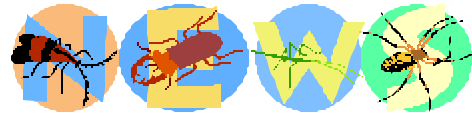




USE NATURAL
PESTICIDES



NEWSLETTER

MAY

2002

Volume 10

Issue 9



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The spring excitement is upon us! Some of the bulbs are at their peak and others are getting ready to show their colour. How exciting it is to see the swelling buds of rhododendrons that have not yet bloomed in our gardens. My R. Elsie Watson is a week or two away from blooming for the first time, as is my R. Hydon Harrier, R. Naselle and the rhodo that I received from the club seven years ago when I joined. The plant is one of Gord Galloway's crosses. Anticipation is the thing. Plants are growing so quickly, it is time to re-think how I have some of them planted. That's the trouble with a city lot, I'm constantly dreaming of more space...less frequent flyer plants, indeed.

Next meeting is our Annual General Meeting. Please consider serving as a member of the executive of our club, or at least serving as a Director. The meetings are informal and congenial and they take place in member's homes on the 3rd Thursday of the month. May 11th is our tenth annual Plant Sale and Show. I encourage every member to enter at least one truss. Last year we had a record number of trusses entered and a number of people who were very pleasantly surprised that they won something. More important than winning ribbons, though, is to show the public how beautiful rhododendron flowers are. Enjoy the next few weeks of rhododendron glory.

Cheerio,
Chris

UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 9, 2002 NRS General Meeting
at Beban Park 7:30 P.M.**

Cyril Hume

will be speaking about the
Abkhazi Garden in Victoria.

SEE PAGE 6 FOR NRS CALENDAR

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

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:

ANNE WILLIAMSON

GOODIES:

ANNE WILLIAMSON
MARY TAYLOR
DONNA PORTER

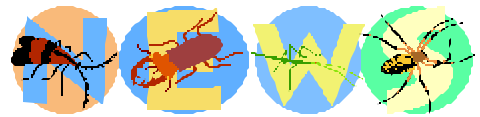
Don't forget! Bring plants
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**Volunteers needed at the Truss
Show – be there at 7:15 A.M.**



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Mid Island Rose Society's
"Celebration of the Rose"
Saturday, June 29/02,
Lantzville Heritage Church. Tickets
\$10.00 at Nanaimo Garden
Centres, Dig This and The Bookworm
(also at door). Phone 259-390-2805 or
bndmoss@telus.net

Rhododendron Lake
Chris Southwick

Every second year our club has organized an informal day trip to Rhododendron Lake in early June - usually the 2nd weekend. A 4 wheel drive vehicle is suggested and people usually car pool.

For those of you who are new to the area, this is where the native R. Macrophyllum grows wild. Their cheerful pink flowers brighten one of the areas at the lake side.

Rhododendron Lake is located in the mountainous area behind Nanoose Bay, through Weyerhaeuser Canada's Nanoose Bay Logging Division. We drive up to the lake, take a look around, eat a picnic lunch and head home - usually a total of about 4 hours in the middle of the day.



YOUR EXECUTIVE

President	Chris Southwick	758-0993
V/President	John Deniseger	390-3605
Secretary	Craig Clarke	390-4090
Treasurer	Richard White	752- 6519
Directors	Dave Ball	729-0456
	Doug Blenkarn	756-0951
	Al Hirst	751-1802
	Ray Lauzier	756-2927
	Terri Mack	758-4287
	Mary Taylor	756-3984
	ConnieThompson	741-0739

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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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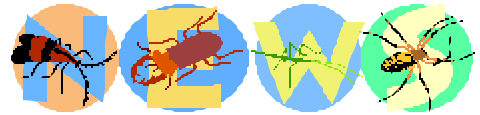
DISTRIBUTION
Gill Taylor

Don't forget! Bring plants
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Show – be there at 7:15 A.M.**



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BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

CRAIG CLARKE RECEIVING WELL DESERVED RECOGNITION FOR ALL HIS EFFORTS, PAST AND PRESENT, ON BEHALF OF THE NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY.

