



SUMMER ISSUE 2002



Volume 10

Issue 10

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to our outgoing executive:

Chris Southwick
John Deniseger
Doug Blenkarn
Terri Mack
Alan Hirst
Ray Lauzier
Connie Thompson

Welcome to our new executive:

Helmut Neuman
Josie Robertson
Allan McRae
Yvonne Harding
Barbara Coy

Thanks to all who helped with the Rhododendron Show and Sale. It was a tremendous success due to all your efforts.

Thanks to John, Chris, Paul for a great bus tour to the North Island gardens and nurseries.

Enjoy your gardens, have fun and see you all in September.

Richard.

EXECUTIVE

President	Richard White	752-6519
V/President	Mary Taylor	756-3984
Secretary	Craig Clarke	390-4090
Treasurer	Barb Coy	758-8497
Directors	Dave Ball	729-0456
	Yvonne Harding	756-3574
	Allan McRae	758-7589
	Helmut Neuman	714-1840
	Josie Robertson	390-4270

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NRS WEBSITE

[www.hedgerows.com/Canada/
clubbrochures/nanaimorhodosoc.htm](http://www.hedgerows.com/Canada/clubbrochures/nanaimorhodosoc.htm)

[www.rhododendron.org/adminsector/
chapterinfo.htm#Nanaimo](http://www.rhododendron.org/adminsector/chapterinfo.htm#Nanaimo)

ARS WEBSITE

www.rhododendron.org

RHODODENDRON & AZALEA NEWS WEBSITE

<http://members.aol.com/RandANews/news.html>

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DISTRIBUTION

Gill Taylor

North Island Bus Tour – by John Deniseger

On Saturday May 18th, one of the sunniest, warmest days we've had all spring, we held our annual bus tour. This year we headed north to the Campbell River/Courtenay area. We started off at Hidden Acres where Paul and Lynn welcomed us with coffee/tea and goodies and a beautiful garden and nursery. To top it off the sky was filled with soaring eagles. From there we moved just down the road to the aptly named Mystic Woods Nursery. The staff there really went out of there way to make us feel welcome. Back on the bus, the goodies and prizes came out. Just after 12 noon, we arrived at Linda Easton's Oyster Bay Nursery where we enjoyed the incredible views and garden. We stopped for lunch, a tour and a change of pace at Kitty Coleman Woodland Gardens. It's hard to believe what Brian Zimmerman has created there in 7 short years. As beautiful as it is now, it will be a real showpiece in a few years – all those Rhodos, ponds and trails! After our picnic lunch and walk, we were back on the bus to find the Simmonds garden. Once again, we were amazed to see what 2 people could create in 10 short years. Their garden was filled with beautiful blooms, perhaps highlighted by their "pride and joy", R. Yellow Pages. We completed our North Island tour with the Wright's Haida Gold Garden and nursery in Courtenay. Not only was their garden beautiful, but the North Island Chapter treated the entire group to an amazing spread of drinks, sandwiches, and goodies. On our way back to Nanaimo we were treated to a bonus garden tour at Richard and Linda White's in Qualicum. Once again, we were inspired by what they had created in the short time they've lived there.

The hospitality shown by each and every one of our hosts was truly exceptional. It showed us once again why we all enjoy being a part of the gardening community on Vancouver Island. We all probably gained a pound or two thanks to the continuous flow of goodies circulating in the bus. A special thank you to Paul and Linda Lawry for organizing the "on board" door prizes and contests. Thanks are also due to our driver, Bill, who was amazingly patient with a bunch of enthusiastic Rhodoholics who filled the buses' luggage compartments with plants. Of course, a final thank you to the group of 33 people who took part in the tour, making it such a fun event. I can hardly wait until next year.....



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Nanaimo Rhododendron Society - Minutes of May 9th 2002 Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Southwick at 7:36pm.
2. Chris welcomed new members and guests.
- 3. President's report:** Chris requested a volunteer to chair the program committee; Paulette Galloway agreed to take this position. Chris also asked for a volunteer to take charge of the scrap book. There is a full slate of growers attending our plant sale on May 11th, request for volunteers to help set up.
- 4. Secretary's report:** Move that the minutes of the April 11th meeting be adopted as printed on page 4 of the newsletter after correction of the date in the heading to read April 11th instead of March 14th. Correspondence received from Urban Greenery Nursery regarding their spring sale; from the George Fraser Memorial Project thanking club members for donating plants; from the Vancouver Island Garden Association inviting members to visit member gardens; from Margaret Cadwaladr announcing the launch of her new book on Milner Gardens.
- 5. Treasurer's report:**

The balance in the Bowen Park Legacy Fund is \$155.94
The balance in the general account is \$1635.57
The balance in the library fund is \$324.67
- 6. Committee Reports:**

