

WEED ALL ABOUT US

Your Kamloops Garden Club Newsletter
March 2026



Next meeting: Wednesday March 25, 2026

Heritage House (Upper level)
100 Lorne St. Kamloops
(Riverside Park)
Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Thank you to Doug Smith for his presentation and explanation of our new Club Website at the February meeting! It was very helpful to have a tutorial about it! You can jump the website by using the QR code at the bottom of this Newsletter!

We are very excited to announce this month's **Speaker**, Jay Akerly!

Jay Akerley is a rock gardening enthusiast with unique experience gardening at sea level in Vancouver, at sub-alpine elevations in Canada's second largest ski resort, on British Columbia's high and dry Thompson Plateau and in its arid, desert-like interior. His degree in Geography from Simon Fraser University and training at the Pacific Horticulture College in Victoria nurtured an interest in the world's montane, high steppe, and desert plants and landscapes. His gardens have featured the widest possible variety of rock garden plants in British Columbia's wettest and driest environments, from USDA Zone 3 to Zone 8.

Jay is a regular featured speaker for the North American Rock Garden Society and its chapters, as well as a former President of the Alpine Garden Club of British Columbia.

- ★ This presentation will be approximately 45-50 minutes. Afterwards, Jay will have Q&A, then we will break for coffee, and have the meeting events after coffee; we encourage you to stay for this.

A FEW REMINDERS:

*Memberships are due by **March 31/26**. Cash, Cheque, and e-transfer accepted at thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com*

Please remember to fill out your personal info sheet, get your 2026 membership card, and parking pass.

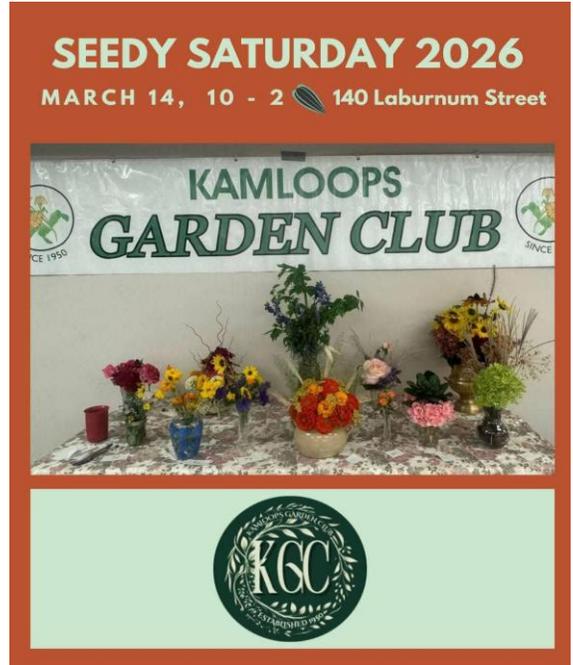
*It's a busy time, thank you for your patience! Memberships not renewed by Mar 31 will be archived, until paid. **Please see Myles and Lorna***

- ★ To keep up with the rising costs of venue rent, insurance, guest speakers, and our various club events, we have made the decision to implement a \$5 Drop-In fee for non-members attending our meetings. This change will take effect starting with the March meeting and will continue in the future. We appreciate your ongoing support and understanding as we work to maintain the quality of our club's programming.
- ★ Fees are \$20 per person/year for membership.
- ★ If the Heritage House parking area is full, please park and display your pink parking pass
- ★ Please bring your own coffee cup.
- ★ If you have **4" cleaned pots** you aren't using, please donate to the club to pot up plants for the May 9 plant sale
- ★ Liv Sallows is looking after coffee and tea at break. We need someone to step up and take on this job for Liv going forward. It involves making coffee and boiling water for tea, and clean up. Easy. Thank you.
- ★ Lynn Hauzeneder is bringing the snack this month. Thank you Lynn!
- ★ We will have a **Share Table** at each meeting. Bring your still useful but unneeded garden related items for others. If it not claimed you need to take it back home with you. You might find that thing you didn't know you needed!
- ★ For everyone's comfort, the meetings and events are Scent-free, thank you.
- ★ We had a fantastic year in 2025 for Garden Tours, Lets Do It AGAIN! Let us know if you are willing to allow us to oooh and ahhhh over your beauties, or if you know of a garden you enjoy – let us know!
- ★ For speakers please email Carol, at cwozencroft@gmail.com or 250-319-5451 with your suggestions. Please tell anyone who might like to speak at our meetings that we pay them \$100 for a ½ to ¾ hour presentation. We can provide a laptop & projector if necessary.
- ★ Japanese Beetle: <https://www.kamloops.ca/our-community/environment-sustainability/healthy-landscapes/japanese-beetle> **Please do not** share or sell plants from Downtown areas. It is recommended to not share outside of Westsyde and Valleyview areas as the insect has been located in these areas as well. This information is from Megan Blackwell, who is part of the Invasive Species Council of BC.

