

# NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY



May 2009  
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Show time has arrived: on May 9<sup>th</sup> we will be presenting our annual Truss Show and Plant Sale. Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> from 7pm – 9pm setting up and also registering the Trusses will be done.

On Saturday the cashiers will each need at least one helper, we will need as many bodies as possible from 7am – 9:45 am to move plants from the incoming grower's vehicles to the tables (vehicles can not drive into the gym). Wheelbarrows will be greatly appreciated. If you are unable to help prior to or during the show please drop by to assist in the cleanup at 2pm.

All trusses must be in place by 8:45 am (on Saturday) so that judging can start on time. Therefore trusses arriving too late to be registered and placed for judging will be for display only.

The following Saturday will be our annual Bus Tour which, at this writing is fully booked.

Linda & I will be away until May 6 (attending the ARS Convention) so if you have any suggestions or questions please email me as I will be checking in every day.

Hope to see a lot of happy faces on May 9.

Paul

## EXECUTIVE

President	Paul Lawry	390-2370
Vice President	John Deniseger	390-3605
Secretary	June Bouchard	390-3605
Treasurer	Chris Southwick	758-0993
Directors	Glenda Barr	390-2822
	Linda Lawry	390-2370
	Sandra Dorman	390-0136
	Barb Coy	758-8497
	Rosina Schmidt	751-3386

## COMMITTEES

Advertising	Michael Miller	758-2879
Library	Ann Beamish	758-2574
	Helene Sullivan	758-7023
Newsletter	Kathryn Grant	245-7879
Membership	Debbie Gaboury & Barb Coy	
Program	Glenda Barr	390-2822
Raffle	Ann Davey & Val Harvey	
Social	Sandra Dorman	390-0136
Dollar Table	Reinhold Gorgosilich	758-6533

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society  
Box 241, #1 – 5765 Turner Road  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6M4  
Website: [nanaimo.rhodos.ca](http://nanaimo.rhodos.ca)  
email: [nanaimo@rhodos.ca](mailto:nanaimo@rhodos.ca)

## NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 14

BEBAN PARK SOCIAL CENTRE

7:30 pm

GARY ANAKA

"How Rhododendrons Grow Your Brain"

# NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## **TWIGS AND STEMS**



### GOODIES FOR MAY MEETING

Barb Coy  
Paul and Linda Lawry  
Anne Tennant

### Cowichan Valley Garden Club Annual Spring Flower Show and Plant Sale

Saturday June 6, 2009 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
St. Peter's Anglican Church Hall  
5800 Church Road (off Maple Bay Road)  
Duncan, BC.

Admission: Adults/Seniors: \$2.00, Children: \$1.00  
Admission to Afternoon Tea: Adults/Seniors: \$2.00, Children: \$2.00  
Flower Show Entries from the public welcome. Please email Maureen Deptuck at [moeanddon@shaw.ca](mailto:moeanddon@shaw.ca) to enter

### MILNER GARDENS AND WOODLAND

Rhododendron Days at Milner Gardens  
April 30 to May 10, 2009  
See the Rhododendron bloom at its peak.  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m., last entry at 4:30 p.m.

### COWICHAN VALLEY RHODO SOCIETY

Annual Plant Sale  
Saturday May 2, 2009  
10 am to 2 pm  
Queen of Angels School  
2085 Maple Bay Road  
Duncan  
First 200 visitors receive a free rhododendron!

## Our May Speaker Gary Anaka

### How Rhodos Grow Your Brain

How can you grow rhododendrons if you don't have a brain to grow them with? Is this you? Forgetting where you planted your Augustini? Too tired to fertilize them? Not sure what dead heading is anymore? If so, you may be experiencing cognitive decline. This practical session will provide you with the secrets of brain longevity to give you workable strategies for life long gardening success. This special, energetic and fun presentation is filled with hope and optimism for your future. Find out how to use it before you lose it.