Raffle plants include hellebore, R. medusa, R. Unique, Gunnera, R. Teddy Bear, R. Percy Wiseman, R. Potlatch, R. Creamy Chiffon.
- 7. Old business :**

Truss show and plant sale on May 11th; will need volunteers to help with the sale and also to bring snacks for sale.
Garden Tour John Deniseger announced that there are a few vacant seats left on the bus.
Doug Blenkarn reminded members of the open gardens.
- 8. New Business:** Our windup party will be hosted by Mary Kool on June 1.
- 9. Executive meeting:** Will be hosted by Craig & Joyce Clarke on May 23rd at 7pm
- 10. Elections:** Ward Porter conducted the elections. The following members were elected by acclamation: President: Richard White, Vice President, Mary Taylor, Treasurer: Barb Coy, Secretary: Craig Clarke, Directors: David Ball, Yvonne Harding, Alan McCrae, Helmut Neuman, Josie Robertson, and Ann Williamson.
- 11. Name tag draw winner:** Richard White.

Raffle winners: Joyce Clarke, Craig Clarke, Chris Southwick, Maurice Mauch, Dolores Mason, Ray Lauzier, Phillip Paul, Janice Quick, Mary Taylor.
Door Prize Winners: Connie Thompson, Sherry Mauro, Paul Lawry, Darlene Budd, Mary Kool, Linda Lawry, Bill Hardy, Ann Williamson.
- 12. Program:** Cyril Hume gave a fascinating slide presentation on the history of the Abkhazi Garden and the process of restoring it recently.

10th annual Truss Show -

by Craig Clarke

Despite the cold spring and frost, this year we had one of the largest truss shows ever with 19 entrants and 172 trusses -just short of last year's record of 178 trusses entered. Thanks to Alan and Liz Murray for agreeing to take on the task of judging the show. The table summarizes the prizes awarded. Congratulations to John Deniseger and June Bouchard who were awarded *Best in Show* and to Ann & Dick Beamish who won the *Popular Choice* award.

Class	Award	Plant	Winner
Best in Show		Wanna Bee	John Deniseger & June Bouchard
Red hybrid	1 st	Rubicon	Ann & Dick Beamish
	2 nd	Etta Burrows	Ann & Dick Beamish
	3 rd	Ruby Hart	Philip & Joy Paul
Blotch/flare	1 st	Harvest Moon	Ann & Dick Beamish
	2 nd	Kathy Jo	Ann & Dick Beamish
	3 rd	Perfectly Pink	Ann & Dick Beamish
Pink hybrid	1 st	Wanna Bee	John Deniseger & June Bouchard
	2 nd	unknown	Richard White
	3 rd	Teddy Bear	Doug Blenkarn
White hybrid	1 st	Show Boat	Ann & Dick Beamish
	2 nd	Unique	Mark Nixon
	3 rd	Loder's White	Craig & Joyce Clarke
Salmon/Orange	1 st	Exquisitum	Richard White
	2 nd	Naselle	Ann & Dick Beamish
	3 rd	Medusa	Chris Southwick
Purple/blue	1 st	Susan	Chris Southwick
	2 nd	Bob's Blue	John Deniseger & June Bouchard
	3 rd	Crater Lake	John Deniseger & June Bouchard
Yellow hybrid	1 st	Nancy Evans	John Deniseger & June Bouchard
	2 nd	Alice Street	Ann & Dick Beamish
	3 rd	Vine Crest	Philip & Joy Paul
Scented	1 st	R. edgeworthii	Mary Taylor
	2 nd	Van Nes Sensation	Ann & Dick Beamish
	3 rd	Cotton Candy	Mark Nixon
Larger Species	1 st	R. campylogynum	Chris Southwick
	2 nd	R. comisteum	Terry & Verna Richmond
	3 rd	R. obiculare	Richard White
Azalea	1 st	Girard's Fuschia	Chris Southwick
	2 nd	Hino Crimson	Richard White
Popular Choice		Viennese Waltz	Ann & Dick Beamish
Hammerhead		Marie Starks	Craig & Joyce Clarke

