts - the workshops are the Thursday before our meetings. Please let Janet S know if you are interested to attend. She emails the details each month.

Opportunity draw - won by Laura M.

Door prizes - won by Roberta D, Linda A, Michele M.

Next meeting is Tuesday May 26 at 7:00pm.

The Vernon People Place Garden Tour

Saturday June 6th from 9am till 2pm.

There are **eight** gardens on the tour, including six of our Club members who have their homes on the People Place garden tour:

-Robyn Danielsson, Janet Stoll, June Boake, Linda Andrews, Norma Bonar, Roxanne Lemothe and Hospice House

The tour is self guided.

People place office: #101 at People Place will be selling tickets.

Independent Living Vernon office: #107 at People Place will be selling tickets for us as well.

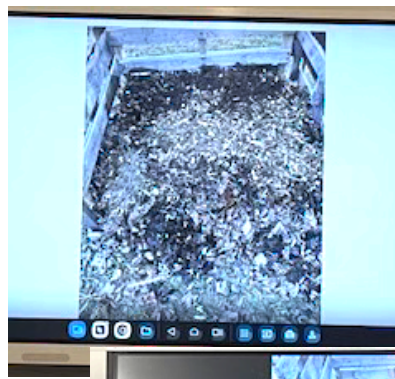
The following local businesses also have tickets for sale:

Blue Mountain Nursery, Nicholas Alexander, Olive us Oil & vinegar, Oopsie Daisy Flowers, Rusty Spur Farm Feed and Pet, The Flower Spot Garden Centre.

With the purchase of a \$20.- ticket, a map of the 8 gardens of the tour will included.

Tell your friends!!

Interactive meeting April 2026
Composting



Photos from the Rose Garden wakeup at Hospice House



Grow and Show: May 26

This Month we are having a participation only show. There will be a small prize for entering the show.

Your **blue ticket** is your entry for the draw. Please use a **blue ticket** with your name on it for each entry.

Place your entries in the correct category, as labelled on the tables. No more than three entries per person, per category. I will collect the tickets and draw a winner after the coffee break. Thank you.

A. HOUSEPLANT DIVISION.

1. Open Class: any houseplant



B. CUT FLOWER SPECIMENS

1. Allium- any ornamental allium- one flowering stem
2. Clematis- one flower
3. Columbine- one stem
4. Coral bells- 3 stems
5. Peony - one flower
6. Tall bearded Iris - one stalk
7. Any other Iris - one stalk
8. A collection of a minimum of 5 different flowers (maximum of 20) a single stem each
9. Open Class: anything else from the garden



C. FLORAL ART DIVISION

Note: Commercially grown leaves and flowers may be used in Division C. Accessories are allowed

10. Micro-mini - an exhibit less than 3"
11. Pavé: A spring flower design
12. "Lazy S" -an S-shaped exhibit which may have been created at the floral art class. A straight vertical design is also acceptable.
13. "The Belle of the Ball" - an exhibit featuring Iris
14. Open Class - an exhibit you have created
15. Novice - an exhibit created by a garden club member who is either new to the club (less than 3 years), or is new at floral art.

D. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES DIVISION

16. Open Class - any spring edible placed on a display surface

E. THE IMAGE GARDEN

17. Photos and/or images of your garden - a collection of three photographs or one drawing/painting





VERNON & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB 1926

Plant Sale

Saturday May 9, 2026
8am - 11am

Home Hardware - Home Building Centre
4601 27th St - Parking Lot

Perennials	Succulents
Vegetables	Herbs
Tulips	Peppers
Master Gardeners	Warm Climates

Celebrating 100 Years!
1926-2026



"What to do for your Garden this month"

May is when the garden truly takes off. Warmer days and longer evenings create the perfect conditions for planting, feeding, and setting your space up for a full season of growth. Here's where to focus your efforts this month.

PLANTING AND PROTECTING

What to Plant

May is when the garden really starts to come alive, and it's time to begin planting out tender crops like tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers.

Protect

Be ready to protect new plantings with row cover or light frost cloth if temperatures dip. A little caution now helps avoid setbacks later.

Hardening Off

Before planting tender annuals and vegetables outdoors, take time to harden them off. Gradually introduce plants to outdoor conditions over 5-7 days, starting in a sheltered, shaded spot and slowly increasing their exposure to sun, wind, and cooler temperatures. This helps prevent transplant shock and sets them up for stronger, healthier growth.