Gary Anaka is BC's top brain based learning facilitator and a member of our rhodo society. He has presented workshops to thousands of people on the topic of brain health and wellness since 1997. He is the author of the new book *Brain Wellness: the Secrets for Longevity*. The full scope of his work can be viewed at [www.braincoach.com](http://www.braincoach.com).



Yvonne and Glenda at our information booth at Art Knapp's on April 25

**DON'T FORGET THE TRUSS SHOW AND PLANT SALE IS AT RUTHERFORD SCHOOL THIS YEAR!**

# NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## Nanaimo Rhododendron Society

Minutes of April 9 General Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:35pm.

The President welcomed everyone and invited our guests to participate in our Door Prize and Nametag draws and encouraged everyone to purchase raffle tickets.

1. Reminded everyone of the following upcoming events:

**April 25** – NRS Clinic at Art Knapp's (Need help for the 12noon to 1pm time slot)

**May 9** - Rhodo Show & Plant Sale:

- A. We will be needing helpers for the event Starting at 7pm – 9pm on Friday (Set up and registration of Trusses)
- B. Assistance on Saturday at 7am. to help with Trusses and unloading of the seller's vehicles.
- C. Help with Cashier from 10am – 2pm – assistance at Rhodo Café and with customers.
- D. Help with clean up at 2pm – 3pm

We will need to have the use of some wheelbarrows before and during the sale.

**May 16** – Bus Trip to Tofino (Trip at this time is fully booked).

- 2. Spoke briefly about a Booklet/bulletin titled: **How to identify Rhododendron and Azalea Problems** that is published by Washington State University. It is very descriptive with many photos of the problems we will encounter in our gardens. The booklet can be purchased at be Vancouver Island University book store.
- 3. Noted that the **elections for the NRS executive** will be held at the May meeting and requested that members responded positively when asked to run for office.
- 4. **Questionnaire:** So far only 6 questionnaires have be completed and returned. Members are asked to return them ASAP.

**Secretary:** No correspondence.

**Treasurer:** We have \$1427.77 in our account. If you have any questions please speak with the Treasurer.

**President:** Does anyone have any comments or questions? None were forthcoming.

**Auction:** R. Pachysanthum was auctioned and sold for \$20.00 adding to our funds for the purchase of a projector.

After a ten minute coffee break the draw for the Door and Nametag prizes were drawn along with the Raffle.

We were treated to an interesting presentation of Glenn Jamieson's trip to Mount Kinabalu.

After the presentation and being no further questions, comments or business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

**Next Executive Meeting: April 16 - Rosina Schmidt's home**

# NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## A Brief History of Clayoquot Preserve On Stubbs Island

By Ken and Dot Gibson

*Clayoquot*, also known as *Stubbs Island*, was named after Captain Napoleon Fitz Stubbs, who circumnavigated Vancouver Island with Mr. Barrett-Lennard aboard the yacht *Templar* in 1861. Many local points were thus named: Lennard Island, Templar Channel, Barrett Island as well as Stubbs Island. The word Clayoquot comes from the Indian word “Clea-o” meaning another or different; “aht” means people or village. Hence “Cla-o-quaht” means people different from what they used to be, or warlike. The principal village of the Clayoquot Indian Band (now spelled Tla-o-quot) is at Opitsaht across from Tofino. Opitsaht means “the people who live in the winter sun”.

The white settlement of Clayoquot, on Stubbs Island, became one of the first trading posts outside of Fort Victoria around 1860. In the 1890’s, Clayoquot was under the jurisdiction of the Hudson Bay Company and ships bound for the Bering Sea were outfitted here, with Victoria Sealing Company footing the bill. At times, it was not uncommon for 16 schooners to be moored here.

