

The Rhodomentum

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Newsletter



October 2016



President's Message

As I write this report, the rains are coming down. All my rhodos are giving a great sigh of relief. Two days ago, I was transplanting a rhodo and I could not believe how dry the earth was. We probably need to keep watering for another month.

Once again I am reminded of the sad passing of Edith Higgins. She will be missed.

If any of you have extra rhodos at home, we can always use donations for the raffle table and for Reinhold's dollar table. These donations really help the NRS in the long run.

Does anyone know how we can buy gifts at wholesale prices, which we could auction off at the Christmas event? The NRS would like to do a "Garden Tour" in the Spring because it is such a good fundraiser. Think about your own garden being on the tour, or can you think about other gardens from Cedar to Nanoose. Make a note of them and bring them to the next meeting. Large or small gardens are needed - they don't need to be rhodo gardens.

You can shop for some things at ARSStore.org. The prices are the same, but the ARS gets a 4-20% kickback.

The Executive is proposing that we increase the price of raffle tickets to one for \$2 and three for \$5.

Mike Stewart, a gold medal winner of the ARS, a nursery man and now President of the Species Foundation will speak about some of the great plant collectors at our next meeting.

Hoping to see all of you there on Thursday, October 13 at 7:30.

Allen

EXECUTIVE

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

COMMITTEES

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

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

Next Meeting

Thursday October 13, 7:30 pm Beban Park Social Centre

Mike Stewart

'Legendary plant collectors and hybridizers'

Twigs and Stems



GOODIES FOR OCTOBER

Ann Beamish

Diane Walker

Reinhold Gorgosilich

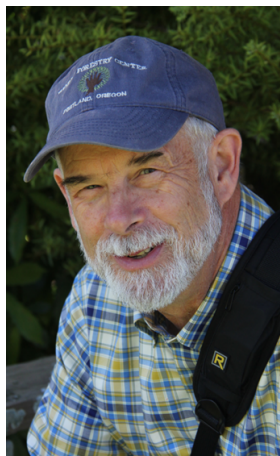
NANAIMO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A Day at the UK Royal Horticultural Society's Malvern
Autumn Garden Show

Summer Joy and Jim Webb, speakers
Wednesday October 12, 7-9 pm
Brechin United Church basement
1998 Estevan Road, Nanaimo

OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER

Our guest speaker for the October 13 meeting will be Mike Stewart, President of the Rhododendron Species Foundation, former President of the American Rhododendron Society and retired Rhododendron nurseryman from Dover Nursery, Sandy, Oregon located approximately 30 miles southeast of Portland. Mike and his wife Maria are members of the Portland Chapter. Mike will speak to us on the 'Contributions of Legendary Plant Collectors and Hybridizers, and their Lasting Legacies'.



"CANADA 150" TULIP - Presented in Ottawa, May 09, 2016
A new tulip, bred to resemble the Canadian flag to commemorate the upcoming 2017 celebrations, Canada's official birthday tulip.

"The tulip represents gratitude and the long-standing friendship between Canada and the Netherlands. Blooming in the colours of Canada's flag, "Canada 150 tulips" will bring both pride and joy to gardens and communities from coast to coast to coast," said His Excellency Cees Kool, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in a news release. More than 200,000 of the "Canada 150 tulips" will bloom across the National Capital Region this spring. Next year 300,000 will be showcased in the NCC's flower beds, with thousands more expected to be planted in community gardens across Canada.



Bulbs are available at Green Thumb Nursery and Parksville Home Building Centre. Both Nanaimo and Parksville Home Hardware stores are sold out. -ed

Autumn
By T. E. Hulme

A touch of cold in the Autumn night –
I walked abroad,
And saw the ruddy moon lean over a hedge
Like a red-faced farmer.
I did not stop to speak, but nodded,
And round about were the wistful stars
With white faces like town children.



