

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY



April 2012



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I attended the District 1 President's meeting last month on behalf of our club. It's important to share information and compare notes with the Presidents from the other B.C. chapters. This spring's meeting was in Lake Cowichan and was hosted by the Cowichan Valley chapter. It gave us the chance to see their new community rhododendron garden. It was also an opportunity to promote our fall conference, which is now less than 6 months away.

We're entering the busiest and in many ways, the most fun part of our club's season. We have a number of events coming up over the next 2 months. You'll find lots of information in our newsletter and of course at our regular meetings. If you have any questions, just contact someone on the executive.

Next month will be our AGM which includes our annual election. Please consider stepping forward to take a seat on our executive. A number of positions are open including president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The long term health of any club relies on the contributions of many to keep the club energized and healthy.

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EXECUTIVE

President	John Deniseger	390-3605
Past President	Paul Lawry	806-2370
Vice President	Sandra Dorman	390-0136
Secretary	June Bouchard	390-3605
Treasurer	Gerry Moore	756-1427
Directors	Glenda Allard Barr	390-2822
	Chris Southwick	390-3415
	Debbie Gaboury	758-1204
	Reinhold Gorgosilich	758-6533
	Burkhard Dressler	758-1738

COMMITTEES

Advertising	vacant	
Library	Ann Beamish	758-2574
Newsletter	Kathryn Grant	245-7879
Membership	Debbie Gaboury	
Program	Glenda Allard Barr	390-2822
Raffle	Ann Davey & Val Harvey	
Social	Sandra Dorman	390-0136
Bargain Table	Reinhold Gorgosilich	758-6533

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society
Box 241, #101-5170 Dunster Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6M4
Website: nanaimo.rhodos.ca
email: nanaimo@rhodos.ca

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 12 BEBAN PARK SOCIAL CENTRE 7:30 pm

EARL DANELUK

"Sow some seeds and grow some new Rhodos"

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

TWIGS and STEMs



GOODIES FOR APRIL MEETING

Jean Greig

Mary J

Michael Miller

SPRING PLANT SALE AT THE HORTICULTURE CENTRE of the PACIFIC

Saturday and Sunday, April 28th & 29th

9 am to 4 pm

The Gardens at HCP, 505 Quayle Road,

Victoria, BC., V9E 2J7

www.hcp.ca 250-479-6162

Free Admission

Including Veggie Starts, Tomatoes, and

Herbs

VICTORIA CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY ANNUAL CUTTING SALE

Saturday April 14

10 am to noon

St. Mathias Church Hall

600 Richmond Ave, Victoria

Parking & hall entrance off Richardson Ave

Rooted cuttings of disbuds and sprays for

sale. There will be a large variety of

cultivars available. \$3 each

President's message continued from page 1

Our annual bus tour is coming up at the end of April. There are still a few seats left. Don't wait until the last minute. It should be another great tour this year. Please note that I've had to make a slight change to the tour itinerary as we will be visiting Towner Crest (Weesje's) garden rather than the Duncan's garden in Deep Cove. In addition, we will be meeting the bus at the Northfield/Parkway parking lot (not Chapters) at 7am.

If you've recently joined the N.R.S. and have not received your new member plant, please let us know.

Hope to see you all at the April meeting. Happy Spring!

John

Conference Corner

**Rhodos in Paradise:
Destination Vancouver Island
September 21 – 23, 2012**

For full details:

Check out our **brand new** website at

<http://arsnanaimo2012.ca/>

Registration is open now!

We encourage you to register early!

Time to begin thinking about where you would like to volunteer your time to help out at the conference. Some have already been working hard – especially June Bouchard and our webmaster Bob Derksen. What a fabulous job they've done!! Some have already made a commitment for a specific area. We'll have lists at the next NRS meeting for you to sign up for, or you can send your requests directly to me at csouthwick@shaw.ca.

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

OUR APRIL SPEAKER
EARL DANELUK

‘SOW SOME SEEDS & GROW SOME NEW RHODOS’

I will cover many of my experiences during the past 4 years, including both disasters and accomplishments:

- The basic requirements of seed culture and getting them to keep growing.
- What is required in the way of equipment etc.
- Basics of hybridizing.

This will be an easy to understand presentation that should result in a member being comfortable in starting seed and achieving good results. I will have a basic hand-out and some samples of seedlings at different stages.

FYI: currently I am raising about 2,000 seedlings and have recently sowed my current year's crop of approximately 100 different crosses.

Six years ago I knew nothing about rhodos and started with the purchase of 5 plants. Today I have over 1400 rhodos (90% are small 1-2 gallon plants) on my one acre lot in Lantzville.

Yes I admit to being A RHODOHOLIC!



