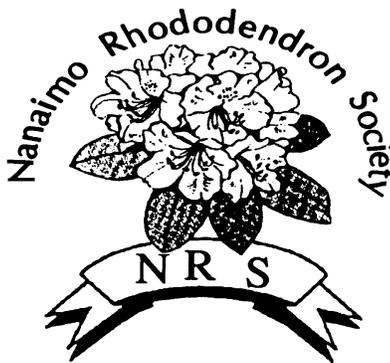


APRIL MEETING IS THE THIRD THURSDAY - APRIL 15



**APRIL
2004**

Volume 12



Issue 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Time now to go through the garden and review what has to be done. A first application of fertilizer is required now. We find that three light applications of a controlled release nutrient c/w trace elements such as magnesium and iron with the major elements of a ratio 24-3-6, or similar, works well. The nutrients are applied throughout the blooming and growing period from late March to late May. Nitrogen is the main element required for growth and plant cell formation. Later in the year a more balanced nutrient would be appropriate to provide the other elements required to harden off growth and assist with new bud formation. Organic nutrients are excellent to use but have to be applied well in advance of when the plant requires them in order to be converted to a usable form. For immediate results, a liquid nutrient such as Hi Sol or Miracle Grow can be applied to the plant foliage and roots. A light application of dolomite lime is beneficial to plants in making the nutrients available.

Last weekend, we planted more rhododendrons and found that in some areas the soil is quite dry, especially underneath or next to large coniferous trees. It is important to make sure that your plants have sufficient moisture for blooms and new growth. You may have to get out there with a hose or start up the irrigation system. General clean up, final pruning and edging should be done now. For the lawn, aeration, power raking, followed by an application of fertilizer and overseeding if you have any bare spots. See you at the meeting. Richard.

EXECUTIVE

President	Richard White	752-6519
V/President	Paul Lawry	390-2370
Secretary	Craig Clarke	390-4090
Treasurer	Barb Coy	758-8497
Directors	Allan McRae	758-7589
	Mike Miller	758-2879
	Helmut Neuman	714-1840
	Chris Southwick	758-0993
	Mary Taylor	756-3984
	Anne Williamson	390-2604

COMMITTEES

ADVERTISING	Allan	758-7589
LIBRARY	Chris (temp)	758-0993
NEWSLETTER	Paul & Linda	390-2370
PROGRAMS	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
RAFFLE TABLE	June & John	
SOCIAL	Anne	390-2604
\$ TABLE	Yvonne	756-3574

NRS MEETING
APRIL 15 BEBAN PARK AT 7:30

RON KNIGHT

**How to make your Rhodos think they
are living in the Himalayas**

APRIL MEETING IS THE THIRD THURSDAY - APRIL 15

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

SNACKS

THE PAULLS
JANE ATKINSON
A. MCRAE

RAFFLE

JOHN & JUNE

\$ TABLE

YVONNE

NRS MAILING ADDRESS

Suite 241 1-5765 Turner Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6M4

NRS WEBSITE

www.rhodos.ca/nanaimo

NRS EMAIL ADDRESS

Nanaimo@rhodos.ca

PAST ISSUES

www.rhodos.ca/nanaimo/newsarchive.htm

ARS WEBSITE

www.rhododendron.org

Rhododendron & Azalea News

www.rhododendron.org/news/newsindex.htm

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Paul & Linda Lawry

Email: plawry@telus.net

Telephone: [250] 390-2370

Nanaimo Horticultural Society

presents

Spring Plant Sale

April 17th, 9:00am-2:00pm

Rutherford Mall, *centre court*

Master Gardeners on site

15-minute quickie demonstrations each hour.

Buckets of plants will be available!



Paul & Lynn Wurz
4307 Gordon Rd.
Campbell River,
287-4301

Pwurz@oberon.ark.com

Growers of Specialty Rhododendrons

MARS INFORMATION

Flower Show & Plant Sale

Saturday April 17 10am - 2pm.

Qualicum Curling Club

644 Memorial Ave, Qualicum.

For info phone 752-5997.

Garden Tour

Saturday May 8th and Sunday May 9th.

12 gardens for \$10, 10 am to 4pm each day.

