

WEED ALL ABOUT US

Your Kamloops Garden Club Newsletter MAY 2026

Next meeting: Wednesday May 27, 2026



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

The **Speaker for the May** meeting will be Maura Allen, a long time club member and former director of the Rose & Flower Show and Tea. Maura will demonstrate and discuss how to prepare and present entries for the Show & Tea on June 20th. There is much to cover for this annual event!

The **Speaker for the June** meeting will be member, Shauna Pezzot. She will share her collection of pictures of flowers and Gardens sent to her by you and also borrowed from Facebook. She has to put a lot of time into the organizing, so lets help her by giving her photos! shaunapezzot@hotmail.com

Big thank you to our presenters at last month's meeting! Noreen and Trudi explained their life long experiences learned from their elders and education with Ethnobotany. They showed us various examples of salves made from cottonwood, and evergreens, and brought examples of the plants described in the presentation. So very interesting to learn about the plants growing around where we live and many of their uses medicinally and traditionally.



Ethnobotany: The scientific study of the traditional knowledge and customs of a people and their interactions with plants, concerning their medicinal, religious and other uses.



MAY 9 PLANT SALE REVIEW!!

It was a beautiful sunny day, and the energy was great! Thank you to the many people who showed up to give their time and energy to volunteer- YOU made it run so smoothly! Thank you to all the people who showed up to shop!

Thank you to all the vendors who added so much to our event! It was a huge success! We had 3 people renew their memberships and 2 new people have become members! Lorna's monthly email outlines costs and expenses and our net profit.



We hope to have more foot traffic next year, so if everyone who sees the event or ad or request for help on Facebook could also share it to their own page, so many more people will see it!! We had to compete with the farmers market, a ton of individual plant sales around Kamloops promoted on FB's Kamloops Green & Garden site, and Mother's day events. Please consider this and if you have ideas about how to increase our advertising and market footprint, we need to hear from you.



Dianne Smith started just a bit ago as the new Member at Large, then took on the Facilities Liaison role to navigate the city/club relationship. With the help of her husband Doug, Dianne built our fantastic Website that the QR Code directs you to! And then she became the Plant Sale Committee Lead. Dianne went above and beyond to Organize the event and create an organizational binder that breaks down all the steps and actions for creating a successful event and reviewing the process to better it for next year. We are truly indebted to you; the next Plant Sale Committee lead will have the planning already done! Big Kudos!!

Garden Treasure Table: Remaining books were donated to Value Village. Remaining plants were potted up at the hospice wing of Overlander Extended Care facility. Marigolds, tomatoes, and Salvias together will make for interesting displays for the residents.

OUR FIRST LOCAL VENDORS AT THE PLANT SALE:



ANN MARIE of HUNTERS HONEY



SYLVIA'S GIFTS

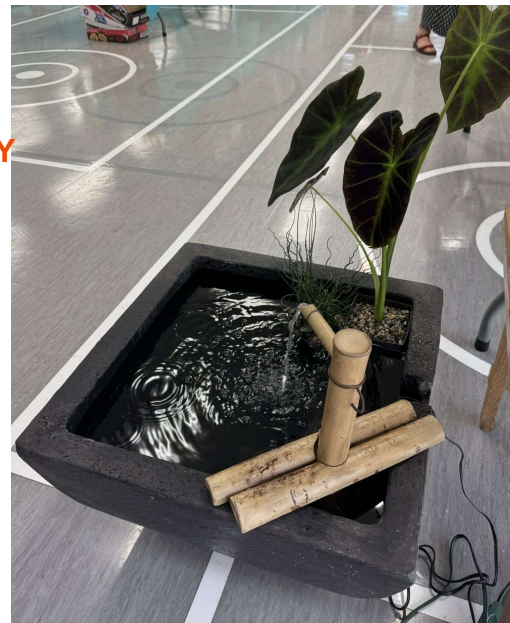


PAMELA'S ORGONITE

TREVOR & KELSEY of ELEMENTAL DESIGN

Feed back from the vendors was positive and they expressed a willingness to return to this event next year!

Thank you to Carol and Roni Sue for so much work on this addition to the sale!