FEEDING FOR STRONG GROWTH

As plants shift into active growth, consistent feeding makes all the difference.

Evergreen trees and shrubs benefit from a slow-release granular fertiliser, or a water-soluble option for a quicker boost.

Annuals are heavy feeders and benefit from regular fertilising for fuller growth and more blooms. Our Bylands Hanging Basket 14-14-14 slow-release fertiliser provides a steady, balanced feed for all your plants, not just baskets.

ROSES & ACID-LOVING PLANTS

Rhododendrons & Azaleas

Once rhododendrons and azaleas finish blooming, take a few moments to pinch off spent flowers. This helps direct energy back into the plant for stronger growth next year. Use Nurseryland Rhododendron & Azalea Food 6-12-8 to maintain healthy plants throughout the year.

Roses are also entering their prime growing season and benefit from regular feeding to support healthy foliage and abundant blooms. Use Nurseryland Rose Food 6-18-18

WATERING NEW PLANTS

Newly planted trees, shrubs, and flowers need a little extra attention as they establish. Irrigation systems don't always provide enough water to the root ball, so it's important to hand water deeply and consistently, especially during warm days.

GARDEN TIP

Consider planting drought tolerant perennials to save money on your water bill!

HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds return in May. Hanging feeders helps support them as natural food sources are still developing. Keep feeders clean and filled to encourage regular visits. We have a wide variety of styles of feeders, food, and accessories.

Courtesy of



**Garden Club Members,
Janet Stoll really would like you to fill in this form. Please take a few minutes to do so.**

What does the Garden Club mean to you? _____

We would also like a picture of you and/or your garden (maximum 2 pictures). Return form & pictures to a meeting or email to vernongardenclubbc@gmail.com

Garden Club Bursary

The garden club is accepting applications for the Club Bursary. The bursary amount is \$1500, which can be awarded to an individual or divided between two applicants. Applicants can receive the bursary a maximum of twice. Eligible applicants should have successfully completed at least one year of full-time post-secondary academic study and will be attending any post-secondary institution the following semester for a subsequent year of full-time study. Provision is made for a mature student, one who is over 25 years of age and has been out of school for at least two years. Preference will be given to an applicant who is a member or is related to a member of the Vernon & District Garden Club.

Important dates coming up with Garden Club activities.

- May 26:** Grow and Show: Participate and learn how best to be prepared for the Flower show.
- June 6:** Vernon People Place Garden Tour (see info on page 4)
- June 20:** Our Annual Flower Show. This year it will be in the Schubert Centre.
- July 28:** Our Annual Picnic in Coldstream Park

In town businesses who will give us discounts

Buckerfields: located in the old Growers Supply business at 1200 Waddington Drive

and is open 7 days a week.

Garden Club members can present their Garden Club membership card with a purchase and they will give Club members 10% off anything gardening related.

They also have seniors 65+ days 10% off every Wednesday -but not with discounted items

Nicholas Alexander gives you a 10% discount when you present your membership card before the business rings in your sale and the discount doesn't apply to sale items.

At N.A. the discount is only on plant material.

Membership Fees for 2026 is now available

\$20/person or \$30/couple

You can fill in your membership form online at:

Tiny.cc/Vernon26

E-transfers are recommended and accepted.:

treasurer.vdgc@gmail.com

Paper copies of the form will also be available at the general meetings and payable by cash or cheque to:

Vernon and District Garden Club

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Please bring your

Butcher Boys
and
Nature's Fare
receipts



Executive 2026

Co-Presidents

Roberta Drinkwater 250-309-4315

Linda Andrews 250-938-0484

Past Presidents

Sharon Hopkins 306-229-0881

Jen Owen 403-613-9829

Co-Secretaries

Viv Allen 604-790-5116

Danielle Hitchings 306-291-3531

Treasurer

Bruce Andrews 250-307-8047

Directors

Janet Stoll 250-545-4273

Lisa DiFrancesco 403-606-5377

Vickie Biggs 403-680-7910

Lita Mueller 289-926-0183

Teresa Atkinson 250-682-1491

Scrapbook Editor: Lita Mueller

Website Editor: Sylvie Olnyk 403-464-6494

Newsletter Editor: Maaïke van Zwaaij
maaikevanzwaaij@gmail.com