



The Rhodomentum

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Newsletter

November 2020



President's Message

There are times when one's heart is full of sorrow and the right words will not come. This is one of those times. First, we lost Don Noakes to cancer, a few days later, we lost Jim Barlup and more recently, long time NRS member Royce Tennant. While we will always remember Jim Barlup when tending his splendid rhododendron hybrids in our gardens, we will miss Don Noakes and Royce Tennant in our midst, their ever-helpful nature and warm smiles. To each family, our sincere condolences.

Bless that silver lining in the current coronavirus clouds: our gardens never looked better. Recent rains were much welcome also. The rhodos are full of buds, and some are even blooming the second time around: R. 'Elizabeth', R. 'Hill's Bright Red', and of course, the early bloomer in our area, R. 'Lee's Scarlet' is in full bloom already! A heart's delight!

Our monthly meetings are now replaced with online presentations and all five Vancouver Island chapters are working together to share the costs for the honorarium. Please mark your calendar, the next presentation by Steve Hootman will be on November 18th at 19h (7 pm). **(See details on p.2)**

Allan and Liz Murray are most generously offering the NRS their propagating facilities to propagate some 100-150 cuttings, as VIU's Paine Centre is currently not available due to Covid-19 restrictions. Allan will even supply us with necessary cuttings.

This pandemic time gives us the opportunity to become creative.

Our Christmas celebration will be online with a silent auction on plants, garden tools, and hopefully even Dick Beamish yummy chocolate creations. **Please send me the photos of the plants you would like to donate for our silent auction, the name of the plant included. (See details on p.7)**

My sincere thank-you to all of you who are keeping me on track, with your time, talent, knowledge and effort to make the NRS the great club that it is.

Keep well, stay safe!

Rosina

OUR EXECUTIVE

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COMMITTEES:

Advertising	Allen McRae
Library	Ann Beamish / Sandra Dorman
Newsletter	June Bouchard / John Deniseger
Membership	Jan Moles
Program	by Committee
Raffle	Ann Davey & Val Harvey
Social	vacant
Bargain Table	Reinhold Gorgosolich
Website	Deborah Francis/Rosina Schmidt
Bus Tour	David & Joyce Mitchell
Sunshine	Ann Beamish
Propagation	Rosina Schmidt
Hailey Grove	Bryan Jubinville
Show and Sale	Jan Moles and Brenda Lewis

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Next meeting: Wednesday, November 18th, at 7:30 ~ Location: Zoom online
Expedition to Northern Vietnam 2017 with Steve Hootman

Special Event for District 1 ARS members

Expedition to Northern Vietnam 2017 with Steve Hootman

Date: Wednesday November 18th at 7:30

Location: ZOOM online

Steve Hootman, executive director and curator of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and one of the world's foremost international plant hunters and botanists, will give us a presentation on his two-week expedition to the mountains of north Vietnam. Steve has participated in or led about twenty expeditions into remote corners of the world looking for rare and new species of rhododendrons and other plants. He is considered one of the world's leading authorities on the genus Rhododendron, having received the ARS gold medal in 2007.

This talk will come to you via Zoom. You will receive an invitation to join the call a few days prior. Please follow instructions in the invitation to ensure you are included.



Bright November Day

We seldom think of November in terms of beauty or any other especially satisfying tribute. November is simply that interval between colorful October and dark December. Then, nearly every year, come a few November days of clear, crisp weather that make one wonder why November seldom gets its due.

There is the November sky, clean of summer dust, blown clear this day of the urban smog that so often hazes autumn...

There is the touch of November air, chill enough to have a slight tang, like properly aged cider. Not air that caresses, nor yet air that nips. Air that makes one breathe deeply and think of spring water and walk briskly.

~Hal Borland, "Bright November Day," November 1970

The Banff Mountain Film Festival goes virtual and is featuring a documentary film on global rhododendron conservation!

Available only through November 8th!