SUCCESSFUL SEEDY SATURDAY AT MOUNT PAUL COMMUNITY CENTRE

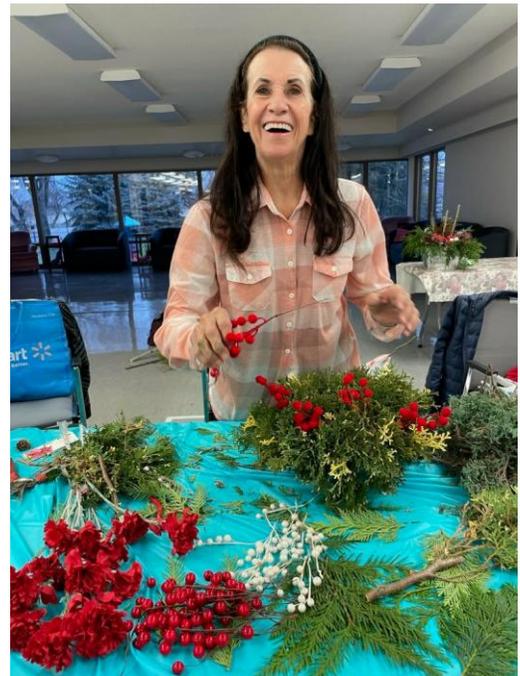
Interior Community Services is proud to offer a series of gardening programs at the Mount Paul Community Food Centre and with the City of Kamloops!

On March 14, we enjoyed having a table to introduce and promote our garden club! Thank you to: Roni Sue who was kind enough to procure some beautiful new sandwich board signs for us; Carol and Myles for setting up on Friday; and staffing the table Saturday was Dianne, Liv, Carol and Shauna!



IN HONOUR OF JUDY VILLENEUVE

We are heartbroken to share with all of you the loss of our dear member Judy Villeneuve, who passed away March 20. Judy has been a vital member of our group and given tirelessly for over 20 years. Many of us have been blessed with her knowledge and her gifts of plants. Judy loved our garden club and was willing to do anything for it and it's members. We all count ourselves lucky to have been touched by her generosity. Her loss will leave a gap that will not be easily filled.



MAY 9, 2026 is KAMLOOPS GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE!!

We are part of the British Columbia Council of Garden Clubs. In their February newsletter, The Bullet, they suggested “Ingredients for Successful Garden Club Plant Sales”. Here are their suggestions:

- ◆ Homegrown perennials, unique varieties — edible plants have become very popular these days: Offer plants propagated or grown from seed by members, include rare alpiners, natives, or cultivars not found in commercial nurseries. Include popular easy-to-grow annuals such as zinnias, sunflowers, veggie starts, pollinator-friendly plants, and attractive hanging baskets.
- ◆ Good marketing (social media, local ads, signage): Facebook, local community groups to post photos, list items and create event pages. Announce on local radio, papers, community calendars, and of course the events page of the BCCGC website. Promote early and promote unique offerings, and expert advice.
- ◆ Added attractions- like tool sharpening or Raffles: Short, free workshops (for example, on container gardening) draw crowds. Complement plant sales with homemade baked goods. Offer Expert advice (Master Gardener participation) Sell donated or recycled garden tools and decor.
- ◆ Logistics and presentation are very important: Clear labels with plant names, growing conditions, and watering needs. Use recycled clean pots and *most importantly recruit volunteers for setup, pricing, selling, and cleanup.*

Please, if this has given you any ideas for the sale, or you see how you can help in any area, we want to hear from you!
We need your and experience and involvement to make this a year to remember.

Board of Directors

Volunteer Spots / Committee Opportunities

President	Carol Wozencroft	Flower Show and Tea	Carol & Roni Sue (& Liv)
Vice Pres	Roni-Sue Coulter	Annual Plant Sale	Dianne S & Annie T & others!
Secretary	Cheri-Dawn Witwiky	Garden Tours	
Treasurer	Lorna McMillan	Sign in Desk	Annie T & Joyce R
Membership	Myles Huble	Door Greeter	Ruth L
Facilities Liaison	Dianne Smith	Wreath Workshop	
Social Media	Kiera McLellan	Coffee and Snacks	Coffee& Tea at Break: Liv S Snacks: Lynn H
Member at Large	Dianne Smith	Potluck Dinner Food Planning	Sally O
Website	Dianne Smith	Potluck Dinner Set Up	
Speakers	Carol W	Newsletter	Kiera M

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND CLUB EVENTS

Wednesday Meetings 1830-2030	Special Events		
January 28	Plant Sale	May 9 (Sat)	8-2pm (doors open 9-1)
February 25		June 19 (Fri)	4 - 6 PM Setup
March 25	Rose and Flower Show	June 20 (Sat)	7-8 AM - Setup, 8-10 AM - Entries dropped off, 10-1 PM - Judges, 1-3 PM - Flower show and tea
April 22	Wreath Making	Nov 22 (Sun)	1 - 4 PM Hal Rogers Activity Ctr 2025 Summit Dr
May 27			
June 24	**December Potluck	Dec 6 (Sun)	4 - 9 PM
September 23	Garden Tours	TBA	
October 28			
**November 25			**Due to the possibility of the Kamloops Christmas Market using Heritage House parking and facilities, November Meeting and December Potluck may change location.

FIRESMART FOR YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prepare/firesmart>

<https://firesmartbc.ca/>

Friends of the Kamloops Garden Club that support our efforts!

*These preferred companies have offered us a discount for Members. Your Membership card **Must** be shown to access the discount.*

Ollek Landscaping and Nurseries 2530 Knutsford Hills Dr, Kamloops 778-220-4455
info@ollek.ca

Agri Supply 782d Tagish St, Kamloops 250-372-7446 agrisupplykam@gmail.com

We hope to have more companies join this list soon.

Follow and contribute your ideas and pictures and knowledge here:

<https://www.facebook.com/KamloopsGardenClub> Kamloops Garden Club Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2602102930005297> Kamloops Garden Club GROUP
Facebook Page

<https://kamloopsgardenclub.com/> Kamloops Garden Club Website



Contact email: thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com

★ Please send your garden experience photos to the Club email for June's Presentation by Shauna!! Is there a story to go with them? Please share!