CONGRATULATIONS CRAIG – WISH I HAD BEEN THERE TO JOIN IN THE



Paul & Lynn Wurz
4307 Gordon Rd.
Campbell River,
287-4301
Pwurz@oberon.ark.com

Growers of
Specialty Rhododendrons

PORT DAVID

Landscaping, Stonework,
Garden Design & Irrigation

Ward Porter

Office [250]758-2494

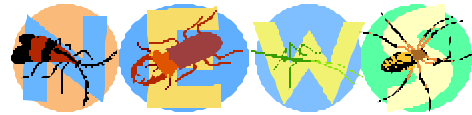
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Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Minutes of March 14th 2002 Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by President Chris Southwick at 7:38pm.
2. Chris welcomed new member Angkana Hechler and guests Karen Hovestad and Marge Porter.
3. **Secretary's report.** Move that the minutes of the March 14th meeting be adopted as printed on page 7 of the newsletter after a correction made by Philip Paull. Correspondence received from Botanical Garden Society regarding Spring Garden Show, Dee Daneri regarding the national convention, MARS regarding their truss show April 28th and garden tours May 11th and 12th.
4. **Treasurer's report:** The balance in the: Bowen Park Legacy Fund is \$155.94
General account is \$1809.25
Library fund is \$288.02
5. **President's report** Chris requested a volunteer to contact members and ask them to let their names stand for next year's executive. Ann Williamson volunteered.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - Library** David Ball reported that Cavendish Books is no longer in business, but PB Cruise is offering a 20% discount on library purchases.
 - Dollar Table** Strawberry plants, seneccio, tree peony, euphorbia and lobelia available this month
 - Raffle** *R. strigillosum* Greig form, R. 'Cream Crest', R. 'Snow Lady' and R. 'Unique'
 - Program:** The speaker for our May meeting is Cyril Hume on Abkhazi Garden.
7. **Upcoming Events**

Our 10th Annual Truss Show and Plant Sale on May 11th; will need volunteers to help with the sale and also to bring snacks for sale. 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 \$30. Our windup party will be hosted by Mary Kool on June 1.
8. **Executive meeting** will be hosted by Terri Mack on May 16th at 7pm
9. **Educational talk** – Gord Hilchey of Long Lake Nursery gave a short educational talk on useful products for the garden. Dick Beamish described how to choose and show a flower truss.
10. **Bronze medal award.** Chris Southwick presented the bronze medal to Craig Clarke.
11. **Early Truss Show.** 1st R. 'Grace Seabrook' Dick Beamish, 2nd R. 'Oporto' Dick Beamish, and 3rd, *R. calophytum* Barto Form by Craig Clarke.
12. **Raffle/Draw winners.** Marge Porter, Connie Thompson, Philip Paull, Barb Coy, David Scobie, Glenda Barr, Chris Southwick, Allan McCrae, Yvonne Harding.
13. **Program.** Bill Dale gave a very interesting slide presentation on the rhododendron pioneer, George Fraser.

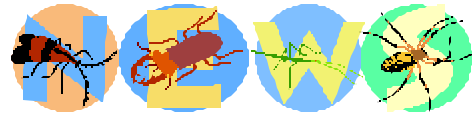
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USE NATURAL PESTICIDES