From NRS member Jon Smith: *"The Banff Mountain Film Festival is entirely virtual this year because of the coronavirus, and to my surprise, one of the feature-length documentaries premiering there is about . . . global rhododendron conservation! It's aimed at a general audience, so much of the biology and ecology will be familiar to NRS folks, but material about rhododendrons in Chinese literature and art is likely to be new, and there are lovely views of Chinese tower karst, etc. It's called 'Pushed up the Mountain', is set mainly in SW China and Scotland (with a bit of North Carolina), runs through Nov 8, and costs \$12 to view at home (only available to view in Canada)." Thank you, Jon, for bringing this to our attention. It has since gone out to all District 1 and Eastern Canadian chapters.*

Pushed Up the Mountain

World Premiere

(At the request of the filmmaker, this film is available only in Canada)

75 minutes, USA – Mountain Environment & Natural History

Oct. 31 - Nov 8 – \$12 CAD

Pushed up the Mountain is a poetic and emotionally intimate film about plants and the people who care for them. Through the tale of the migrating rhododendron, now endangered in its native China, the film reveals how high the stakes are for all living organisms in this time of unprecedented destruction of the natural world.



Go to the Banff Centre website for further information <https://www.banffcentre.ca/events/pushed-mountain>

What's on the Calendar

Despite Covid19, there are things to do, places to go, events, and work bees... As part of the new normal, all of the usual protocols apply e.g. social distancing, hand sanitizers etc. There will also be some on-line events coming this fall – stay tuned!

- Greig Rhododendron Species Garden at Milner – work bees as needed in fall
- Hailey Grove at Bowen Park – monthly work bees – **see details on page 5.**
- Milner Gardens and Woodland – closed for the season Check their website for current details: <https://www2.viu.ca/milnergardens/events.asp>
- NRS Zoom-based education classes and seminars – watch future newsletters for details
- NRS members-only spring garden open houses – details to follow.
- District 1 online speaker series using Zoom – November 18th with Steve Hootman
- Christmas Online Silent Auction – see details on p. 5.



Stay connected - check our web page - new things added regularly! <http://nanaimorhodos.ca/>

Sad News....



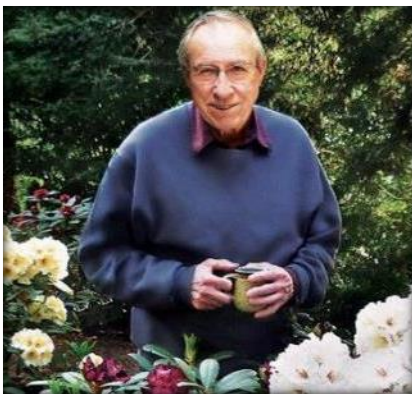
It is with heavy hearts that we learned of NRS member Don Noakes' passing on October 19th. Don was an active member of our club and a member of our executive. He was an active participant in club events including bus tours, plant sales, garden tours, etc. We will miss him dearly. Our most sincere sympathies to his wife, Olga, and their family.

<https://www.nanaimobulletin.com/obituaries/dr-donald-james-noakes/>

Don with daughter Amy and grand-daughter Emily at our September 2019 meeting.

We were so very sad to learn of long time NRS member Royce Tennant's passing on October 29th. He was a dear friend to many of us. Royce was an enthusiastic member of our club for many years, thoroughly enjoying the club's bus tours, plants sales, garden tours and meetings. Many of you will remember his botanical prints that he generously donated to our 2012 ARS Western Regional Fall conference. He will be missed dearly. Our most sincere condolences to Anne and their family.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/nanaimo-bc/royce-tennant-9885659>



Jim Barlup, a widely known and respected rhododendron hybridizer, has passed away...

From Roy Blackmore, member of the Victoria Rhododendron Society, on Monday, October 26th: "It is with sadness that I announce that Jim Barlup passed away this morning at the age of 87. He was diagnosed with lung cancer in May of this year and has been in hospice care since mid-September. He was one of the kindest men I have ever known, sharing information and materials with anyone who asked. He left his

rhododendrons, unnamed hybrids, new cuttings, seedlings, remaining seeds and all notes and information to the Victoria Rhododendron Society. The Victoria Rhododendron Society is ever grateful for this gift and has established a public Rhododendron garden in his honour. An initial planting saw 93 of his Hybrids planted thus far, and will be continuously added to, as more plants become available. If you wish, condolences can be sent to his wife Judy. Her email address is judy.barlup@icloud.com"

Fall Colour Tour of Milner Gardens and Woodland - October 10th

Photos by Rosina Schmidt

We were fortunate to spend a beautiful fall afternoon at Milner Gardens and Woodland. We had 20 enthusiastic NRS members, including several new to our club. We spent a fair amount of time in the Greig Rhododendron Species Garden, exploring the history and development of the garden, which generated lots of questions and discussion. The original rhododendron collection which is now more than 50 years old, had us all a little wide eyed, as we wandered beneath the rhododendron canopy. For some of the newer members, it was their first visit to Milner. It's always fun to see the impact that Milner can have on first time visitors and to see it again through their eyes. Thank you, John and Chris, for leading the tour!