Nanaimo Rhododendron Society General Meeting
September 8, 2016

1. Welcome everyone. Wonderful pot luck as always. Introduce Tito guest of Earl and new member Ann Potter.
2. President's report:
 - a) Silent Auction of Rhododendrons for Nepal has been suspended with a total raised of \$440.00.
 - b) Edith Higgins passed away unexpectedly and her Celebration of Life will be Friday, September 23 at 1430 hours at St. Phillips By the Sea Church, 7113 Lantzville Road.
 - c) Alan reported on the District 1 meeting and the somewhat dire financial situation the ARS finds itself in. There are continued discussions regarding a hard copy of the Journal versus an electronic version. The ARS is currently undergoing a transition review with new staffing which should see \$30,000 in savings, Ken Webb, the second Vice President is spearheading this. The next ARS Western conference is in Newport Oregon, September 30-October 2.
 - d) The species garden at Milner Garden is temporarily on hold as shells, and a midden have been unearthed during the preparation; VIU will undertake the payment for an archeological "dig". Should further items been uncovered the garden may proceed with additional earth being added rather than by digging.
 - e) The Western Fall Conference is being held in **Parksville in September 2019**. MARS is looking for assistance from NRS similar to the assistance they provided to us for our conference.
 - f) **2018** there will be a conference in Germany, starting in Amsterdam May 6.
3. Treasurer's report: – Krystyna Sosulski provided a consolidated report for September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, with a balance of \$14,518.40. Of the Balance we have commitments for: \$4,600 to Milner Garden (our \$2,000 and the \$2,600 from the legacy fund from the Victoria Conference) and \$440 for Nepal.

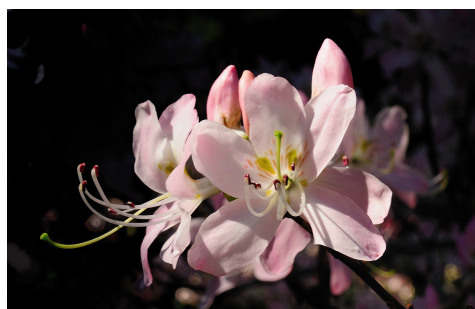
Motion: moved by Brenda Lewis to accept the report as presented
Seconded: Glenda Barr
Approved.
Alan thanked Krystyna for her years of service as Treasurer.
4. Secretary Correspondence: Nothing to report
5. Bronze Medal: at the June windup Glenda Barr was presented with the Bronze Medal acknowledging her years of commitment to the club.
6. Membership: Krystyna has taken over this portfolio.
7. Newsletter: John and June will look after the September Newsletter. The new name is RHODOMENTUM
8. Program: Mike Stewart will speak in October, and Dennis Brockmiller in November.
9. Members' garden Tour: To be discussed at future meetings.
10. Sunshine: - Ann Beamish volunteered to take over this portfolio given Edith's untimely death.
11. Raffle Table: Val asked members to bring plants or other garden related items for raffle. Money gained goes to the library.
12. Social: Susan Lightburn passed the "social book" for folks to sign up for treats for the meetings.
13. Other: September 21-25 Milner Garden Plant Sale.

Rhodos Worth Growing



Rhododendron 'Apricot Fantasy'

One of the few plants to ever be rated 5/5 by the Northwest Hybridizer's Group. 'Apricot Fantasy' has flowers that are light orange and meld with golden yellow. Superb foliage on an upright plant. 150 – 175 cm in 10 yrs, -15C, ('Hotei' x 'Brandt'sTropicana')



Rhododendron vaseyi

A species of flowering plant in the heath family known by the common name **pinkshell azalea**. It is endemic to North Carolina in the United States, where it is known only from the southern Appalachians in and near Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This deciduous shrub may grow up to 5 meters (almost 17 feet) in height. The large flowers are pink and begin to bloom in April.

October Raffle Plants

Rhododendron cinnabarinum

This distinctive species is from wild collected seed near Tibet and is noted for its narrow upright form and waxen tubular flowers usually orange to red. Geographical Origin: Nepal, India (W Bengal, Sikkim), Bhutan, China (S Tibet) Height: 1.5 meters in 10 years. Cold Hardiness Temp: -15°C Bloom Time: Early Midseason to Midseason.



Rhododendron strigillosum

Fabulous species with early spring red flowers, upright habit, with bristled new growth. Long narrow leaves 7"x2" and bright green. Splashing deep blood-red flowers to 2 1/2" long are tubular bell-shaped, appearing in early spring in trusses of 8-12. Plant Habit: Shrub or small tree, often rounded and symmetrical Height: 1.2 meters in 10 years. Cold Hardiness Temp: -18°C. Best with a high canopy of shade to buffer the late spring frosts from the early bloom and new growth.

