

The Rhodomentum



Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Newsletter November 2017



President's Message

At last we can stop watering. I had my water lines blown out last week. Our next meeting's speaker is Geoff Ball and he will be speaking to us about Milner and especially about the new Rhododendron Species garden. Christmas is fast approaching with our "Pot Luck" and "Raffle". Start thinking about donating a plant from your garden for the "Raffle". I think the fall colours are about the best I can remember. My native Vine Maples have some beautiful red leaves this year. Hope to see you all at our next meeting on Thursday, Nov. 9th at 7:30pm. All the best, Allen

EXECUTIVE

President	Allen McRae	758-7589
Vice President	vacant	
Past President	Chris Southwick	390-3415
Secretary	Ann Beamish	758-2574
Treasurer	Gayle McRae	758-7589
Directors	Glenda Barr	390-2822
	Craig Clarke	390-4090
	Art Lightburn	468-7516
	Don Noakes	
	Dick Beamish	758-2574

COMMITTEES

Advertising	Jan Moles / Gerry Moore
Library	Ann Beamish / Sandra Dorman
Newsletter	June Bouchard / John Deniseeger
Membership	Krystyna Sosulski
Program	Doug Kitts
Raffle	Ann Davey & Val Harvey
Social	Susan Lightburn
Bargain Table	Reinhold Gorgosolich
Website	Craig Clarke
Bus Tour	John Deniseeger & June Bouchard

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

November Meeting

Thursday, November 9th, 7:30 pm, Beban Park Social Center

Geoff Ball

"Rhododendron species garden @ Milner Gardens & Woodland"

Twigs and Stems



GOODIES FOR NOVEMBER

Gayle McRae
Krystina Sosulski
Glenda Barr

Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association –
Fall Education Session: “Garden Layers” on Sunday,
November 5th at the Departure Bay Activity Centre in
Nanaimo. 11:00 am – 2:45pm. The headliner will be
Kem Luther speaking specifically about Mushrooms
found in the Boundary Layer, which is the title of his
new book. Check him out at: www.stegnon.com/

Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your NRS (and ARS) membership –
see Krystyna at our next meeting so you don't miss
an issue of the ARS Journal.

Milner Christmas Magic

**Check out the annual festival of music
and lights in the garden**

December 1-3, 8-10, 15-20

5:00 to 8:30, last entry at 8:00

Fall Blooming Rhododendrons

Please submit information on your fall bloomers:
1. Name of plant(s). 2. Does it bloom every fall or
occasionally? 3. Are the blooms abundant or just a
few? Send your responses to
rhodomentum@nanaimorhodos.ca

Mark Your Calendars!!!!

The date of our annual Plant Sale and
Truss show has been changed to
Saturday, May 12th, 2018!

Our November Speaker: Geoff Ball

Geoff is Executive Director of Milner
Gardens & Woodland, a position he
has held for eleven years. He has a
B.Sc. in Microbiology from UBC and
subsequently completed the
Horticulture Technician Program at
Malaspina University College. He
worked as an instructor & technician in
the Horticulture Technician Program
until he moved to Milner to take on
the role of Horticulturist in 1998. Geoff
is currently president of the board of
[Gardens British Columbia](http://www.gardensbc.ca/).

His presentation will give an overview
of [Milner Gardens & Woodland](http://www.milnergardens.com/) and an
update on the new species garden.

Helping the bees

Chris Southwick forwarded a message
from Ted Leischner who wants to get
gardeners interested in helping bees.
Ted's website is
<https://planbeenow.ca/>. Ted
forwarded a link to a current program
in the UK:
<http://www.bloomsforbees.co.uk/dahlia-trial-results/>

The N.R.S. is celebrating its 25th anniversary!

Here are some photos from our past.....



A work party at Hailey
Rhododendron Grove in Bowen Park
in the late 90's.



Rhododendron donations from
NRS and MARS members to
Ucluelet trail project - November
2001.



Ann Beamish and Susan
Lightburn at Woodgrove Mall
info booth - May 2014



November Raffle Rhodos

Rhododendron “Olive” – this wonderful bold flowered rhododendron is great for adding some early colour to the spring garden. The flowers are bright pink-mauve with spots in the center, the perfect complement to the large, oval, mid-green leaves. This is an upright growing plant, blooming as early as February.



Rhododendron “Satsop Sunrise” (3 feet, -18°C)
flower broadly funnel shaped, fragrant, frilly edged, 2 ¾ “across, inside strong pink at edge fading to pale yellow at center, with a brownish-orange dorsal blotch, outside strong pink at edge fading to pale yellow at base.



