



NEWSLETTER

MARCH



Volume 10

Issue 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was one of twenty-six eager participants in the first of four species study days at the Rhododendron Species Foundation in Washington State. We spent six packed hours beginning to learn how to key or identify species rhododendrons. The day started out with a hands-on lesson on nomenclature (system of naming), geography and the study of plant structure (morphology). Utilizing examples from the garden picked the previous day by our instructor, Steve Hootman, we then attempted to use keys to identify an unknown rhododendron. After lunch we progressed to studying two of the sub-sections of the genus, *Falconera* and *Grandia* (the "big leaves") using living examples. We spent the remaining hours of the afternoon in the garden itself seeing mature examples of these two sub-sections. We drove back to Canada, our minds full of information and a widening appreciation for the amazing diversity of the genus rhododendron.

Stay tuned for the next installment!

Chris

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14, 2002 NRS General Meeting at Beban Park 7:30 P.M.

See calendar on page #6 for NRS Events

April 28, 2002 VanDusen Botanical Garden
5251 Oak St. at West 37th Avenue, Vancouver
25th Anniversary Humongous Plant Sale
10am to 4pm Admission is free, more than 35,000 plants for sale!

March, April & May Species identification workshops, Rhododendron Species Foundation, Saturdays \$140. Jim Greig (phone 468-7805)

March 15-17 Botanical Garden Society Annual Spring Garden Show, Beban Park.

May 9, 10, 11 Milner Gardens Rhododendron festival

May 18, 19 MARS bus tour to Bernt Ronning Garden near Holberg. Phone Pat Jefferson 752-2524

VOLUNTEERS

RAFFLE: JUNE BOUCHARD
TERRI MACK

DOLLAR TABLE: BILL HARDY

GOODIES: DOT HARDY
GAYNOR REIS
JUNE & JOHN

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	Doug Blenkarn	756-0951
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	Terri Mack	758-4287
	Mary Taylor	756-3984
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Suite 241 1-5765 Turner Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6M4

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](http://members.aol.com/RandANews/news.html)

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DISTRIBUTION

Gill Taylor

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BUS TOUR: Saturday May 18th. Sunday May 19th. 2002

Owners of the Bernt Ronnings Garden-Ron & Julia Moe

7:00 AM Saturday, May 18th.

Bus tour to the Bernt Ronnings Garden in Holberg, B.C. We will go to Holberg the first day and tour the Ronnings Garden. We will stop every 2 hours or so, for breaks and lunch.

Noon: Bring your own box lunch, and some goodies that we all can share.

1:00 PM Arrive at the garden. Ron Moe said they could provide tea and coffee. We will then be able to tour till about 3:30 PM Wear very good walking boots or shoes, bring rain coats or umbrellas as the 1/2 mile walk from the bus to the garden is a beautiful, shaded, forest walk, but a bit soggy.

3:30 PM Leaving Ronnings Garden: Back to Port Hardy approximately 1 1/2 hours drive. Arrival

5:00 PM. Staying at the *Quarterdeck Inn*. 40 units (has a fitness room & hot tub).

7:00 PM We've organized a Buffet Dinner in the Hotel Banquet Room.

There is a choice of Beef, Chicken or salmon. With assortment of 3 salads, Relish Tray, Fresh Rolls and Butter, and Desert Table.

Note: We have arranged a box lunch for Sunday.(2 sandwiches, fruit, dessert, & juice)

8:00 AM Sunday, May 19th., Leaving from Port Hardy. Heading South, on the second leg of our bus tour, we will stop in Campbell River to view Paul & Lynn Wurz's Garden & Nursery. *We will have our box lunch in Paul's garden.*

2:00 PM The second garden we will be viewing will be Len and Madeleine Simmons, in Courtenay

3:30 PM The final garden that we will be viewing will be Gwen and Harry Wrights.

6:00 PM! Home!

Prices are based on a full busload (47 passengers). Rooms are based on Double occupancy. We will be opening up the bus tour to all other gardening clubs. Tickets will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Tickets: \$150.00 per person.

Tickets available from: Pat & Everett Jefferson
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Second Annual George Fraser Day Saturday May 18, 2002.
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lions' UAC Hall, Ucluelet.

Everyone is invited to join the community of Ucluelet in celebrating the life and times of Mr. George Fraser. Enjoy a "Heritage Fair" and a reunion of former residents in this, the community's 50th anniversary year!

Refreshments - Music - Plant Raffles - Historical Displays

Tour Fraser's Gardens, visit his Memorial Park and grave site in the Ucluelet Cemetery, walk the Wild Pacific Trail and enjoy the many rhododendrons planted along the multi-use path leading into town, most were generously donated by Vancouver Island Chapters of the ARS.