NRS Membership 2002

Surname	First	Street	City	Phone
Atkinson	Janet	177 Piper Crescent	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 3B9	756-0426
Badminton	Trevor & Doreen	25282 76th Ave	Aldergrove, BC V4W 1V1	*856-0046
Ball	David	4864 Blue Jay Trail	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 5C9	729-0456
Barr	Glenda	6860 Wayne Place	Lantzville, B.C. V0R 2H0	390-2822
Beamish	Dick & Ann	3904 Hammond Bay	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 1G3	758-2574
Blenkarn	Doug	4834 Blue Jay Trail	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 5C9	756-0951
Buckingham	William	6998 Geisler Place	Lantzville, B.C. V0R 2H0	390-3269
Budd	Darleen	1045 Harewood Mines Rd	Nanaimo, BC V9R 5P5	753-5777
Campbell	Allan & Sandy	1995 East Shawnigan	Shawnigan Lake BC V0R	743-3597
Clarke	Craig & Joyce	6866 Doumont Road	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6G9	390-4090
Coy	Barbara	1338 Jesters Way	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 4K9	758-8497
Dale	Bill	1894 Chinook Place	Sidney B.C. V8L 3V7	656-6888
Davey	Ann	2521 Labieux Road	Nanaimo, BC V9T 3M7	758-2176
Deniseger	June Bouchard & John	6666 Green Acres Way	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 5R9	390-3605
Eisele	Walter	Box 42,	Port Edward, BC V0V 1G0	628-3329
Galloway	Paulette	6296 McGirr Road	Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1C3	756-1663
Gibson	Ken & Dot	Box 101,	Tofino B.C. V0R 2Z0	725-3476
Gorgosilich	Reinhold	4959 Fillinger Crescent	Nanaimo BC V9V 1H9	758-6533
Grant	Kathryn & Rick	11761 Fairtide	RR1 Ladysmith, BC V0R	245-7879
Greig	Jim & Jean	1411 Dorcas Pt. Rd.	Nanaimo Bay B.C. V9P 9B4	468-7805
Harding	Yvonne	6214 Brickyard Road	Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1K2	756-3574
Hardy	William & Mary	5992 Waterton Place	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6A9	756-0358
Harvey	Valerie	538 Vancouver Avenue	Nanaimo, BC V9S 4G7	754-6659
Hayashi	Kay & Robert	2580 Departure Bay Rd	Nanaimo, BC V9S 3W3	756-9468
Hechler	Angkana	6633 David Place	Lantzville BC V0R 2H0	390-2535
Hirst	Alan & Melinda	5953 Vermillion Pl	Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1K2	751-1802
Hutchinson	Ralph	3358 Stephenson Point	Nanaimo, BC V9T 1K2	756-1916
Kearns	Peter	2130 Cowichan Bay Rd	Cowichan Bay, B.C. V0R	746-5782
Kieser	Dorothee	6299 Pearce Road	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6G7	390-4136
Kool	Mary	113 Green Lake Cr.	Lantzville BC V0R 2H0	390-2990
Lauzier	Ray	5867 Sunset Rd	Nanaimo, BC V9V 1E4	756-2927
Lawry	Linda & Paul	7056 Aulds Road	Lantzville, B.C. V0R 2H0	390-2370
Little	Richard & Barbara	5030 Brenton Page Road	Ladysmith, BC V9G 1L6	245-3405
Mack	Terri & Ken	2068 Forest Drive	Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 2R7	758-4287
Mason	Delores	2560 Cosgrove Crescent	Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 3P3	758-9030
Mauch	Norma Ginter & Maurice	7566 Lantzville Road	Lantzville, B.C. V0R 2H0	390-3421

(Continued on page 6)

McLeod	Pat	6259 McRobb Avenue	Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1M4	756-4721
McRae	Allan & Gayle	3570 Oakridge Drive	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 1M4	758-7589
Miller	Michael	2489 Nadely Crescent	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 5T1	758-2879
Moore	David	P.O. Box 82	Powell River, BC V8A 4Z5 *	487-4169
Moss	Darlene	2732 Neyland Road	Nanaimo, BC V9T 4E4	758-1635
Murray	Allan & Liz	1951 Doran Road	Cobble Hill, B.C. V0R 1L0	743-9190
Neuman	Helmut	360 Petroglyph Crescent	Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5K1	714-1840
Nixon	Patti Mark & Mark	2399 Garry Oaks Dr	Nanaimo, BC V9P 9G1	468-7151
Noakes	Don & Olga	5589 Clipper Drive	Nanaimo, BC V9T 5M7	758-8612
Paull	Philip & Joy	1305 Spruston Rd	Nanaimo, B.C. V9X 1S8	245-8667
Pennell	Bill	1239 Okanogan Place	Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5Z5	753-2870
Porter	Ward & Donna	6259 Azure Rd	Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1K2	758-2494
Quick	Janice	100 Ashlar Ave	Nanaimo, BC V9R 3P4	755-1248
Rees	Graham & Gaynor	3686 Lagoon Rd	Nanaimo, BC V9T 1N1	756-9909
Rhodes	Bob & Jean	Site 14 C41 RR#1	Gabriola B.C. V0R 1X0	247-8026
Riches	Beryl	1684 Chickadee	Nanaimo, BC V9S 2P5	758-9289
Richmond	Terry & Verna	3582 17th Avenue	Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y	723-6677
Roberston	Josie	Box 119	Lantzville, B.C. V0R 2H0	390-4270
Scobie	David	5751 Hammond Bay	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 5N3	758-9895
Southwick	Chris	5588 Clipper Drive	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 5M7	758-0993
Sullivan	Helene	3682 Overlook Dr	Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 1M6	758-7023
Taylor	Gillian	7800 Ashcraft Road	Nanaimo Bay, BC V9P	468-5319
Taylor	Mary	6343 Waterbury Road	Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1L3	756-3984
Thompson	Connie	Site E, Comp. 83, RR 1	Nanaimo, BC V9R 5K1	741-0738
Turner	Diana	5030 Lost Lake Rd	Nanaimo, BC V9T 5E4	758-8518
Twyver	Gwen	3090 Yellowpoint Rd	Ladysmith, BC V9G 1C3	758-9289
White	Richard	391 Quatna Rd	Qualicum Beach, BC V9K	752-6519
Williamson	Ann	118 Lakeview Crescent	Nanaimo, BC V9T 6G8	390-2604
Wright	Sharon	5966 Icarus Road	Nanaimo, BC V9V 1C8	758-8921