Hailey Rhododendron Grove Update:

Unfortunately, we were not able to work in the gardens this past month due to high winds and heavy rains. The city did not want us exposed to any falling dangers.

However, we are scheduled to go again this November on the 17th ~ from 10 am to 2 pm.

Hope you can join us!!



Plant of the Month: Rhododendron 'Sparkling Stars'

By Ron Sutton

This beautiful rhododendron is a Frank Fujioka hybrid and is a cross of ['Yaku Sunrise' x 'Hansel'] x Lem's Cameo. It's a sister seedling of R. 'Starbright Champagne'

What makes this plant special is its cream coloured elongated flower petals that stand out nicely against the dark green foliage. It flowers well as a young plant and will grow to about 2 metres in 10 years; it is hardy to Zone 7 or to -18°C.

I chose that hybrid, because I fell in love with it years before I came to the island. I now have two of those plants, one planted the other potted, purchased from two different nurseries.

Hidden Acres Rhododendrons in Campbell River propagates it for sale.



(Photo by Ron Sutton)



(Photo by Singing Tree Nursery)

Seen in Passing....

- A few slightly confused rhodos are starting to bloom...
- Wind and waves pounding the beach
- Leaf raking and leaf blowers
- Outdoor furniture being put away for winter
- Compost building for spring gardening





The BC Council of Garden Clubs represents 200 garden clubs, allotment and community gardens in BC. Did you know that the BC Council of Garden Clubs, to which the NRS belongs, has provided scholarships and bursaries to needy students for more than 50 years? Individuals, clubs and societies can make contributions to the BCCGC's scholarship trust funds. Last year, the BCCGC provided \$11,700 in funds to B.C. college and university students. If you'd like further information go to BCCGC at:
<https://bcgardenclubs.com/>



Over the past couple of months, it's been great to see contributions from so many NRS members - including Jon Smith, Rosina Schmidt, Ron Sutton, Dick Beamish, Susan Lightburn... Although we enjoy putting the newsletter together, we really appreciate when members submit articles - it broadens the scope of our newsletter while highlighting our membership's various interests and backgrounds. Thanks to all current (and future!) contributors!

Silent Auction

Normally our Christmas meeting is a potluck and auction which is a fundraiser for both our club and those in need in our community. This year, due to the times we're in, our executive is planning a silent auction. While the details are under construction, we will be looking for items suitable for auction. Start thinking about what you may be able to contribute (especially rhodos of course). You'll need to prepare a description and photos. There will be further details in next month's newsletter. Rosina has been busy creating a Silent Auction 2020 page on our website – thank you Rosina. Check it out at http://nanaimorhodos.ca/albums/silent_auction_2020/



"The thinnest yellow light of November is more warming and exhilarating than any wine they tell of."

- Henry David Thoreau

Rhododendron 'Rubicon' by Dick Beamish

A few months ago, I was at Hidden Acres in Campbell River picking up a few plants from Paul Wurz. As we toured the garden that had long since finished blooming, I suggested that the best hybrid I knew of was Rubicon. Now Paul knows a lot more about rhododendrons than I do and he suggested a few names that did not mean much to me, and one or two that did. Since then, I have had similar conversations with other people that know something about rhododendrons and I happened to mention all of this to Rosina who asked me to write something for our newsletter. I agreed and wrote a reminder on a post-it note that I stuck alongside 7 or 8 other reminders.

Rhododendron 'Rubicon' was hybridized in New Zealand by Ron C. Gordon and registered in 1979 as RHS 79. It seems that it arrived in North America in 1980. It is a cross between R. 'Noyo Chief' and R. 'Kilimanjaro' and superior to either of its parents. 'Kilimanjaro' is an *Elliottii* cross that is red, has chocolate spots on the dorsal lobes of the 18 or so flowers that bloom about mid-season. 'Kilimanjaro' has a cold hardy rating of -15 °C. 'Noyo Chief' is an *Arboreum* ssp *Nilagiricum* cross that also is red, blooms early-midseason and has very glossy slightly bullate leaves with darker veins and a cold hardy rating of -12 °C. The cross of 'Noyo Chief' and 'Kilimanjaro' took the best features of each parent and made them better.

