

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY



October 2010



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer seems to have given up far too easily this year. This must be the first time that we haven't had to water the garden after Labour Day.

We've talked about new activities for the fall. Reinhold started us off by organizing and hosting an excellent propagation workshop. Thank you Reinhold!

Later this fall, we'd like to take advantage of Milner Garden's Fall Colour Days. On October 30th, we'll have an informal visit to Milner Gardens, open to anyone who would like to join us. We'll be meeting at the Milner entrance at 11 am. Admission is by donation. Hope to see you there!

We've received our box of Rhododendrons from Briggs Nursery for meeting the 10% growth in membership challenge. We actually grew by 22% in the year ending August 31, 2010. Stay tuned for details at upcoming meetings.

Don't forget, if you've joined the club as a new member since September 1st, 2009, you're eligible for a free Rhododendron, donated by Reinhold. If you haven't collected your plant yet, we'll have more available at the October meeting. Thank you Reinhold, for your generosity.

We're still looking for volunteers to help us out with advertising and with our Christmas auction. If you're interested, please talk to a member of the executive.

See you at the October meeting!

John

EXECUTIVE

President	John Deniseger	390-3605
Past President	Paul Lawry	806-2370
Vice President	Sandra Dorman	390-0136
Secretary	June Bouchard	390-3605
Treasurer	Gerry Moore	756-1427
Directors	Glenda Allard Barr	390-2822
	Chris Southwick	390-3415
	Debbie Gaboury	758-1204
	Reinhold Gorgosilich	758-6533
	Burkhard Dressler	758-1738

COMMITTEES

Advertising	vacant	
Library	Ann Beamish	758-2574
Newsletter	Kathryn Grant	245-7879
Membership	Debbie Gaboury	
Program	Glenda Allard Barr	390-2822
Raffle	Ann Davey & Val Harvey	
Social	Sandra Dorman	390-0136
Bargain Table	Reinhold Gorgosilich	758-6533

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society
Box 241, #1 – 5765 Turner Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6M4
Website: nanaimo.rhodos.ca
email: nanaimo@rhodos.ca

NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14

BEBAN PARK SOCIAL CENTRE

7:30 pm

GARTH WEDEMIRE

'To MARS and Back'

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

TWIGS and STEMs



GOODIES FOR OCTOBER MEETING

Linda Moore

Joyce Mitchell

Ann Davey

NOVEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGE

*The November NRS meeting will take place on
Wednesday November 10, as Beban is closed on
November 11. Mark your calendar now!*

MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE

Individual \$40

Family \$45

VICTORIA PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

Well the date is official now – October 30th. The Victoria Propagating Group is a very successful monthly group that has about 25 active members. We will be holding a hands-on propagating seminar on October 30th. We plan to start around 10 am to let people from up island and the mainland get here. We will have a full day planned with an early group dinner so everyone can still get home that evening. We will discuss all types of propagating with a very loose agenda so we can go just where

everyone leads us. Many members of our club will be on hand to offer their views about cuttings and seeds and alternative methods. We will have a hands-on session in the garden-propagator where all attendees will actually be able to take their own cuttings and stick them in my propagator with hopefully some of their own “babies” next spring. There will be several lectures about seeds, cuttings and nurse grafting etc. You should bring warm and dry clothes as we will be working in the garden. A nominal charge will be charged for lunch so that we can continue the excitement throughout the day. Due to room constraints we might have to limit or cut off the number of attendees – first come, first served. Please contact Ken or Madeleine Webb at kenwebb@live.ca or 250-744-1785.

TOOLS FOR SALE

Michael Miller has generously donated a package of used power tools to the N.R.S. to help our fundraising efforts. New, these tools are worth well over \$450. You can buy them individually at the prices listed below or buy them all for a total of \$200.00. If you'd like to take advantage of this offer, please give John a call. The tools are all in excellent condition and include:

1. Craftsman Planer (3 5/8) - \$50
comes complete with Plate Edge Jointer kit and dovetail joint fixture -
2. Skil Vari Orbit Scroll Saw - \$60
3. A selection of wood chisels ½, ¾, 1 and 2 inches (freshly sharpened)- \$15
4. Craftsman Router 25,000 RPM, 7.5 amp, including 14 shaping bits - \$45
5. 4 1/2 inch handplane \$15
6. Black and Decker Belt Sander, including 17 new belts \$60

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Conference Corner

**Rhodos in Paradise:
Destination Vancouver Island
September 21 – 23, 2012**

The Conference organizing committee members are thrilled that Art Lightburn and his friend from Victoria Cal Parsons have volunteered to help with the sound and video components of the conference! Thank you Art and Cal. Thanks also go out to relatively new member, Eileen Jubinville who will be assisting June Bouchard with registration for our conference. Thank you, Eileen! It can't be said often enough that pulling off an event like this takes many hands. We're now looking for someone who would like to take care of advertising and/or public relations. If you're interested please see any of the NRS executive or the conference chairs.