Useful Links

Victoria Rhododendron Society: <http://www.victoriarhodo.ca/index.html>

Cowichan Rhododendron Society: <http://cowichanrhodos.ca/>

Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society: <http://marsrhodos.ca/>

North Island Rhododendron Society: <http://www.nirsrhodos.ca/ws/>

Linda Gilkeson’s website: <http://www.lindagilkeson.ca/>

Lee Valley’s Gardening Newsletter:

<http://www.leevalley.com/en/newsletters/Gardening/2567/Article1.htm>

Bronze Medal for Kathryn Grant award at our October meeting



It is with great pleasure that the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society bestow its highest honour on Kathryn Grant. She has been a member of the club executive including several years as our secretary. During that time she and her husband Rick hosted many executive meetings at their beautiful home and garden in Ladysmith and were also willing to open their garden for local garden tours. She has supported many of our annual shows and sales by coordinating the cash registers, training others, and contributing to the follow up accounting. Most notably, Kathryn has willingly taken on the production and distribution of the chapter's newsletter which she has done for the last twelve years! Thank you, Kathryn, for your many years of dedicated service.

Apple Sharlotka *by Glenda Barr*

Butter or nonstick spray, for greasing pan

6 large, tart apples, such as Granny Smiths

3 large eggs

1 cup (200 grams) granulated sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 cup (125 grams) all-purpose flour

Ground cinnamon, to finish

Powdered sugar, also to finish

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line the bottom of a 9-inch springform pan with parchment paper. Butter the paper and the sides of the pan. Peel, halve and core your apples, then chop them into medium-sized chunks. (I cut each half into four "strips" then sliced them fairly thinly — about 1/4-inch — in the other direction.) Pile the cut apples directly in the prepared pan. Meanwhile, in a large bowl, using an electric mixer or whisk, beat eggs with sugar until thick and ribbons form on the surface of the beaten eggs. Beat in vanilla, then stir in flour with a spoon until just combined. The batter will be very thick.

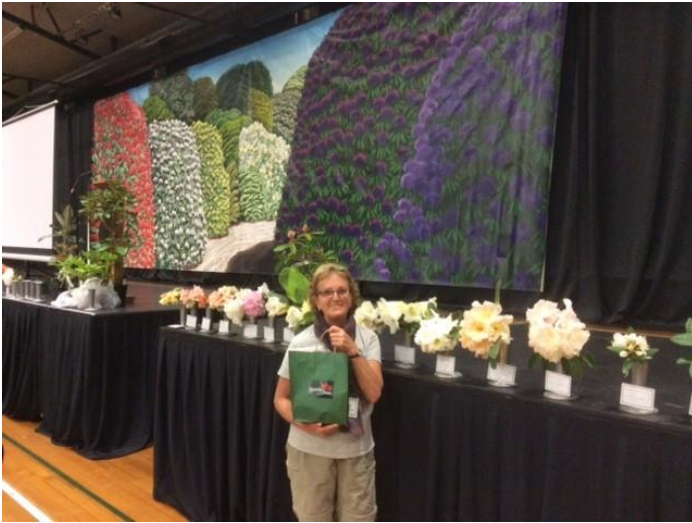
Pour over apples in pan, using a spoon or spatula to spread the batter so that it covers all exposed apples. (Updated to clarify: Spread the batter *and* press it down into the apple pile. The top of the batter should end up level with the top of the apples.) Bake in preheated oven for 55 to 60 minutes, or until a tester comes out free of batter. Cool in pan for 10 minutes on rack, then flip out onto another rack, peel off the parchment paper, and flip it back onto a serving platter. Dust lightly with ground cinnamon. Serve warm or cooled, dusted with powdered sugar. It would be delicious with a dollop of barely sweetened whipped or sour cream.

Minutes of the general meeting, October 12 2017.