'Rubicon' is a very common and popular rhododendron in New Zealand that has been described as "the best New Zealand rhododendron of all time". There is even one article that rates 'Rubicon' as "the best dwarf rhododendron in the world". Greer describes it as a "superior" plant. This is a compact plant that is wider than tall and rated as 1.3 m after 10 years. The medium sized leaves are a glossy deep green with even darker, prominent veins. The size, shape, colour and arrangement of the leaves are perfect. The flower is described as cardinal red, but it is a darker cardinal red and probably could be best described as "Rubicon red". All of this is perfect, but it is the bloom time that contributes to making this the world's best hybrid. In our garden, we have 5 plants than are in partial sun to full shade. They are one of the first to bloom and one of the last to bloom. Even one plant will bloom over a two-month period. The truss has too many flowers to count, but it is described as having 17 to 18 flowers per truss which is perfectly shaped with black spotting on the upper lobes of the flower and distinct white anthers that contrast the dark red flowers. A blooming Rubicon immediately stands out in any garden because of the unique red but also because almost all the trusses are compact and perfectly symmetrical. A good truss always wins a ribbon in a show and will occasionally satisfy a judge as "the best in the show". It has a reputation around the Island as not being hardy, but it is listed as hardy to -15 °C which is colder than I recall it being for winters around Nanaimo. Paul Wurz lives outside of Campbell River and has two he keeps in pots which is one way of enjoying the plant and protecting it if there is an exceptional cooling event. Certainly, R. 'Rubicon' is well worth any additional effort.



Photo from Singing Tree
Garden Nurserv website



Photo by Garth Wedemire

PRUNING RHODODENDRONS

(Editor's Note: One of the most frequently asked questions is "Can I prune rhododendrons and if so, how and when can I do it" Susan Lightburn sent us an article by Bill Stipes which can give us some guidance. Thank you, Susan!)

Pruning and Removal of Spent Flowers

When to Prune: Typically, rhododendrons and azaleas are pruned after they bloom. This preserves the current seasons bloom, and allows time for the plant to produce flower buds for next year's bloom. Rhododendrons and azaleas set next year's flower buds by mid to late summer. Pruning branches after buds are set removes next year's flowers. Rhododendrons and azaleas send out new growth after they bloom or after a branch is pruned. Late summer or fall pruning is not advisable as new growth may not be hardened off prior to first frost and may be subject to damage. Some rhododendrons that bloom very heavily can be pruned prior to bloom to reduce the number of flowers and thus maintain plant vigor.

The major reasons for pruning a plant are:

- 1.) removal of dead, diseased, or damaged branches,
- 2.) shaping of the plant, and
- 3.) plant rejuvenation.

Clean-Up Pruning: Removal of dead, diseased or damaged branches can be done at any time. Tools to use depend on the size of the branch, small branches can be removed with a pruning shear, larger branches require a lopper or pruning saw. Broken branches should be cut just above a dormant bud. Dead branches should be cut back to a branch point, where dormant buds can send out new growth. Interior branches that do not get any light may be removed, because they will eventually die. Diseased branches should be pruned well below any diseased area and disposed of in the trash bin.

Shape Pruning: Pruning for shape enhances the rhododendrons form and habit. All rhododendrons can be pruned to maintain their natural habit, but to try to keep a tall growing rhododendron small or low growing is not practical. Tall, leggy plants should be replaced with smaller varieties or plants having a low, mounding growth habit. If a plant grows out over a walk or needs to be restricted for some reason, it may be pruned back moderately without fear that the plant as a whole will be damaged. Remove weak or crossing branches. This provides improved air circulation and removes branches susceptible to disease and insect damage. Rhododendrons should be pruned just above a growth bud. Don't leave short branch stubs which will die and can become an entry point for disease.

Evergreen azaleas can be sheared for hedges or borders. Unlike rhododendrons, evergreen azaleas can be sheared each year after flowering to create a densely-shaped plant. Deciduous azaleas can be cut anywhere on the stem and they will branch from that point, though they should not be sheared as severely as evergreen azaleas. Pinching or shearing the new growth can induce branching. Timing is important if optimum results are to be achieved. If new shoots are pinched too early the likely result will be a single new branch replacing the nipped growing point. If pinching is done at the right time several buds will break below the point pruned. Early summer is usually a good time for shaping azaleas.