A FEW REMINDERS:

- ★ A warm welcome to our newest Member at Large, Carol Allen who has joined us to fill a much needed role! Carol is a fantastic addition and we all look forward to getting to know her better!
- ★ Shauna Pezzot is planning her Flower Picture show for us for the **June** meeting. Show us the wonderful things you are growing in any kind of area and medium! If you have stories to tell with them, please share! Please send your emails to shaunapezzot@hotmail.com or thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com so Shauna can put together her show for June, for us to enjoy before the summer break! C'mon team!
- ★ 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, January to December.**
- ★ If the Heritage House parking area is full, please park and display your pink parking pass
- ★ Please bring your own coffee cup.
- ★ **We need someone to step up and take care of the coffee and tea going forward.** It involves making coffee and boiling water for tea, and clean up. Not a big commitment, but greatly appreciated by everyone. Thank you.
- ★ Ambo Dhaliwal is bringing the **snack** this month. Thank you Ambo!
- ★ 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 Roni Sue know at thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com! If you know of a garden and would like an ice-breaker, we have these cards available:



- ★ **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.

Maurice 'Moe' Granger: Celebration of Life in Moe's honour

January 31, 1937 — February 11, 2026



Moe was a member of the Kamloops Garden Club with his wife Mary, a community builder, a teacher, a coach and a friend but most importantly he was a husband, father and granddad. Of all his amazing attributes, it is his incredible kindness that deeply touched the lives of so many people.

