

SEEDERS AND WEEDERS NEWSLETTER

November 2025



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 - Sue Wiebe

Director at large – Linda Meraw

Newsletter Editor – Dianne Lockton

Website Manager - Mary Jane Duford

Sunshine - Dianne Lockton and Heather Hayes

Door Prizes – Sue Rook

GENERAL MEETING

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

Next meeting 6:30 pm February 3, 2026

(the December 2 meeting will be a social at 6 p.m.)

GUEST SPEAKER

In lieu of a speaker this month the club members held a round table discussion on what worked in their gardens and what didn't.

ARMSTRONG AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB
Agenda for TUESDAY, November 4, 2025, 6:30 PM
St. James Church Hall, ARMSTRONG

Welcome to our newest member, Roy Reinmuth

Attendees: 14 members in attendance

1. Call to Order - Mary called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda – Suzie (1st) and Rea (2nd).
3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Linda M. moved to approve the minutes of October 7, 2025 as circulated.

4. Correspondence

Thank you letter and tax receipt received from the Starfish Program regarding our donation.

Thank you letter from Glad Tidings Church for the donation to the Pleasant Valley Community Gardens which will help them enhance the space and add more beds.

Thank you from Candace Hitch of PV Manor for the donation which they will use to purchase plants and flowers for their patios. They also appreciated the ADGC members' assistance in planting this year.

5. Treasurer's Report

Paul noted that we continue to have a healthy bank balance. Move to receive the Finance report by Sue R. CARRIED.

6. Old Business
No report.

7. New Business

a. Offer from Career Program teacher at PVSS

Charlotte Purdon teaches the Career Connections Program at PVSS. This year she is working with nine Gr 10 – 12 students who are looking for real-life, hands-on learning opportunities in Armstrong. Members suggested weekday tasks, like Garden Sale prep, PV Manor planting etc.

ACTION: Linda M. will follow-up with Charlotte to review opportunities.

b. Pots Available from Karen

Karen is offering ADGC first pick of her used nursery pot collection. Members suggested we could use some of the 1 gallon pots. (Karen has 234).

ACTION: Mary will follow-up with Sue W. to confirm need and storage availability, then contact Karen.

c. December Social

The club will hold a social on our regular meeting day, December 2, 2025. We agreed on a 6 p.m. start time. Members are invited to bring appies and desserts that feeds 6, their own beverage, cutlery and plates. Spouses are welcome.

8. Adjourn – Mary adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Thanks to Chris W. for goodies!

Addendum:

Speaker Ideas: Here's a start to some speaker ideas. Please forward your suggestions to Heather or Mary!

- arborist to talk about pruning or reducing stress on trees
- possible road trip to Summerland gardens, especially rose gardens
- speaker on irrigation, DIY and things to consider

GARDENING INFORMATION

After enjoying colourful blooms during spring, summer and fall, gardeners often look for plants to brighten our short winter days. Christmas cactus is one of the favourites. Amaryllis is also a popular plant often given as a gift for Christmas.

The true amaryllis is native to South Africa. Most of the varieties grown today are hybrids and originate in South America or Europe. Colours vary from multi-coloured to white, red, pink and orange.

Amaryllis bulbs should be stored in a cool dark place until they can be planted in a pot.

The bulb's roots should first be soaked in lukewarm water for a few hours. When planting, one third of the bulb should be above the soil with 2 ½ cm (an inch) of space on each side of the bulb. The plant might not bloom if the pot is too large. The soil should be a potting mix. A mixture of equal parts peat and perlite will help with drainage.

Do not overwater. Let the soil surface dry a bit between waterings. When flowering starts, increase watering days to one or two times a week.

Place the amaryllis in a bright room (east facing) away from cold windows and heating vents. Not enough light can result in elongated leaves and no flowers the following year. The room temperature should be 15 to 21 degrees Celsius. Rotate the pot every few days to keep the flower stalk vertical. Staking the flower stalk will also help to keep it from bending.

When blooming has ended cut off the flower stalks. Fertilize using a product with high phosphorous content and keep watering. Do not cut off the leaves until they have yellowed and wither. This allows the bulb to store energy for the next growing season.

Let the soil dry and store the potted bulb in a cool, dark room. Check the bulb for new growth about two months later. The bulb can be repotted and moved into the light again when growth has appeared.

Bulbs or bulb kits can usually be found at the local nurseries in mid to late November.

Note: Amaryllis can be toxic to pets

Source: www.almanac.com and www.artknappkamloops.ca



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Club Social 6 p.m. December 2, 2025 St James Anglican Church Hall

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: 10% Discount on plant material
2 - 3% on other store material (except meat and dairy)

*Members must be registered with the store

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.