Rejuvenation Pruning: As rhododendrons age they lose leaves and often become open and very leggy. Rejuvenation pruning, can be useful to reshape a plant. By pruning just above viable dormant buds, new healthy growth can be directed to obtain a more desirable shape. The larger-leaved rhododendrons have many dormant buds that can be forced into new growth. However, on very old wood, the dormant buds may have atrophied and are not viable. So there is some risk that drastic pruning may not be successful. A safe procedure is cut out about one-third of the old wood spread over a period of three years. In this way, there remains sufficient leaves to supply nutrients to keep the plant growing successfully each year.

Spent Flower Removal (Deadheading): It is desirable, with the large flowered rhododendrons, to remove the withered flower clusters after the blooming season. This is fairly easily done as the central axis of the cluster, usually called a truss, will break free from the plant with a push of the thumb pushing on the side, or can be cut off with a hand pruner. (See photo.) Dead-heading is usually done to make the bush look more attractive, to reduce the prevalence of fungus and to prevent a heavy set of seed. If it is not possible to remove the old flowers, it is usually not too detrimental, but flowering the next year may be reduced. When deadheading care should be taken to not damage the growth buds or new shoots which are located just below the flower cluster.

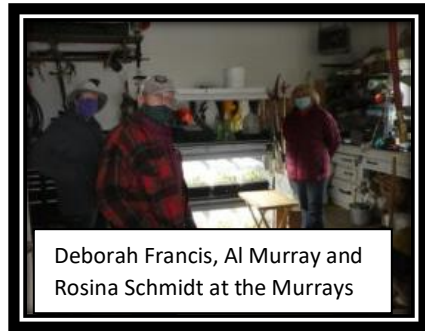
More information about how to prune rhododendrons and azaleas can be found in the following ARS articles:

[How and When to Prune Rhododendrons](#) by Warren Baldsiefen

An Update from our Propagation Group – Rosina Schmidt photos



A year ago, the group began successfully rooting cuttings at VIU's Paine Center. The cuttings have since been transplanted and are being grown on by a number of club members. Here's a photo of some of last fall's cuttings at Rosina's. They're well rooted and thriving.



Deborah Francis, Al Murray and Rosina Schmidt at the Murrys

In late October, we were at Al and Liz Murray's beautiful garden and greenhouse in Cobble Hill. Thanks to their generosity we are rooting another 120 rhododendron cuttings – many of the cuttings were taken from the Murray's garden. Thank you, Al and Liz!



Al Murray and Chris Southwick taking cuttings.

The World Would Be a Better Place... by Norm Todd

[Editors Note: This article is from *The Complete Wit and Wisdom of Norman Todd* (2011) – it was originally written in the Victoria Rhododendron Society newsletter in October 1999. We thought that it was particularly appropriate given the success of our propagating group's efforts.]



R. diaprepes

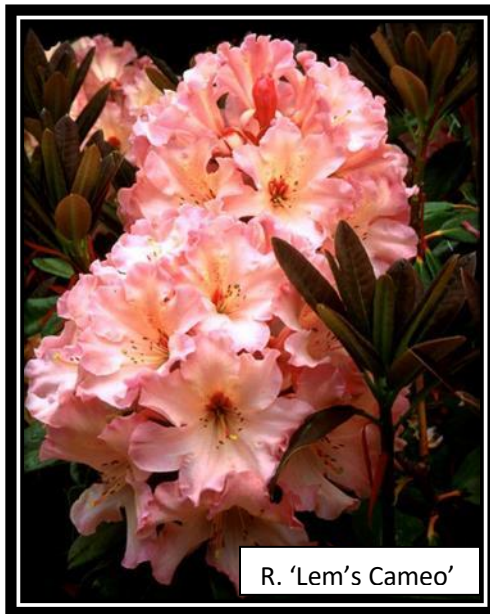
We read and hear a lot these days about genetic engineering. We are promised an end to hunger with an abundance of food. We are tempted to hope for longer life by reading that the world's best minds have created the technology to grow replacement organs from embryonic stem cells. The ethical problems raised by the scientific advances are far beyond my understanding but the promise of a longer life, I admit, has some attractions. When I first became interested in rhododendrons one of my mentors was Albert de Mezey. As we strolled through his famous garden on Foul Bay Road he advised me in his richly resonant Hungarian baritone that to grow rhododendrons you needed two things – a physical age of thirty and longevity of three hundred. I am musing on these matters as I am sticking cuttings in my propagator. Today I put in five cuttings of *R. diaprepes* 'Gargantua'. I know that should I be lucky enough to get these cuttings to develop