Paul & Lynn Wurz
4307 Gordon Rd.
Campbell River,
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Nanaimo Rhododendron Society - Minutes of February 14th Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Southwick at 7:38pm.
2. Chris welcomed new members and guests.
3. **Secretary's report.** Correspondence received from George Fraser Memorial Project announcing the second annual George Fraser Day May 18; Milner Garden Newsletter, and the Rhododendron Species Foundation Newsletter.
4. **Treasurer's report:**
The balance in the Bowen Park Legacy Fund is \$155.92
The balance in the general account is \$3200.59
The balance in the library fund is \$395.00
5. **President's report** Chris distributed the garden calendar with a list of upcoming events. The ARS Chris Southwick and John Deniseger will attend the District 1 President's meeting March 3rd. Volunteers are needed to man our booth at the Botanical Garden Society's Show, March 15, 16, 17th (there will be no free passes this year). Our April early truss show will be held at the April meeting. Volunteers are needed for the May truss show and sale on May 11th. The year end wind-up party is planned for June 1st, asking for a volunteer to host it. Also looking for interest in a trip to Rhododendron Lake in early June.
6. **Committee Reports:**
Library David has sent in a book order.
Newsletter Richard White has sent invoices to advertisers
Dollar Table Thanks to Phillip Paul for donating mecanopsis
Program: The speaker for our March 14th meeting is Carol Dancer on "Plant combinations in a Rhododendron Garden"
7. **Upcoming Events**
John Deniseger and Chris Southwick are organizing a visit to gardens in the Campbell River, Courtenay and Comox area on May 18 at a cost of \$25.
Mark Nixon & Patty Mark announced that they would be holding an open garden on Sunday, May 5
Species identification workshops , Rhododendron Species Foundation, March 2 & 23, April 27 & May 25. Cost \$35 per day, total \$140; contact Jim Greig (phone 468-7805) for details.
March 15-17 Botanical Garden Society Annual Spring Garden Show, Beban Park.
8. **Executive meeting** will be hosted by John Deniseger and June Bouchard on February 21st at 7pm
9. **Raffle/Draw winners.** Val Harvey, Ken Mack, Mark Nixon, Barb Little, Ann Davey.
10. **Program.** Steve Hootman, Co-Director of the Rhododendron Species Foundation & Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington gave a fascinating presentation on his most recent plant exploration in the Salween River Valley in western Yunnan province, China.

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Nanaimo Rhododendron Society's

2002 Gardening **Calendar**

March

Thursday, 14th
Friday – Sun. 15th – 17th
Thursday, 21st

General Meeting
Botanical Garden Society's Show
Executive Meeting

April

Saturday, 6th
Thursday, 11th
Thursday, 18th
Saturday, 27th

Tufa Workshop (tentative)
General Meeting & Early Show
Executive Meeting
Mount Arrowsmith Show & Sale – Parksville
Victoria's Show and Sale

May

Friday, May 3rd
Saturday, May 4th
Sat. & Sun., May 4th/5th
Sunday, May 5th
Nanoose
Thursday, May 9th
Friday, May 10th
Fri – Sun. May 10th – 12th
Saturday, May 11th
Thursday, May 16th
Friday, May 17th
Saturday, May 18th
Club

Garden Visits – Nanaimo Club
North Island Show/Sale - Courtenay
Filberg Show – Comox
The Nixon's Open Garden noon – 4p.m.
General Meeting
Garden Visits – Nanaimo Club
Rhododendron Festival – Milner Gardens
Nanaimo's Annual Show & Sale
Executive Meeting
Garden Visits – Nanaimo Club
North Island Tour – Nanaimo 7:30 leaves C.

June

Saturday, June 1st
Saturday, June 8th

Garden Tour & Pot Luck Dinner
Rhododendron Lake Picnic (tentative)

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FREE LECTURE SERIES

I meant to include it with the previous e-mail.
Sorry about that.

Dig This 5299 Rutherford Rd 756-0049
Free lecture series Saturdays 11:00am

Mar 9th – Starting Seeds – Richard White
Mar 30th – Bonsai – David Rowe
April 13th – Hypertufa – Sally Lauder
April 27th – Roses – Barbara Samarin
May 11th – Orchids – Shirley Strong

*Call for more info.
Thanks
Leslie @ Dig This*



Concentrate on the 4 dots in the middle of the picture for about 30 seconds.

Then, take a look at the wall and start blinking your eyes. You will see a circle of light... continue looking at the circle.... What do you see?

DEEDU

REMINDER

Now's the time to place the Hummingbird Feeders outside.



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The American Rhododendron Society Presents

Rhododendron and Azalea News

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

Latest Issue On the Internet March 2002

Show Your Support! Read Our Publication!

Articles: Of Myth and Men by Dr. Linda Chalker-Walker; The Pedon by Norman Todd; East Crossed West by Jim Barlup; The Last Frontier by George Beasley; others.

About Rhododendrons: Oh, Blast by Matthew Hilgerdenaar; Rhododendron of the Year; Proven Performers; Rooting in Plastic Soda Bottles; Earthworms and Rhododendrons; Rhododendron Lovers Disease; Ask Dr. Rhody; and much, much more.

Gardens & Arboreta: Gargunock House by John Hammond; Rood Bridge Park; 15 Commandments of Garden Touring; Meerkerk Gardens Spring; lots of information.

About People: Bronze Medals; Honors for James Brant, Richard Brooks, Francis Raughley, Ann Springford; Halfdan Lem by Gwen Bell; Loss of Two Past Presidents; In Remembrance; More.

Books: What's in the ARS Journal?; A Vireya Reference Library compiled by Bill Moyles; History of the RSF reviewed by Hank Helm; Plants Plus© reviewed by Herb Spady; new books and other information.

Calendar: Plant Sales; Shows; Meetings; Conventions; Conferences; etc.

Links: So many links to good sites with lots of photos. Worthwhile information.

Mailbag: For Sale; Information and Items Wanted; Comments from readers.

Bits and Pieces: 'Twas the month after Christmas; Recipe; Gardeners' Psychiatric Line; More.

Ideas: Sharing information between groups.

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