APRIL MEETING IS THE THIRD THURSDAY - APRIL 15

Rhododendron Potting Up Day

Date: April 3, 2004.
Saturday. 9 -

*Cancelled until
further notice*

12.

ISLAND SPECIALTY NURSERY

We are open! With an exciting selection of Japanese Maples, Dogwoods and much more... Hellebore hybrids and Pulmonaria are on sale right now. Don't miss Don's special plants that he is starting to bring in for sale, so check in often...

Regular hours:

Thursday through Monday, 10 am to 5:30 pm.

Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays

8797 Chemainus Road, 3 km south of Chemainus on the road to Crofton

The only other Clinic this year:

Saturday, June 12

Bring your gardening questions, problems, questionable pests for identification, sprigs of diseased plants or detailed symptoms for diagnoses. Or come just to chat and socialize and enjoy coffee!

***The Master Gardeners are an Association of volunteers whose mandate is to provide reliable, current horticultural and gardening information for the home gardener. More seasoned members work with the students at the nursery clinics as well as supervise and help them in their training. Master Gardeners do not claim to have "all the answers" but they try to find an answer to every gardening query by referring to books or to people with specialized knowledge.**

MINI-TRUSS SHOW AT APRIL MEETING

Everyone is encouraged to bring a truss and/or foliage. You will learn how to select a truss for the May show. In addition, hints on how to keep the truss fresh and other useful information.

Bring in your favourite rhodo & share with your fellow members.

NANAIMO RHODO TRUSS & PLANT SHOW

MAY 8

Volunteers will be needed to help with a variety of duties



Flora: Over 20,000 Plants and their

Cultivation Requirements

Editor: Wendy Thomas

This latest volume added to our library covers all the plant groups: trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials, bulbs, corms and tubers, cacti and succulents, lawns, ground cover, ornamental grasses, herbs, vegetables, fruit trees, other fruits, nut trees, palms and cycads, ferns, climbers and creepers, and orchids.

Organized in an A-Z format by botanical name, entries provide a description of each plant and its features. Entries include:

- Notes on origin
- Cultivation requirements
- Growth habit
- Propagation
- Pests and diseases

Written by a team of international botanical and horticultural writers, this book enables gardeners to choose the perfect plants for their garden while expanding their awareness of the astonishing variety of plants.

Special Features:

- The **Flora CD-ROM** gives you access extensive data to 20,000 plants. Cross reference the ideal plant for your climate zone. Keep a digital journal. Load the 20,000 botanical name spell-check into your computer. Instantly connect to gardening web sites on the Internet. This remarkable resource will quickly become your favorite gardening tool.
- **Genus Entry** contains general information about the group to which a plant belongs, including cultivation needs.
- **Thumb Tab** is a colored alphabetical tab that helps readers find their way through the pages.

(Continued on page 6)

Plantskydd® Deer Repellent is a Proven, Effective Protection for Garden Plants and Shrubs from Deer, Elk, Moose, Opossum, and Rabbit.

Plantskydd Deer Repellent is considered the most cost-effective and environmentally safe animal repellent available. Plantskydd is accepted and used by leading forest companies, nurseries, private woodlot owners, landscapers, and home gardeners, as well as State/Provincial and National Conservation agencies. Plantskydd Deer Repellent is made in the USA, is a 100% natural, environmentally friendly product, is 'Listed' by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI), and is member tested and recommended by the National Home Gardening Club.

Plantskydd Deer Repellent was initially developed in Sweden in 1991 in response to commercial forest plantations being decimated by plant eating mammals. The forest industry needed an animal repellent that could last through severe weather and meet Sweden's strict environmental laws. Plantskydd's long-term effectiveness is attributable to the tenacity of its 100% natural, vegetable oil binder in sticking to plants, even under severe snow/rainfall conditions: up to 6 months over winter, 3-4 months in summer. The Swedish name for the product "Plantskydd" translates as "Plant Protection".