In 1898 Walter Dawley built the first hotel on the Coast and opened a store to service the early settlers. The original hotel burned in 1908 and a similar was rebuilt immediately. In 1918 this second hotel burned and was replaced with a third, smaller structure that eventually became the first beer parlour on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, under the management of Major George Nicholson. In approximately 1937 the island was bought from the Dawley family by Betty Framer and she talked her sister, Jo Brydges, into moving here from Victoria. Betty loved to garden in true English fashion. While Betty spent time in the garden, Jo mainly looked after the household chores but she did venture into the forest where her preference was a wild garden that blended with nature. We will see the remains of both styles. Mary Grief of Royston often visited Betty and Jo on Stubbs Island, bringing with her many tender plants. She recognized, as had George Fraser, that this was not only the wettest place to garden but the warmest. San Francisco has been colder. Due to its proximity to the Japanese current and the 5,000 feet high mountains, which prevent arctic outbreaks, Stubbs Island boasts the warmest climate this side of California. Mary Greig is to be credited with many of the long-term plants that we will see today.

In recent years, a commendable effort has been forthcoming by Susan Bloom, the present owner, with the horticultural expertise of friends and managers, Sharon Whalen and Chris Taylor. The island is now known as Clayoquot Preserve with an emphasis on plants and trees. For the past five years, a visit in the fall by interested propagators from the Victoria Rhododendron Chapter has resulted in many broad-leaf plants being donated to the Preserve. Plants such as *R. sinogrande* and *R. macabeaenum* are thriving well in the damp forest.

For your tour in May, you are warned you could need warm, water-proof boots, warm clothes with perhaps a squall jacket. I always say “Tofino is damned good or damned bad” – never underestimate mother nature, just try to meet her half-way.

This land is known as “the wild side” and, as we take the boat behind Felice Island, you would be able to see Japan, if you had eyes that could see that far.

# NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY



*"Clayoquot" means meeting place of many different peoples.*

# NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

## "The Ultimate Rhododendron Conference"

District 1 is hosting "The Ultimate Rhododendron Conference", April 2 – 4, 2010, at Canada's premier rhododendron garden, the University of British Columbia Botanical Garden. The conference is aimed at all gardeners who would like to learn more about rhododendrons. Over Saturday and Sunday, delegates will attend 6, ninety-minute sessions in the garden classrooms at, one of two learning levels:

**Level 1** is aimed at newer rhododendron collectors and at general perennial gardeners who want to learn to grow the most spectacular rhododendrons on their block. Topics will include lecture/slide presentations, best-practice advice, garden tours, and field work:

- \* Rhododendron environmental needs and how to duplicate them in your garden
- \* Rhododendron and perennial pruning
- \* Rhododendron culture and care, irrigation, and pest and disease management
- \* How to design a rhododendron garden to prevent future problems
- \* How to choose superior rhododendrons for your area
- \* The best dwarf rhododendrons for rock gardens, containers, and small garden spaces.

Instructor: **Ron Knight**, ARS District 1 Director and creator of Caron Gardens ([www3.telus.net/rcknight](http://www3.telus.net/rcknight)), featured in the March 2009 issue of Gardens West magazine.

**Level 2** is designed for confirmed rhodoholics and veteran rhododendron collectors. Topics will include lecture/slide presentations, laboratory and field experiences, research-based information, and practical advice about:

- \* The best species rhododendrons for West Coast gardens and how to grow them
- \* Rhododendron anatomy as seen with a projected dissection microscope
- \* Using keys to distinguish between closely related and often confused species
- \* Low tech ways to propagate rhododendrons from seed or cuttings
- \* The importance of salts, pH and micronutrients; pH and soil nutrient testing
- \* How to solve the 10 worst problems of rhododendron culture and care.

Instructor: **Douglas Justice**, Associate Director and Curator of Collections at UBC Botanical Garden ([www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org)).

Garden visits on Friday and Saturday will include UBC Botanical Garden, Van Dusen Botanical Garden, and Nitobe Memorial Japanese Garden.

## Nanaimo Rhododendron Society

Present this coupon at Russell Farms Garden Centre and receive a  
20% discount off your purchases\*

\*Excludes sale items or reduced items.

Russell Farms Garden Centre

2711 Mt Sicker Road

Chemainus BC

250 246 4940

Expires May 31 2009