roots, and I am then lucky enough to get the roots to support some top growths and make a new plant, it will probably be 2020 at the earliest before there is a hope of that plant bearing a blossom. I also know that even as I am absorbed in this stone age style of attempting to create another living entity, the new bio-technologies will not be available soon enough for me to see that flower on this particular *diaprepes*. Quite quickly, I reason with an amazing appeasement of my initial unease, that the world will most probably be a better place with one more *diaprepes* in it, and certainly not any the worse for me not being in it, and I should quit making any connection between the life of that cutting and my own.

I think, therefore, the world would probably be a better place if we all got at least one cutting to root and made a new plant and the heck with a three hundred year old life span for humans. Just be glad that rhododendrons have it. And so with this primitive process that I use, I become a creator and I can look forward to the hugely fulfilling feeling I will have when I gently tamp those rooted cutting into a six inch pot and tie a brand new label on each fledgling plant.

In the past I have had groups of people come to my not very sanitary greenhouse and the group sits on a plank on one side of the propagating bench while I do a demonstration of how to make a new plant. I have a supply of styrofoam coffee cups and a pail containing a mix of moistened peat and perlite, a small container of rooting hormone, and some clear plastic bags. These groups are often what I call the “blue rinse” set – middle-age ladies who have immaculate gardens as well as immaculate hairdos. (Middle-age in these genetically enhanced times goes from 55 to 85). Then they all prepare their own cuttings: removing all but three or four leaves and cutting those leaves in half; wounding the base of the cutting just through to the cambium under the bark; dipping the cutting in the rooting compound, then dibbling a hole in the “dirt” filled coffee cup and popping in the cutting. After labelling and making a little greenhouse with the plastic bag sealed by a rubber band, they take off for home, trooping out of the greenhouse in single file with smugly satisfied smirks on their faces and the precious plastic bag held delicately between thumb and forefinger, each of them looking as if she was reliving the taking home from kindergarten of that first fingerpainting to show to an admiring parent. For me, the most satisfying part comes when these people come back and say, “Do you remember when we took those cuttings of that azalea? Well, I put it on the kitchen windowsill, and now it has grown 3 inches. Should I plant it outside?”

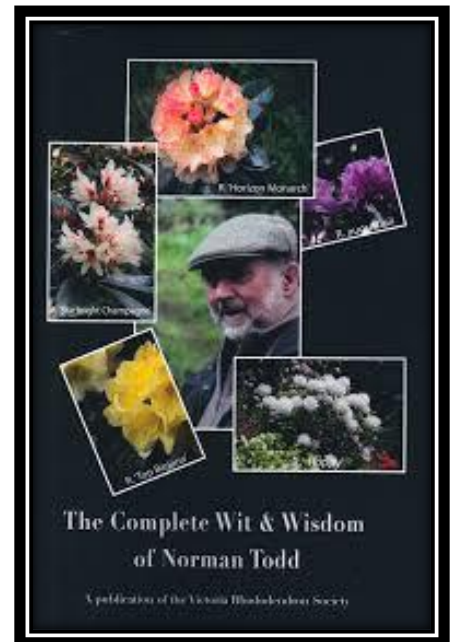
If you would like to know more about making new rhododendrons and have not attended a session of the ‘Propagators’, contact Ken Webb for more details. The group usually meets in the middle of the month. It is a very informal group and meeting times and locations vary.



If you do participate, you will quickly become aware that certain varieties – ‘Lem’s Cameo’ for example, are notoriously difficult to root. You will also be amazed at the success you will have with your first efforts. Neophytes have a high success rate. I attribute this to beginners’ cleanliness and the extra care taken but there is no doubt beginners have chlorophyll in their fingertips. When I first took cuttings of ‘Lem’s Cameo’ 20 years ago, I put in ten cuttings and I got ten plants. Every year since then, I have put in ten cuttings of ‘Lem’s Cameo’ and just occasionally get one with roots. The latest ‘must have’ species is *R. pachysanthum*. It is very hard to root. I have never been able to do it. Some of the ‘Propagators’ find *pachysanthum*

easy. It’s the same with *R. tsariense*. However, just to make sure that you are not the exception to this ‘novice-no-problem’, or ‘tyro’s triumph’ phenomenon, take a few cuttings of an evergreen azalea or ‘Elizabeth’. Now there are those who would say that the world would not necessarily be a better place with another ‘Elizabeth’. However, she is a turn-on, as she is so easily propagated. That initial success is crucial to your continued career as a plant creator. (...)