1. **President's Report** – Allen McRae: A warm welcome to everyone – members, new members Rhea and Ron Sutton, guests and our speaker Ian Efford. Just a reminder to everyone that there are work parties going on at Milner Gardens – mulching, weeding and other activities. The work party on Thursday starts at 9 am and goes to noon. Check with Art Lightburn to be sure that there is mulch to spread.
2. **Secretary's Report** – Ann B. no correspondence
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Gaylle reported our income, expenditures and balance, for detailed information please see her.
4. **Bargain Table** – Reinhold has two Bourgenia plants left
5. **Library** – Ann B. nothing new to report
6. **Membership** – Krystyna S. reported that memberships have to be in for the November meeting as she has to remit our deposit to the ARS by December 2. Reminder Associate Member single is \$10 and couple \$15. Associate members are those who have a primary membership at another ARS chapter
7. **Social** – Susan L. circulated the “goodie” book for donations for future meetings
8. **Sunshine** – Ann B. reported that fortunately no cards were required this month. Reminder to all members to let her know if they are aware that one of us is ailing or has died
10. **Annual Bus Trip** June and John will no longer be arranging this as they have taken on the responsibilities of the Rhodomentum. They are willing to assist anyone who does take the task of organizing on.
9. **Rhodomentum** – Craig asked that all articles be submitted to him for November as John and June are away, and articles should be submitted by October 25.
11. **Programs** – Doug Kitts reported this evening's program is Ian Efford speaking on the Rhododendrons of Vancouver Island; November will be Geoff Ball from Milner Gardens & Woodland; December is our pot luck and auction; January 2018 will be Lois Blackmore speaking on Barlup Propagation; Feb will be a member of the Heather Society; and March will be Diana Walker speaking on Clematis.
12. **Rides** – Chris Southwick advised that some of our members are no longer driving at night and would like to attend the meetings. Anyone requiring a ride and/or able to provide a ride please contact her.
13. **Second Blooming**- Craig Clarke and Dick Beamish are doing a study on “second blooming” rhododendrons, or those that bloom in the fall. They hope to look at the genetics of them to see if there is anything in common. Please make a list of any 2nd bloomers and send them to Craig at rhodomentum@nanaimorhodos.ca
14. **Question Forms**-Chris Southwick presented the Question Form with the purpose being that anyone attending a meeting who has a question can submit it, give it to Chris and someone will get back to the person in a short time.
15. **Bronze Medal Award**- Chris Southwick presented Kathryn Grant with the ARS Chapter Bronze Medal for exemplary service to the club. Kathryn has held a number of positions on the executive as well as preparing the newsletter for 12 years.
14. **Plant Raffle** – Anne/Val noted the raffle plants for this evening are: ‘Shrimp Girl’, *wiltonii*, and ‘Blaney's Blue’.
15. **Milner Gardens Raffle Tickets**- Dorothee Kieser has raffle tickets for Milner Garden's Annual Raffle. They are \$5 for one or three for \$10.
16. **Change of Date for Show and Sale**- due to the fact Beban Park site is not available the Friday night before our proposed show the show date has been changed to May 12, 2018
17. Mark Nixon donated 4 tickets for entry into the Rhododendron Species Foundation Garden. Anyone wishing to take advantage of them, please see Allen
18. **Guest Speaker Introduction** – Doug Kitts introduced Ian Efford presented his book and gave a talk on the history and progression of rhododendrons on Vancouver Island. Thank You to the guest Speaker – Doug Kitts
19. **Next Executive Meeting** will be held at Glenda Barr's at 2pm on Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017

Spring in New Zealand!

It's been a spectacular couple of weeks since we arrived in New Zealand - from the hustle and bustle of Auckland to beautiful beaches, geothermal areas, Hobbiton, wineries, Wellington and of course, beautiful gardens. The vegetation is both familiar and at times quite baffling - apple trees in bloom next to orange trees full of fruit; rhododendrons next to palm trees and huge tree ferns; and camellias, roses, irises, even hydrangeas, all in bloom at the same time.



This weekend, we had the privilege of attending the 73rd Annual Conference of the New Zealand Rhododendron Association: "Gardens of the Country Road - Manawatu". We toured amazing gardens, a wind farm, and met wonderfully enthusiastic and welcoming gardeners.



We're now in New Plymouth on the Tasman Sea with stunning Mount Taranaki in the background. While we're here, we'll be enjoying the 30th annual Taranaki Garden Spectacular - would you believe 47 gardens open to the public all week!!! Obviously, we won't be seeing all of them as we're also planning on some hiking on the slopes of Taranaki. We could get used to having two springs every year...

See you all at the December Christmas meeting! And many thanks to Craig for doing the newsletter in our absence.
June and John

Digging rhodos at Art & Susan Lightburn's

They are donating a number of established plants to the new species garden at Milner Garden & Woodland. On the afternoon of October 23 they assembled a crew to lift the plants onto pallets in preparation for the move.



Colours: coral bark maple, *R. lagopus*, *R. schlippenbachii*.

Pictures by Susan Lightburn.