The 15 Commandments Of Garden Touring

1. Thou shalt observe most carefully the agreed hours of visitation, neither entering before the appointed hour nor parting late. Nay, even if thou dost become perilously lost and grievously confounded in the uncharted lanes of the Kingdom of the Fraser Valley.
2. Thou shalt not park thy vehicle on thy host's neighbour's turf, nor obstruct his neighbour's carriageway, nor utter in a loud voice to thy host "Tis shameful, sir, that thy neighbour's garden cannot more closely resemble thine own."
3. If there be a surfeit of visitors in a confined garden space, thou shalt endure outside in patience while waiting thy turn to enter there.
4. Thou shalt not enter into yon gentle garden accompanied by snarling churlish cur, nor squalling babe nor unruly child, lest they aggrieve thy host and trample his prettie plants.
5. Thou shalt not stand within earshot of thy host, point to a prettie plant and declare in a loud voice, "Ah yes, I grow this prettie plant too, but mine looks ten times as grand as this poor wee thing." But if thy tongue should slip and thy host seems passing sad or sorely vexed at thine utterance, thou must not further declare, "Fear not, poor wretch, perhaps my prettie plant is more advanced in years than thy paltry wee thing."
6. Thou shalt not utter Botanical Latin unless thou hast been addressed in Botanical Latin first. And if thou and thy host agree that uttering Botanical Latin is a passing agreeable thing, thou shalt not deny those waiting nearby the opening to address thy host in common tongue.
7. Thou shalt not covet thy host's Rhododendron Babylon nor his Cardocrinum giganteum nor his Hosta Fire and Ice.
8. Thou shalt not tread on any small prettie plants placed artfully amidst the stepping stones by thy host, and if thou dost tread heavily there, thou must flee with great haste before thy host shall sound his alarm.
9. Thou shalt not sup nor drink unbid in thy host's garden, neither on thine own prepared sustenance nor on the fruits and roots and berries prettily tended by thy host.
10. Thou shalt not spit in thy host's garden, nor utter oaths, nor indulge in the pleasures of the demon tobacco, lest thy host disapprove and cast thee out.
11. Thou shalt not pinch nor pluck, nor prune nor nip nor cut nor hack nor rip nor clip, nor otherwise make stealth with prettie plants growing in thy host's garden, unless thy host has offered them to thee freely.
12. Thou shalt not gaze untoward into thy host's castle windows, nor make loud mention of his handsome furnishings, nor pass through his threshold, unless he bids you enter there.
13. Thou shalt not demand to relieve thyself in thy host's private chamber. Nay, nor in his prettie bushes nor his handsome fountain. Nay, nay!
14. Thou shalt not express thy displeasure of this plant or that effect, lest thy host be standing nearby, unseen yet awares. Nay, instead thou shalt declare in a loud voice, "My, what a passing handsome marriage of hues most brilliantly violet and orange is this brave planting here!" And whenst thou dost utter these words, thou must not smirk nor titter, nor wink thine eye.
15. Thou shalt bid thy host kind adieu and most sincere thanks for deigning to open his garden gates and admit thee therein.

With some apologies to Janet Davis, whose original article was printed in Toronto Gardens, 1996

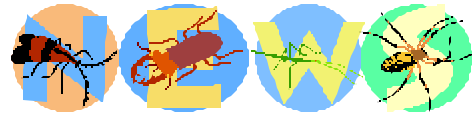
Don't forget! Bring plants
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Show – be there at 7:15 A.M.**



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Nanaimo Rhododendron Society's

2002 Gardening **Calendar** May

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

Garden Visits – Nanaimo Club
North Island Show/Sale - Courtenay
Filberg Show – Comox
The Nixon's Open Garden 12- 4PM Nanoose
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
Country Club

June

Saturday, June 1st
Saturday, June 1st

Garden Tours 9am to 4pm (3 sites)
Pot Luck Dinner after tours

Year-end Wind Up Social & Pot Luck

Our year-end social will be held at Mary Kool's home on Saturday, June 1st anytime after 4:00. We'll plan for dinner around 5:30. It will be pot luck, with members bringing their own BBQ or main course, as well as an appetizer, salad, veggie dish or dessert. Last year, the turn out was over 40, and there was a wonderful assortment of all kinds. The club will provide tea, coffee, and punch. Please bring your own lawn chair, knife, fork and spoon as well as a serving spoon for your pot luck dish, your own cup or wine glass. BYOB. We will have a number of "door" prizes just for fun. Bring a friend if you'd like.