We are told that biochemistry and cell biology will be the technologies of the 21st century. Meanwhile in the last months of the 20th century, we can, with very little effort or expertise, improve the ambiance of our habitat by making a new plant which has the potential, without having any modified genes, to live into the 23rd century. It’s an act of faith, of course, but there are rhododendrons in our city that are now into their second century. I think you’ll agree they do add just a little in making our world a better place.



The Greig Rhododendron Species Garden - an update



Susan Lightburn and Glen Jamieson filling wheelbarrows

On October 16th, we had a successful mulching work bee which included 14 members from both the NRS and MARS. More work remains to be done and will be scheduled later this fall as more arborist mulch becomes available.

In another development, two large rhododendrons were recently added to the Greig Rhododendron Species Garden, thanks to the generosity of John and Arlene England, long time MARS and Milner members. A 10 to 12 foot 'Loderi King George' and a 5 foot 'Loderi Venus' were dug up, lifted with a bobcat, and moved to Milner. It was a joint NRS/MARS project involving a number of members from



John, Art and Susan hauling mulch

each club. The new additions look great in their new home just inside the main species garden entrance!

You may be wondering why we added two hybrids to a rhododendron species

garden. One of the founding principles in the creation of the garden was to create opportunities for education. We have been creating several rhododendron "sets" consisting of a hybrid and the 2 species which were hybridized to create it. In this case, the Loderi series was created by crossing *R. fortunei* ssp. *fortunei* and *R. griffithianum*. They are located adjacent to the 2 Loderi hybrids and will be integrated into the interpretive program.



The diggers: Art Pruffer, John Deniseger, Dan Schwartz, Bryan Jubinville and Don Bridgen



The bobcat was needed to move them....



Loderi King George was big!





We're already looking forward to seeing them in bloom next spring! And then there's the wonderful Loderi perfume....

(Photos by Glen Jamieson, Susan Lightburn and John Deniseger)

Membership fees are due!

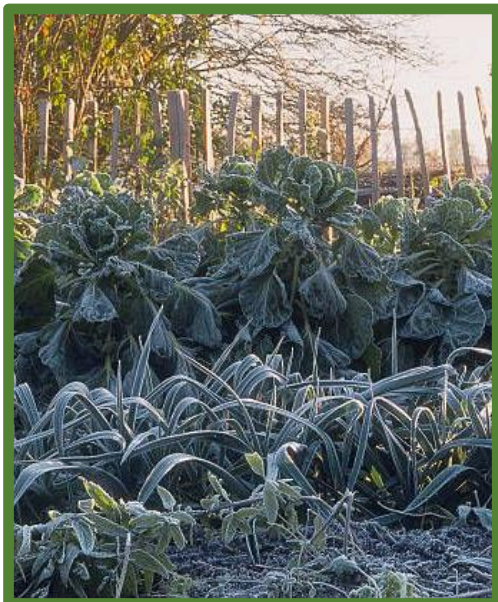
This is the time of the year when our annual memberships are up for renewal! You can pay your fees either electronically or by cheque – single \$40.00; couple \$45.00; payable at the beginning of September.

- By cheque: send per post to: Liz Higgins, Box 442, Nanaimo, BC, V0R 2H0; or bring your cheque to the meeting on September 13th.
- Electronically: e-transfer to lizhiggins24@gmail.com (tel.#: 250-390-9340)

In each case, please specify if for a single membership, family membership or associate.

Thank you, and happy gardening!

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November...

November comes

*And November goes,
With the last red berries
And the first white snows.*

*With night coming early,
And dawn coming late,
And ice in the bucket
And frost by the gate.*

*The fires burn
And the kettles sing,
And earth sinks to rest
Until next spring.*

~Elizabeth Coatsworth (1893-1986)

Stay Safe Everyone!