Plantskydd Deer Repellent works by emitting an odor that animals associate with predator activity, repelling the animal before it nibbles on plants. Research has proven that odor-based repellents are more effective than other repellent systems where the animal needs to taste treated plants before being repelled. Once animals are attracted to an area and begin feeding, it is more difficult to discourage them from returning. Plantskydd stimulates a fear-based response which will have deer, elk, moose, opossum, and rabbits looking to dine somewhere other than your garden or plantation

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society - Minutes of March 11th 2004 Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by President Richard White at 7:34pm. Attendance 34.
2. Richard welcomed new members Rosina Schmidt and Debbie Gaboury and guest Bill Walley.
- 3 **Secretary's report** M/S/C to adopt the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter. Correspondence received: confirmation from 6 nurseries for the plant sale.
4. **Treasurer's report** The balance in the Bowen Park Legacy Account is \$156.17
The balance in the general account is \$2878.67
The balance in the library fund is \$375.81
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - Library** New acquisition: *Flora: Over 20,000 Plants and their Cultivation Requirements* edited by: Wendy Thomas.
 - Social** Thanks to all who contributed goodies.
 - Program** April - Ron Knight
May - Michael Miller on his trip to Nepal.
 - Advertising** Richard will appear on the New VI before the Truss Show
 - Draws** Name Tag – Liatris bulbs
Door Prize – Book
Raffle – R. 'Horizon Monarch'
 - Newsletter** Paul Lawry asked members to check that he has their correct e-mail addresses.
6. **Old business:**
 - Spring Bus Trip April 24, 2004, south to Duncan & Victoria gardens.
 - Truss show & Sale May 8, 2004; bring trusses to next meeting for demonstration; need volunteers for set-up at 7am; also still looking for someone to judge the show.
 - Year-end BBQ June 5, 2004; need someone to host it.
 - Potting Party Rhodo seedlings will arrive soon, probably work party will be organized on April 3rd to pot them up. Richard White has ½ gallon pots.
7. **New Business:**
 - Elections at AGM a volunteer is needed to canvass the members willing to stand for election.
 - Plant order from RSF plants will be picked up at UBC Botanical Garden at end of March.
 - M/S/C to donate \$100 to Milner Gardens.
8. **Executive meeting** will be hosted by Barb Coy on March 25th at 7pm.
9. **Door prize winners** Richard White, Connie Thompson, Reinholt Gorgosilich.
 - Name Tag Draw** Joyce Clarke
 - Raffle Draw** John Deniseger, Glenda Barr, Val Harvey, Ray Lauzier, Janice Quick, Brenda Lewis, Maurice Mauch, Chris Southwick, Helene Sullivan.
10. **Program** Geoff Ball gave an interesting presentation on the developments at Milner Gardens.

(Continued from page 4)

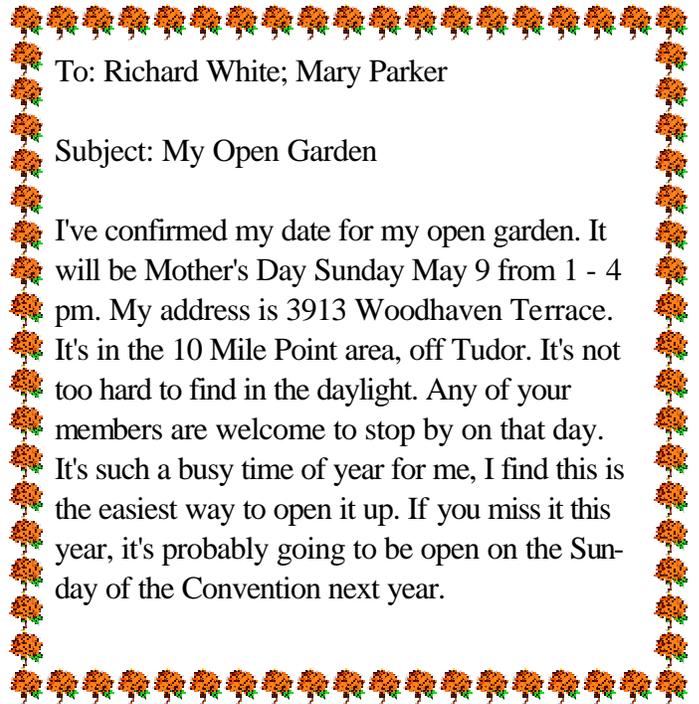
- **In the Wild Photograph** shows a plant in its natural habitat.
- **Dictionary-style Headings** help you locate a particular plant by its botanical name.
- **Species Entry** contains detailed information on a particular plant.
- **Caption** shows the botanical name of the pictured plant.