Thank you, Mary, for volunteering your property. To get to Mary's place at 113 Green Lake Crescent, turn west onto Auld's Road off the Parkway or highway (toward the mountain). Go over the railroad tracks and the first left is Green Lake Crescent. Number 113 is on the gatepost.

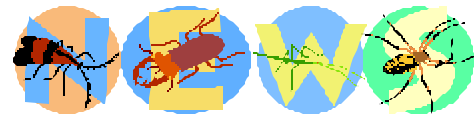
Saturday, June 8th **Rhododendron Lake Picnic (tentative)**

Don't forget! Bring plants
for the \$ Table

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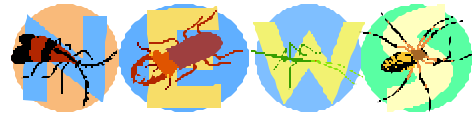
NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY'S MOST POPULAR RHODOS					
Plant	Colour	Season	Height	Comments	
Anna Rose Whitney	Rose-pink	May	6'	Vigorous	
Bergie Larsen	Yell-orange	June	3'	Compact	
Bob's Blue	Blue	May	3'	Prolific bloomer	
Bureavii	White	May	4'	Attractive foliage	
Cosmopolitan	Pink	May -June	5'	Hardy	
County of York	White	May	6'	Hardy	
Crete	Purple	May	4'		
Cunningham's White	White	May	4'	Hardy	
Cynthia	Rose	May	6'	Hardy	
Diane Titcomb	White	May	5'	Huge flowers	
Fictolacteum	Cream-pink	April	5'	Large leaves	
Fortunei	Pink	May	6'	Fragrant	
Ginny Gee	Pink	April	2'		
Golfer	Pink	April	18"	Attractive foliage	
Gomer Waterer	White	May	6'	Hardy	
Haida Gold	Yellow	May	3'	Attractive foliage	
Halfdan Lem	Red	May	5'		
Impeditum	Mauve	Late April	1'		
Jean Marie de Montague	Red	May	5'		
Loderi King George White		May	6'	Fragrant	
Markeeta's Prize	Red	May	5'	Vigorous	
Maxine Childers	Red	April	3'	New growth red	
Muncaster Mist	Blue	April	4'	Blue	
Occidentali	White-pink	May	5'	Very fragrant	
Pachysanthum	White-pink	April	30"	Attractive foliage	
Paprika Spiced	Creamy yellow	May	3'		
Point Defiance	Pink	May	6'		
Polar Bear	White	June	6'	Fragrant	
Ptarmigan	White	April	1'	Compact	
Ramapo	Violet	April	2'	Hardy, sun t	
Rosamundi	Pink	Mar-Apr	4'		
September Song	Orange	May	4'	Compact	
Shamrock	Green	April	1'		
Sir Charles Lemon	White	April	5'	Attractive foliage	
Snow Lady	White	April	30"	Prolific flowers	
Taurus	Red	April	6'	Dark green foliage	
Teddy Bear	Pink	April	3'	Attractive foliage	
Thomwilliams	Rose	April	2'	Compact, sun tol-	
erant					
Tiffany	Pink	May	30"		
Van Nes Sensation	Pink	May	5'	Fragrant	

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**USE NATURAL
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Saturday, June 1, 2002

9AM- 2PM

**Garden of Philip and Joy Paull
1305 Spruston Way, Cassidy
“Sylvan Glen”**

Proceed south from Nanaimo on the Island Highway. After passing Cassidy Inn on your left, take the first right turn onto Spruston Road. Proceed 2.2.km along Spruston Road and down the straight laneway into Sylvan Glen.