A note from Bill McMillan:

One of your members asked about rust after the talk. I double checked and it is a kind of fungus, *Chrysomyxa ledi*. They recommend making sure that plants are not close to Sitka Spruce, which is an alternate host. They recommend fungicides for treatment but in the Winter 2011 ARS Journal there is an article on use of Neem oil. It will be reproduced in the next VRS newsletter as well. It apparently controls black spot, powdery mildew and rust fungus. It also repels white fly, aphids and other pests. The oil did wonders for my wife's roses last summer – they had no black spot at all. The article is well worth reading in detail. Thanks, Bill McMillan

(editor's note: Bill has asked for feedback on his presentation – if you have any please tell Glenda, who will pass it along)

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

The 12th Annual N.R.S. Bus Tour **Sunday, April 28th, 2012**



Continuing our tradition of visiting a great mixture of gardens, nurseries, and special places, this year we're heading south through Cowichan to the Saanich Peninsula and the Victoria area.

Cost: approx \$45

Where do we meet? At the Northfield/Parkway parking lot – the bus will be leaving at 7:00 am.

Don't forget to bring a picnic lunch and appropriate clothing. Bring a friend...

You can reserve a seat at our April meeting or call John to reserve a seat at 390-3605

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Thursday, March 8th, 2012 Minutes

Meeting started at 7:30

Number of guests: approx. 35 people.

1. Welcome everyone!

- Special welcome to guests from Saskatoon.
- What's in bloom? Many of our early bloomers have started to show some colour or are open completely – however, still need protection from the occasional frost.

2. Upcoming election at our May AGM:

- President John Deniseger mentioned that with the upcoming conference in September, the next 6 months will be some of the most significant in the history of our club.
- He also mentioned the upcoming AGM at our May meeting. We already know of at least 3 positions that will be open: president, secretary and treasurer.
- Given that it would be a lot to ask of a new executive, and to maintain continuity through the next 6 months, our executive is recommending that the new executive to be elected in May wouldn't take over their official duties until after the conference, i.e. the October meeting.
- A motion to that effect was made by David Mitchell, seconded by Ann Beamish – passed unanimously.

3. Secretary's report:

- We still have 5 copies of Norm Todd's book for \$12.00 each. See June if you want one.

4. Treasurer's report:

- Current balance in NRS account: \$3751.49
- Current balance in ARS conference account: \$3829.04

5. Social / Sunshine:

- Thank you for bringing monthly goodies for our coffee break.
- Coffee is by donation.

6. Program:

- April: Earl Daneluk on hybridizing and growing seedlings.
- May: Dick Beamish with part 2 of "A walk through my garden".

7. Special Milner opportunity:

- David Mitchell on behalf of Milner Gardens offering special membership fees to us for tonight only.
- David mentioned their special Thursday evening speaker series on the last Thursday of each month: March 29th, April 26th, May 31st.
- Check their web page for this special series as well as for other special events coming up this year: <http://www.viu.ca/MilnerGardens/>

8. Conference:

- Barely 6 months away!

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- Don't forget to contribute to the special Nanaimo basket that will be included in the Silent Auction. Each chapter of District 1 will be contributing a basket for this fundraiser. Thank you to the Cowichan club for coordinating the Silent auction.
- A sign-up sheet of possible volunteer jobs will be circulating at our April and May meetings. See this month's newsletter for details of where we can use volunteers.
- Our web site should be live by early April. We will preview the website at our April meeting. Thank you to our web master: Rob Derksen.
- The conference will include a photo contest – the time to take pictures is now with the spring flowers coming up. See the current newsletter for full details. Thank you Mary Parker for organizing this event.

9. Annual Bus Tour – Saturday April 28th:

- Going south this year.
- Stops will include Royal Roads University's [Hatley Park](#), Bob Duncan's fruit farm, [Church and State Winery](#), and 3 private gardens.
- Bring your own lunch.
- Cost is \$45.00 per person includes all admissions and wine tasting.
- Correction: Departure will be from the Parkway Northfield intersection, NOT from Woodgrove Mall as previously stated.

10. Local garden tours:

- Need to find a coordinator – otherwise no tours this year
- Let a member of the executive know if interested in coordinating.

11. Plant Sale and Truss Show:

- On Saturday, May 12th.
- Thank you to Doug Blenkarn for coordinating the Truss show and to Burkhard Dressler for coordinating the plant sale part of the day.
- Judges from MARS already booked.
- We will need many volunteers on the day. Sign up sheet coming up.

12. Raffle:

- Many happy winners!

Program for tonight: A very informative presentation by Victoria's Bill Macmillan on "Rhododendron Basics" – a very timely program for our new members and perfect refresher for the more "seasoned" members! ☺

Meeting adjourned shortly after 9:00.

Plants for the NRS table at the Plant Sale!

Our chapter will have again a table at the Truss Show and Plant Sale in May. We hope you will be able to donate some plants; we also accept gardening books and magazines. Your generous participation during the last few years has made this a great little fundraiser.

Thank You, Reinhold