* The asterisk in front of telephone numbers indicates a 604 area code

Please let Craig know of any errors or omissions

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About People (Awards, Medals, News, In remembrance)
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HAVE A GREAT ONE!

How To Select a Rhodie at Your Local Nursery

Jan D. Kelley
Drain, Oregon

Over 30 years ago I purchased my first rhododendron for a Mother's Day present. I still have a vivid picture of proudly presenting it to her on Sunday morning after selecting it the day before from a local nursery. Like most beginners I was looking for a big plant with lots of blooms that didn't cost any more than a 16-year old boy could afford. However, with the passing of time I now realize that I was fortunate to have purchased a quality plant without really knowing what I was doing. Today when I purchase a new variety several criteria come to mind before I make my purchase. As there are some readers of the journal who are new to rhododendrons, I will try to identify some of the things I look for when selecting a new plant for my yard. The following general topics are not necessarily in any specific order but seem to be worth consideration prior to selecting a plant:

Learn about climate. Get knowledge of local climatic conditions with special attention to the most extreme winter temperature in the last five years. This information is typically available from the local airport, radio or TV weather station, or local newspaper. This extreme cold temperature is critical as most all rhododendrons sold are rated for hardiness. The hardiness rating is a *generally* accepted temperature that the plant will endure and survive. Notice I said the plant and not the flower buds. The rationale behind plant hardiness is that you can afford to lose the buds on a given year, but not the plant. Rhododendrons are generally rated from H-1 (will survive to minus 25 degrees F) through H-6 (will survive at plus 30 degrees F).

Talk to local gardeners. Talk with neighbors and rhododendron club members about varieties that they have had for several years. Discuss with them how frequently the plant flowers, when it blooms, and where in their yard they have it located, i.e., in the shade, in full sun.

Read about rhodies. Background reading about rhododendrons in one of the several books that are available is helpful. Several of the books have many excellent color pictures. I would recommend any of the following authors as good resources: Van Veen, Greer, and Cox. Each of the authors provides good description of flowers, plant habit, bloom period, and hardiness in a very understandable form.

Visit nurseries. Visit several local nurseries, if available, to view their selection of rhododendrons. Find a rhododendron knowledgeable sales person and seek his/her opinions about varieties that do well locally. Generally, retail nurseries tend to sell "tried and true" varieties that have stood the test of local time. Frequently, your choice will be quite limited in the number of different varieties that are available.

When you have all of the general information identified and are ready to make your choice - that one plant that is going in that special place in your yard - I suggest that you have the following in mind:

ULTIMATE SIZE. How large will the plant be at 10 years of age. Standard varieties are about 6 feet at 10 years. Semi-dwarfs are about 2 to 4 feet at 10 years of age and dwarfs are about 1 1/2 feet at 10 years of age.

PLANT AGE. Know the plant size that you want to purchase: are you after instant landscape or are you willing to grow with the plant.

LOCATION. Know that the variety you want meets the conditions of your location, i.e., full sun, semi-shade, etc.

PLANT HEALTH. When you make the final choice the foliage of the plant you select should be dark green and vigorous looking. It should not have burned or spotted leaves. Burned leaves generally result from inadequate water in the summer or excessive cold in the winter. Leaf spotting typically results from some disease condition in the plant. The plant should be uniform and well branched. Stay away from lopsided or crooked plants.

The leaves should be free of insect damage. Uniform notching around the border of the leaves generally indicates weevil activity. Other insect damage is evidenced by irregular holes in the leaves. If you want the plant to bloom in the coming season, look for large flower buds on some of the branch ends.

I realize that initially all of the above takes a great deal of time, but your labors dramatically increase the chance of purchasing an excellent rhododendron. All too often we buy the plant with the big open flowers only to later realize that it was a mistake. Good Hunting!