Over the past 8 years 2 of the 3 acres of gently sloping land has been developed into a diverse and exquisite garden. The upper portion is an ever expanding woodland garden. The lower encompasses several spring fed ponds surrounded by trees, lawns and planting beds. Their home greenhouse and vegetable garden occupy the central area. Several micro climates exist as Philip has observed temperature variation of up to 8 degrees within the 2 acres. The abundant wildlife of rabbits, elk, deer, cougars, beavers and others have been so effectively kept at bay by their diligent dogs that no fencing is required. Although Rhododendrons (600) dominate particularly along the entry drive and woodland section, the planting is extremely diverse and often unusual. In evidence are species of willow (salix), redwood, kalmia, azalea, hydrangea, michelia, clematis, eucryphia, hellebous, saxifraga and much more. Evidence of preparation of plant material by seeds and cutting is everywhere. Several less hardy plants are in containers that can be relocated as required.

Saturday, June 1, 2002

9AM- 2PM

**Garden of Bob & Jean Rhodes
130 Easthome Road, Gabriola Island
“Steepsides”**

The ferry leaves Nanaimo Harbour at 8:25 AM, 9:35 AM, 11:35 AM, and 12:35 PM. Returning ferry leaves Gabriola Island at 10:05 AM, 11:05 AM, 12:05 PM, 1:10 PM, and 3:10 PM.

Upon disembarking take the first right after the parking lot onto Easthome Road . Proceed 1.1 km to 130 Easthome Road and park on the side of the road.

Bob and Jean have been developing this oceanside garden for 20 years. The drive, house and garden are chiefly on a fenced acre. Their adjacent unfenced acre holds an increasing population of rhododendrons. Upon entry and in addition to pervasive beds of Rhododendrons one observes raised vegetable beds, a greenhouse, a grape arbour, a 5-varieties grafted apple tree and a large cistern.

Among the 450 rhododendrons are Bob’s crosses- Haida Gold and Bob’s Blue. Some Douglas fir and pine trees have been retained to provide balance and shade. Further down “Steepsides” one encounters Jean’s alpine area. Through this tasteful rock garden a most natural appearing but artificial stream and waterfall has been created. A second greenhouse is adjacent to the waterfront home.

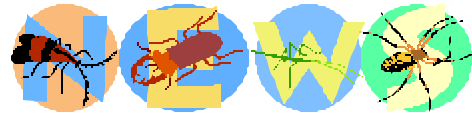
Time permitting a visit to Malaspina Galleries (Coastal Sandstone formation) is recommended.

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USE NATURAL PESTICIDES



Saturday, June 1, 2002

2PM - 4PM

Garden of June Bouchard and John Deniseger 6666 Green Acres Way, Nanaimo

Take the first left off Aulds Road (after the Parkway) onto Rhodo Way. Then turn right onto Green Acres Way and proceed to the end to number 6666.

June and John's garden has been created over the past 16 years. Adjacent undeveloped land and a railway easement provide additional privacy and natural views. The house is centered on the property so that the garden extends in all directions. One moves from one area to another along grassy thoroughfares or on stone pathways. Areas for vegetables and berries have low barriers to deter rabbits. Additional fencing and arbours are only for definition and accent as the property is never frequented by deer. A small greenhouse is next to the garage. 175 tagged rhododendrons dominate. Several early and longer bloomers (Rosamundi and Cilipinense) are located for enjoyment from the comforts of the sunroom. Mass planting of identical cultivars by the drive is dramatic. Natural seeding of Bob's Blue, a large recumbent Jean Marie, and several large leafed species deserve notice. Fruit and other deciduous trees, hydrangeas, taxus, lilac, hellebores, hostas, Ionicera, perennials, bulbs and many more are evident. Ivy, oregon grape, salal and daphne laureola all have their effectiveness.

NRS – NORTH ISLAND TOUR

How Much: Cost \$25 (plus \$5 admission fee to Kitty Coleman Woodland Gardens)

Departure: 7:30 am from Country Club (near Swiss Chalet)
7:45 am from Woodgrove (near Chapters)

Don't forget to bring a picnic lunch

We'll be visiting a number of beautiful gardens while also having a chance to check out some great nurseries.