We've also made some progress in planning more fundraising. Volunteer June Bouchard will be assisted in chairing the Spring Garden Tour by Gayle McRae. They are being assisted by some of our members who are experienced Mount Arrowsmith Club Garden Tour organizers par excellence - Art Lightburn and Mary Parker. Their ideas and assistance are very much appreciated as well.

Many of the organizing committee and some of our NRS club members will be attending the Fall Conference in Florence Oregon in early October. We're eager to see how other clubs put their fall conferences together and picking the brains of that group's organizing committee. We also have plans to talk up our conference, of course.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday evening, November 4th at Gayle and Allen's home. It will be a pot luck dinner. Great group!

Chris Southwick - co-chair

OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER GARTH WEDEMIRE

Our October meeting will be a PowerPoint presentation from Garth Wedemire entitled "To Mars and Back", displaying some of the gardens Garth saw while visiting the MARS chapter. Garth's photography and knowledge has always been much appreciated by our club and I think we can safely expect an inspiring program!

Gnome Gnappers?

LILLE, France - Garden gnomes are disappearing again in France now that a spoof group idolizing Snow White and the Seven Dwarves has resumed its campaign to "liberate" the statues from flowerbeds and well-kept lawns.

The *Garden Gnomes Liberation Front* (FLNJ), which operates seven-member night-time "commandos" to snatch the gnomes, has made off with a dozen ceramic dwarves this week around Dunkirk, near the Belgian border, residents say.

The masked raiders declared a "truce" in January after rounding up about 30 gnomes in Normandy and "freeing" them in local forests, presumably to return to the normal life of a story-book dwarf.

In each of the latest abductions, the FLNJ left a message saying: "Dear Papa, Dear Mama -- I was happy with you but now I have to leave you. Signed: your garden gnome." One message said the FLNJ wanted to "re-educate" the dwarves.

Local police said they had not launched any investigation into the wave of gnome-snatching because no owner has come forward with an official complaint.

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Twelve of us were very lucky the weather stayed dry for Reinhold's hands-on workshop on propagation. Reinhold's instructions were very informative and his success rate is proof that his technique works well.

Propagation by cuttings by Reinhold Gorgosilich

Taking cuttings:

1. Water plant well 2 days before taking cuttings. If cuttings are dry, completely submerge them in water for 18-24 hours.
2. If possible, avoid shoots with flower buds; if that is not feasible, remove flower buds.
3. Always remove terminal buds from Lepidote cuttings.
4. Use cuttings of average growth; don't use overly vigorous or thin / stunted.
5. If you can, take cuttings on the side of the plant away from the sun.
6. Take cuttings before 11 a.m.
7. Cut back to $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ inch above last season's growth (Elepidotes only).

Preparing cuttings:

1. Leave 3 leaves; remove 50% of each leaf left. When removing leaves, do not leave any stalk.
2. Shorten cutting to no more than 10 cm long.
3. Wound stem.
4. Dip end into water, shake off surplus water.
5. Dip into rooting hormone, tap off surplus.
6. Use dibble to make hole in rooting medium, stick cutting, gently firm and water in.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Reinhold.

Interesting websites:

Propagating Rhodos by seed, cuttings and grafting:

Quarterly Bulletin of the ARS; Vol. 18, No.2
<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/v18n2/v18n2-lofthouse.htm>

Quarterly Bulletin of the ARS; Vol. 18, No.3
<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/v18n3/v18n3-lofthouse.htm>

Quarterly Bulletin of the ARS; Vol. 19, No.1
<http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JARS/v19n1/v19n1-lofthouse.htm>

Picasa Webalbum – Birck – great photos:

<http://picasaweb.google.dk/birck.denmark/RhododendronAndPeat#>



NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

NRS Meetings Minutes

Date: Thursday, September 9th, 2010

1. Meeting called to order at 7:40.
2. Number of people present: 35
3. President, John Deniseger, welcomed everyone to the new season.
4. **President's report:**
 - The NRS executive is working on new events and activities for this year; keep an eye on your newsletter to find out more.
 - During the summer, our Beban cupboard was cleaned up; photos and scrapbooks from the early days of the NRS were found in the cupboard and are displayed at the front; please let June know if anyone is interested in reviving the scrapbook tradition. Also free older issues of a variety of gardening magazines are available for free.
 - Our club has met the ARS/Briggs Nursery challenge (which was to grow by 10%) and has grown by 22% over the past year – well done! Thanks to Reinhold's generosity, all new members from September 2009 forward can help themselves to a welcome gift Rhodo at the front table.
 - Harry Wright is updating his book on Rhododendrons grown in BC. He's looking for listings of Rhodos grown in individual gardens. He will be contributing an article for the newsletter outlining his project.....
 - First new event of the year is a propagation workshop with Reinhold (4959 Fillinger Crescent) on Sunday, September 19th at 2:00. See current newsletter for details.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - B.C. Council of Garden Clubs:
 - o Invitation to general meeting to be held on Saturday, October 16th – Gerry is planning to attend.
 - o July/August 2010 issue of *The Bulletin*.
 - Thank you letter from Diabetes Association for donation made in memory of Dot Gibson.
 - Thank you letter from Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship for donation made in memory of Avril Wedemire.
 - Thank you note from VIU for bursary; also thank you note from recipient of bursary: Tom McCulloch.
 - Announcement of Dave Dougan's biography written by his grand-daughter: *Flower Child Logger* for \$15.00. Contact info is in newsletter. The club has bought a copy for our library and a copy for our Christmas Auction.
 - Fall catalog of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden.
6. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - Balance 2012 Conference account: \$588.00
 - Balance in NRS general account: \$3644.26
7. **Committee Reports:**
 - Program:
 - o October: Garth Wedemire – “To MARS and back”
 - o November: Gordon McKay from Alba plants – “Companion plants for Rhododendrons”
 - o December: our annual Christmas auction and potluck.
 - o January: Steve Hootman.
 - Membership:
 - o Please renew your membership early – see Debbie Gaboury.
 - o We have to the end of November to pay our membership if we don't want interruption in ARS journal delivery.

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- Social:
 - o Thank you everyone for bringing food for our “Welcome back” potluck.
 - o Special thanks to Pat Schulson for lovely bouquet of dahlias.
 - o Sympathy cards were sent to the Gibson family and the Wedemire family.
 - o Please sign up to bring goodies to the upcoming meetings: “Goodies book” is circulating.
- Bargain Table:
 - o See Reinhold at the back table for plant bargains.
- Raffle/Door Prize:
 - o Thank you to Val and Ann to continue to look after the raffle table for us.
 - o Get your tickets at the break; door prize is free – raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00.
 - o Thank you to people who donated plants to the raffle: Debbie Gaboury, Charlie Hardy, and Michael Miller
- Library:
 - o Ann away tonight; see June if you wish to take something out.
- ARS 2012 Fall Convention:
 - o Will now be a standing item at all meetings.
 - o Committee is hard at work; meeting monthly.
 - o The event will be held at the Coast Bastion Inn.
 - o MARS has committed to do the plant sale for us – thank you MARS – that will be a great help.
 - o There will be a spring garden tour fundraiser – June and Gaylle are organizing. Please let them know if you would like to volunteer your garden for the tour.
 - o This year’s regional conference is being held in Florence, Oregon. It’s not too late to register. Many people from our club are going. We will be promoting the 2012 convention while we’re there.
- Other items:
 - o Michael Miller has donated a package of power tools and hand tools to the club as a fundraiser – possibility of a garage sale if anyone is interested in organizing the sale.
 - o Please let John know if interested.

8. Raffle/Door prizes winners:

- Door prize: Terry Richmond, John Deniseger, Eileen Jubinville.
- Raffle draw: Art Lightburn, Mary Jane Derkson, Charlie Hardy, Reinhold Gorgosilich, Baerbel Dressler, Wayne Steele, Brian Jubinville.

9. Program for tonight:

Wonderful presentation and photography by Carmen Varcoe: “The plants and people of Bhutan”.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15



Way to Grow! Our Briggs Nursery Plants have arrived!