About the Author

Wendy Thomas is a gardener, freelance editor, and writer specializing in gardening. Her books include *The Ontario Gardener's Resource Guide*, *Superhints for Ontario Gardeners*, *Getting Started on a Great Canadian Garden* and she is also author of three books in the President's Choice Garden Guide Series -- *Care*, *Containers*, and *Bulbs* -- and co-author of Plantings in that series. Wendy writes articles for *Gardening Life* magazine, among others. She currently lives in Toronto and, in an attempt to rejuvenate an overgrown garden on the west coast of Scotland, is experimenting with long-distance gardening.

FRASER DAYS

In Ucluelet on May 29, 2004, there will be a celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the birth of George Fraser. This will be a major event for rhodo lovers. Several dignitaries, including Iona Campanola, Lieutenant Governor of BC and Mike Stewart, the president of the American Rhododendron Society, are expected to attend. This is an advance notice for those who may want to make overnight reservations.



To: Richard White; Mary Parker

Subject: My Open Garden

I've confirmed my date for my open garden. It will be Mother's Day Sunday May 9 from 1 - 4 pm. My address is 3913 Woodhaven Terrace. It's in the 10 Mile Point area, off Tudor. It's not too hard to find in the daylight. Any of your members are welcome to stop by on that day. It's such a busy time of year for me, I find this is the easiest way to open it up. If you miss it this year, it's probably going to be open on the Sunday of the Convention next year.

10th Annual Cowichan Valley Garden Tour

Self-guided tour of 6 gardens

Sunday May 30 10am - 5 pm.

Tickets \$15 available in Nanaimo at Dig This & Art Knapp.

Sponsored by Cowichan Family Life Association & Cowichan Dogwood IODE.

For more information, contact Sheila Owen 746-5052 or Betty Taylor 748-2483

Back Issues of ARS Journal available

Issues from Spring 1993 to Winter 2000
only missing Winter 1999
Contact Pat McLeod at 756-4721

APRIL MEETING IS THE THIRD THURSDAY - APRIL 15

**ANNUAL TRUSS
AND
PLANT SALE
SATURDAY**

**MAY 8TH
(DAY BEFORE
MOTHER'S DAY)
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**CENTENNIAL BUILDING
BEBAN PARK
NANAIMO**

WEAR YOUR NAME TAGS

Volunteers needed for the following:
setting up, assisting sellers and buyers,
truss show and cleaning up

**Horticulture Centre of the Pacific
April Classes**

Advanced Hypertufa

Wed: Apr 14 & Fri Apr 16
Time 1 - 3pm
Instr: **Carole Todd**
Cost: \$40 members, \$45 non-members

Free-Form Hypertufa

Wed: Apr 21 & Fri Apr 23
Time: 1 - 3pm
Instr: **Carole Todd**
Cost: \$35 members, \$40 non-members

Basic Landscape Drawing

Thurs: Apr 1, 8, 15, 22 & May 6, 13
Instr: **Deborah LeFrank** BVCSLA, CSLA
Time: 6:30 - 9pm
Cost: \$275 members, \$300 non-members
NB one session will be a field trip

Flowering Shrubs

Sat: Apr 24
Time: 1:30 - 3:30pm
Instr: **Diane Pierce**
Cost: \$25 members, \$30 non-members



RON KNIGHT
APRIL PRESENTER

A retired biology teacher and school administrator, president of the Vancouver Rhododendron Society and a confirmed rhodoholic.

Over the past decade, he and his wife Carla have created Caron Gardens on Hotel Lake, at Pender Harbour.