- Campbell River – Paul and Lynn Wurz's garden and nursery (Hidden Acres Nursery)
- Campbell River – Mystic Woods Nursery <http://www.mysticwoods-nursery.bc.ca/>
- Oyster Bay – Linda Easton's garden
- Courtenay/Comox– Kitty Coleman Woodlands Garden <http://woodlandgardens.ca/index.html>
 - \$5 admission fee
 - Includes a stop for lunch and a guided tour
- Courtenay/Comox – Simmon's garden
- Harry Wright's garden and nursery (Haida Gold Nursery)
 - Includes afternoon tea and coffee

We plan on returning to Nanaimo in the early evening at 6 to 7 pm

If you'd like to go, contact John or Chris

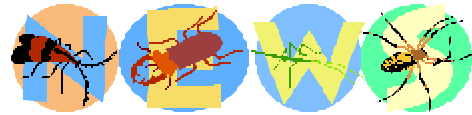
To simplify things it would be appreciated if you could pay in advance at the May meeting.

**Don't forget! Bring plants
for the \$ Table**

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USE NATURAL PESTICIDES



2002 N.R.S. Truss Show

Don't forget to bring in your trusses for this year's show. The truss show gives us all a chance to show other club members, gardeners and the general public the incredible diversity of colour and form within the genus *Rhododendron*. What better way to turn the public on to Rhodos than to put on a spectacular display of trusses. It doesn't matter whether you've never done this before or whether you've brought trusses in every year. Whether your plant is 10 feet tall, 6 inches high, blooms every year, has never bloomed before, your only entrant, one of 15 you're bringing in, pink, yellow or any other colour, bring in trusses!! I suppose you could say that "we've never seen a truss we didn't like". Having a great truss show makes the club look good and it really helps the plant sale as well. I'm sure that we've all fallen in love with a particular truss at the show and have put it on our "must have" list.

If you're wondering how to choose your trusses, here are a few tips:

- ✓ walk around your garden a day or two before the show to select your trusses (works best with a glass of wine according to Dick Beamish)
- ✓ when choosing, look for the ones with straight stems and the blooms at the top
- ✓ if you wish, you can cut the trusses the night before and put them in lukewarm water
- ✓ select trusses that haven't passed their prime, it's better to choose one with one or two unopened buds rather than blooms obviously past their prime
- ✓ choose blooms with good looking foliage
- ✓ avoid chewed or damaged leaves
- ✓ one nice whorl of leaves is best with flowers from 1 truss only (except hammerheads)
- ✓ don't forget to leave enough stem so that the truss can be displayed in the bottles we supply
- ✓ ideally, the truss will stand up straight in the display bottle – some use the trick of holding trusses in place by gently wedging pieces of cork into the bottle mouth

Remember, the most important part of the truss show is to have fun. Let's see if we can beat last year's display.

Please remember, that setting up the truss show takes time. We'll be there by 7:15. The earlier you can bring in your trusses the easier it is for all of us. **Please have them there no later than 9 am.** We hope to have the judging underway by 9:15.

The truss show classes are as follows:

Hybrids (1st, 2nd and 3rd as selected by judges)

1. Pink e.g. Cotton Candy
2. Red e.g. Markeeta's Prize
3. White e.g. Yaku Incense
4. Salmon/orange e.g. September Song
5. Purple/blue e.g. Crater Lake
6. Yellow e.g. Haida Gold
7. Fragrant e.g. Loderi

Other (1st, 2nd and 3rd as selected by judges)

- Alpine e.g. Impeditum
- Species e.g. Decorum
- Azaleas (truss or spray)

Special Classes

- Display only - not entered in the competition
- Popular Choice - voted on by those attending the show
- VenusBest in Show – Trophy for 1st place
- Blotched/Flare e.g. Sappho
- Hammerhead (multiple truss on single stem) – Trophy for 1st place

Don't forget! Bring plants
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10

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Show – be there at 7:15 A.M.**