NANAIMO RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Quinoa Walnut Rosemary Casserole

Total prep & cook time: 45 min

4 Servings

Quinoa Casserole Ingredients:

1/2 cup walnuts, soaked in water for 6 hours or longer - we soak overnight in the fridge, in a covered container, then drain and rinse

1 c quinoa, soaked 5 minutes, rinsed and drained in a colander

1 Tbsp olive oil

1 - 2 garlic cloves

1 medium carrot, peeled and diced

1 stalk celery, diced

1 unsalted veggie bouillon cube

1 1/2 cups boiling water

1/4 - 1/2 tsp crushed dried rosemary leaf, or 1 tsp fresh1 bay leaf

Optional:

1/2 cup frozen peas

1/4 cup parsley, minced

Fresh ground pepper to taste

Directions:

- 1 Soak the walnuts ahead in the fridge the morning or evening before cooking
- 2 Soak quinoa 15 minutes to an hour, rinse three times through a fine metal strainer, leave to drain
- 3 Heat olive oil on medium in a large sauté pan or frying pan
- 4 Crush, peel, stem, and mince garlic cloves
- 5 Wash and dice celery (slice lengthwise, then crosswise, in thin slices)
- 6 Peel and dice carrot (slice lengthwise in four, then crosswise in thin slices)
- 7 Stir fry garlic, celery and carrot until beginning to brown
- 8 Shake quinoa to get out any remaining water, add to pan, and sauté until dry
- 9 Add crushed rosemary leaf, and bay leaf, stir to heat through
- 10 Stir in 1 1/2 cups boiling water, optional salt and bouillon cube, bring to boil, cover and simmer 15 minutes
- 11 Add the frozen peas on top, cover and simmer another 10 minutes
- 12 Chop walnuts coarsely, mince parsley, and stir into casserole with the peas
- 13 Turn off heat, stir in fresh ground pepper to taste, then serve

Recipe Tips:

For our version of this quinoa recipe, we used carrots instead of red peppers, garlic instead of onion, a veggie bouillon cube instead of soy sauce, olive oil instead of sesame oil.

We added a celery stalk, a bay leaf, parsley, and also soaked the walnuts instead of roasting them to get rid of the bitter tannic acid flavor and brown color. We reduced the amount of water because of soaking the quinoa.

To 'crush' rosemary, we whizzed whole dried rosemary leaf in our trusty spice grinder (aka coffee grinder). You can also use a mortar and pestle, or just crumble it with your fingers.

If you use a salted bouillon cube for this recipe, you'll need very little added salt. Check the label on the box.

From savvyvegetarian.com



Mixing it Up in the Urban Garden 2017

Fresh ideas & expertise for new and seasoned gardeners

Our Gardens of the Future

The New Urban Garden
Keynote Speaker: Gayla Trail
"You Grow Girl" Author & Blogger

And

Our Gardens of the Future will be
Rooted in the Past – Dr. Richard Hebda
Thirsty – Gord Baird
High Tech – Dr. Anna Colangeli
Gorgeous – Richie Steffen

Speakers sponsored by
Russell Nursery
North Saanich, BC



Plus
Local Vendors & Resources, Delicious Food,
Silent Auction & Market Place

Saturday, January 28, 2017
8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney BC

COST Until Oct. 31 – \$75
From Nov. 1 – \$95
Includes lunch, breaks and free parking

Register early. We always sell out!

Information & Registration
www.mgabc.org
(Victoria Chapter)

Our Gardens of the Future

An opportunity to

Value Traditional Knowledge
Dr. Richard Hebda – Victoria
As Curator of Earth History and Botany at the Royal BC Museum, Richard is uniquely positioned to show us how First Peoples in the Victoria area interact with the eco-systems on which we all depend.

Balance Winter Rains & Summer Droughts
Gord Baird – Highlands (near Victoria)
Yes, it is possible to water your garden with last winter's rain. Yes, soon you will be able to water your garden with grey water. Gord is very well qualified to show us how.

Break: Refreshments, Vendors, Resources
VMGA Market Place, & Silent Auction Viewing

Explore the Role of Genetic Research in the Garden
Dr. Anna Colangeli – Victoria
What are GMOs, how are they created, why do we care? What is the science behind grafted vegetables? Anna, the Biology Program Chair at Camosun College, will show us how scientific developments impact our gardens.

Lunch: Vendors, Resources
VMGA Market Place & Silent Auction Viewing

Embrace the Unusual: Avant-Garde Ornamentals
Richie Steffen – Seattle Washington
As curator of special collections at the Elisabeth Miller Botanical Garden, Richie travels the world looking for new, leading edge ornamentals. Prepare to be dazzled!

Break: Refreshments, Vendors, Resources
VMGA Market Place & Silent Auction Viewing

Go Urban, Youthful, Sustainable, Artistic, Low Budget & Edible
KEYNOTE: Gayla Trail – Downtown Toronto
Gayla gardens in unexpected places with delightful results. She shares her experiences with the gardening public at <http://yougrowgirl.com>. As a young urban gardener she represents the future of gardening in Canada.

Silent Auction Winners, Book Signing, Vendors & Wind-up

 Victoria Master Gardener Association

Register at www.mgabc.org (Victoria Chapter)