A **Celebration of Life in Moe's honour will be held on Saturday, June 13th at 1:00 pm** at Thompson Rivers University, Mountain Room in the TRU Conference Centre (Kamloops, BC) and we would love for those who knew him to join us in remembering the wonderful, dedicated, and caring life of Moe. He was a passionate educator which is why we will be gathering at TRU (formerly Cariboo College) where Moe taught for 32 years. Food and beverages will be served. Please wear something comfortable that makes you feel cheerful. To help us capture your memories of Moe in a slide show, please e-mail your photos by April 30th to jasonagranger@yahoo.ca or by text to 778-875-2108. In lieu of flowers, a donation in Moe's memory may be made to the Kamloops Hospice Association (Marjorie Willoughby Snowden Hospice Home) (www.kamloopshospice.com)

~~~~~

**Creating a Kamloops Xeriscape:** <https://www.kamloops.ca/sites/default/files/brochure-createxeriscape.pdf>

**Kamloops Noxious weeds & Invasive plants:**

<https://www.kamloops.ca/our-community/environment-sustainability/healthy-landscapes/integrated-pest-management/noxious>

**BC INVASIVES:** <https://bcinvasives.ca/take-action/identify/>

What kind of fruit do ghosts like?      Boo-berries  
Where do pirates get their hooks?      2nd hand stores  
What do you call a sad cup of coffee?      Depresso

**COMMUNITY ROSE & FLOWER SHOW & TEA**

**JUNE 20,2026**

It is that time of year again! Get into your plants, flowers, shrubs, greens, and pick nice ones to enter! Have it prepped and ready to be enjoyed by everyone at the Tea! The call for volunteer help is happening too, and the list will go out at the meeting for sign up.

From Registration, Kitchen set up, Door Helpers, Entry Placement, Kitchen clean up and Servers, to greeters, to bakers, Clean up..... we would love you to be a part of it!! Bakers can bake ahead and freeze squares, cookies or cake! Small, 2 inch square sized dainties for serving would be great!

For the Regulations and information pamphlet, if you miss getting one at the meeting, email: [thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com)



**KAMLOOPS GARDEN CLUB**  
www.kamloopsgardenclub.com  
thekamloopsgardenclub@gmail.com for Info and Show Regulations

**Community Rose &  
Flower Show & Tea**

**Saturday June 20, 2026**

**At Heritage House**  
**100 Lorne St, Riverside Park**

**Entries- Free to enter**

**Accepted from 8:00 am to 10:15 am**

**Judging**  
**Starts at 10:30 am**

**Flower Show and Tea**  
**1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

**Admission \$5.00**

**Includes tea & coffee & dainties**

**Awards Presented**  
**From 2:30 pm**

Door prizes, Awards, and Event sponsored by  
Kamloops Garden Club, Art Knapp,  
Martin and Martin Lawyers, &  
Chartwell Ridgepoint Retirement Community



**Regulations for the Entries for The Rose and Flower Show and Tea**

1. Exhibitors may enter as many classes as they wish. More than one entry per class allowed.
2. Exhibitors must supply their own containers.
3. Help will be available for the completion of registration cards.
4. Roses, lilies, perennials, biennials, annuals, peonies, irises and clematises must be in clear, colourless glass containers. Containers quality does not influence judging.
5. No commercially grown flowers, except for arrangements.
6. Flowers must have their own attached foliage unless otherwise noted.
7. Accessories are not allowed unless otherwise noted.
8. Judges may withhold awards if in their opinion there is no exhibit in the class that merits an award.
9. BC Council of Garden Clubs Rules are used.
10. The club has the right to refuse any entry.
11. Complaints about the show by exhibitors should be submitted to the show Chairperson in writing before the close of the show.
12. The Club will not be responsible for loss or damage to an exhibitor's container or personal effects.

Information on: Flower Show Classes; Hints for entries in the Flower Show; How to Condition Flowers and Special Notes for Certain types of flowers, will be found in the booklet available at the May meeting.



## Lilac Simple Syrup

*From Roni Sue Coulter:*

**Makes:** ~2 cups

**Flavour:** Dark-floral, lilac-forward, lightly lavender-like

**Best for:** Lemonade, spritzers, cocktails, cordials

### Ingredients

- 4 cups fresh lilac florets
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 cups water



### Preparation:

#### Prepare Florets

1. Choose fresh, fully open blooms (purple varieties have the strongest flavour).
2. Strip florets from stems, keeping only the purple petals—green bits add bitterness.
3. Rinse gently in a fine-mesh strainer.

#### Make the Syrup

1. Heat sugar and water in a saucepan until dissolved.
2. Add lilac florets, stir, cover, and simmer 5 minutes.
3. Remove from heat and keep covered. Steep **3–8 hours**, tasting for desired floral strength.
4. Strain through a fine-mesh sieve (you may need to strain twice).
5. Bottle in a clean glass jar and refrigerate.

### Using Lilac Syrup

- Add 1–2 oz to lemonade, tonic, ginger ale, sparkling wine.
- Make **lilac lemonade**: 1 part syrup + 1 part lemon juice + 2 parts water.
- Create a **lilac shandy** with light beer.
- Turn into **crème de lilac** by blending with vodka and adjusting sweetness.
- Make a lilac cordial by adding citric/tartaric acids and extra water.

### Storage

- Refrigerated: **1–2 weeks** in a sealed jar.
  - Frozen: **Up to 6 months**.
  - Canned: **Up to 1 year**.
- Signs it has spoiled:** Cloudiness, off-smell, or visible mold.

Whether you stir it into lemonade or splash it into a spring cocktail, lilac syrup brings a little garden magic to every glass. Enjoy it outdoors, share it generously, and celebrate the fleeting beauty of lilac season

**Personal note:** I have sometimes left mine sitting in the fridge for a day or two before straining (busy!) and it has been just fine. I have also successfully used my frozen syrup long after the 6 months. You can tell if it's any good. I tried doing the ice cube tray for freezing and that was not successful. The syrup doesn't really freeze solid, so this was messy to use. I have added this to teas and cocktails as well as lemonade and everyone has truly enjoyed the surprise flavour. I hope you do too.



**FIRESMART FOR YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY:**

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

<https://firesmartbc.ca/>

**KAMLOOPS FIRE ZONE** Prohibitions and Restrictions:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/fire-bans-and-restrictions/kamloops-fire-centre-bans>



**Board of Directors**

**Volunteer Spots / Committee Opportunities**

|                           |                             |                                     |                                                                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>President</b>          | Carol Wozencroft            | <b>Flower Show and Tea</b>          | Carol & Roni Sue (& Liv retires) & <b>Volunteers</b>            |
| <b>Vice Pres</b>          | Roni-Sue Coulter            | <b>Annual Plant Sale</b>            | Dianne S & Annie T & <b>Volunteers :) thank you!</b>            |
| <b>Secretary</b>          | Cheri-Dawn Witwiky          | <b>Garden Tours</b>                 | Roni Sue C                                                      |
| <b>Treasurer</b>          | Lorna McMillan              | <b>Sign in Desk</b>                 | Annie T & Joyce R                                               |
| <b>Membership</b>         | Myles Huble                 | <b>Door Greeter</b>                 | Ruth L                                                          |
| <b>Facilities Liaison</b> | Dianne Smith                | <b>Wreath Workshop</b>              | <b>You?</b>                                                     |
| <b>Social Media</b>       | Kiera McLellan              | <b>Coffee and Snacks</b>            | Coffee& Tea at Break: <b>YOU?</b><br>Snacks: Ambo Dhaliwal- May |
| <b>Member at Large</b>    | Carol Allen <b>WELCOME!</b> | <b>Potluck Dinner Food Planning</b> | Sally O                                                         |
| <b>Website</b>            | Dianne Smith                | <b>Potluck Dinner Set Up</b>        | <b>Volunteers</b>                                               |
| <b>Speakers</b>           | Carol W                     | <b>Newsletter</b>                   | Kiera M                                                         |

**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