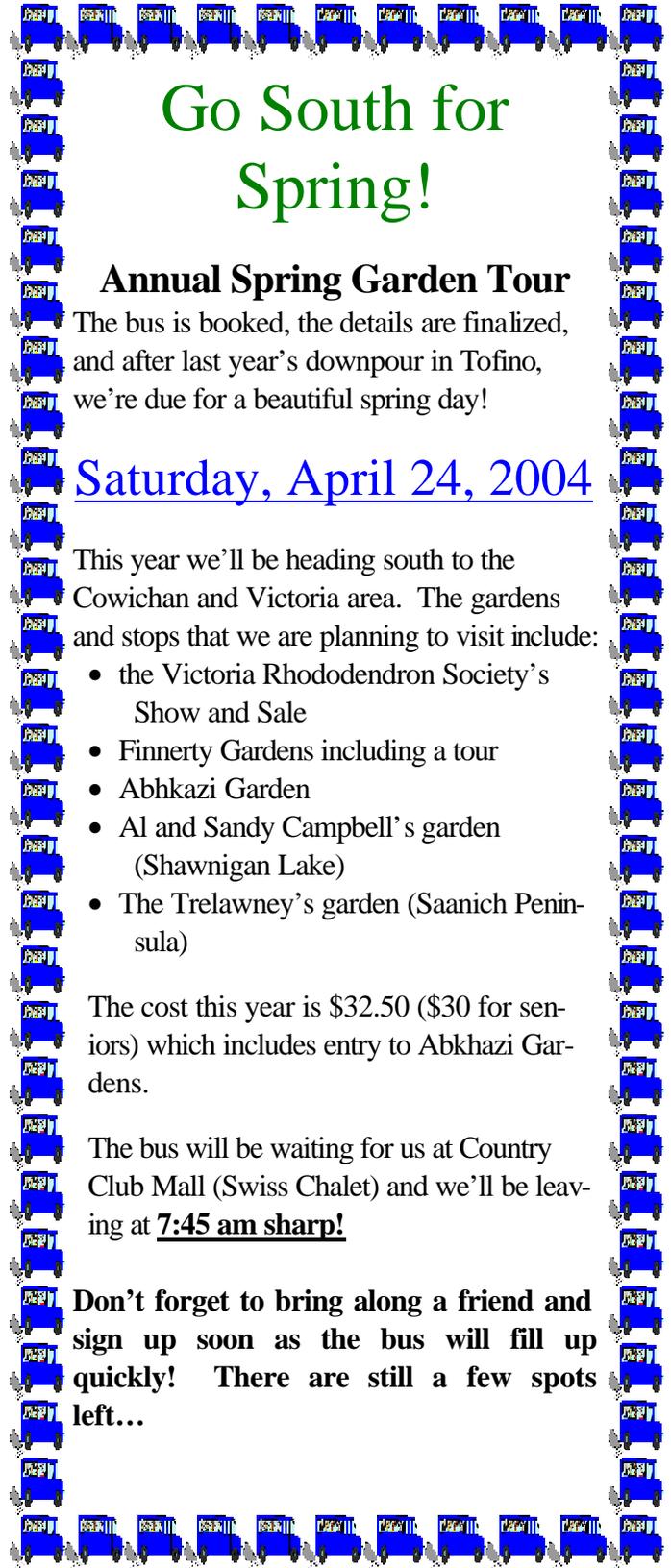
In addition to displaying over 400 different rhododendrons, they use the garden as a living laboratory to teach a variety of gardening courses.

The garden is our "play pen" and we like nothing better than tending our plants.

Spring Newsletter
from
Rhododendron Species Foundation

The spring newsletter is uploaded and ready for viewing.

<http://www.rhodygarden.org/RSFnewsletter.htm>



Go South for Spring!

Annual Spring Garden Tour

The bus is booked, the details are finalized, and after last year's downpour in Tofino, we're due for a beautiful spring day!

Saturday, April 24, 2004

This year we'll be heading south to the Cowichan and Victoria area. The gardens and stops that we are planning to visit include:

- the Victoria Rhododendron Society's Show and Sale
- Finnerty Gardens including a tour
- Abkhazi Garden
- Al and Sandy Campbell's garden (Shawnigan Lake)
- The Trelawney's garden (Saanich Peninsula)

The cost this year is \$32.50 (\$30 for seniors) which includes entry to Abkhazi Gardens.

The bus will be waiting for us at Country Club Mall (Swiss Chalet) and we'll be leaving at **7:45 am sharp!**

Don't forget to bring along a friend and sign up soon as the bus will fill up quickly! There are still a few spots left...