



# The Rhodomentum

## Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Newsletter



October 2022



### President's Message

Hello All,

If you attended the 30th Anniversary of the NRS potluck, then you learned that I have recently agreed to be your club president. I have taken over from Rosina Schmidt. Most of the executive members have served this position at one time or another, and now it's my turn to step up. Our executive is a great collection of dedicated experienced people who work hard to keep the club functioning and interesting. Rosina, our most recent president, did a wonderful job for the club, but she requires a break. The club welcomes a couple new members to the executive, Margaret Cadwaladr and Paul Lawry as well as the return of Art and Susan Lightburn. All have past experience serving on the executive or have been the president themselves.



### About me...

Some of you know me quite well, but others, not so much.

I'm 63 years old. My wife Rea and I joined the NRS in October of 2017, while we were renting in Nanaimo. I retired in 2016 and we moved to the island from Burlington, Ontario, in June of 2017. We came here with the purpose of finding a suitable place in this relatively mild climate to grow various plants that couldn't be grown in Burlington. We found our dream property on 5.25 acres in Fanny Bay which is, unfortunately, far from our club. I got the gardening bug in my mid-forties, and proceeded to acquire plants for our small backyard in Burlington. Things really got interesting once I discovered importing plants from Greer Gardens in Oregon, and through that, developed a friendship with the late Harold Greer. His catalogs tempted me with plants that my climate couldn't grow, but I still bought some and wintered them in our garage. I was a previous member of two ARS chapters in Ontario, one in Niagara and the other in Toronto. The Toronto chapter has since closed down. I have made a number of great friends through the NRS, but sadly, some are no longer with us. I became a member of the NRS executive, when I was told as a non-executive member, that I could host a meeting. So I did, and enjoyed it enough to want to join the executive. When our previous club treasurer, Liz Higgins, wished to step down from the position, I was approached to take it over and have been the NRS treasurer for approximately three years now. I also contribute a feature to the newsletter called "Plant of the Month". My wife and I enjoy hosting club functions, such as executive meetings and outdoor potlucks. In closing, I pledge to fulfill the position as your president to the best of my ability.

Ron Sutton

Our next meeting - Beban Park Social Center

*Bob Duncan - Growing Figs in South Coastal British Columbia*

Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm

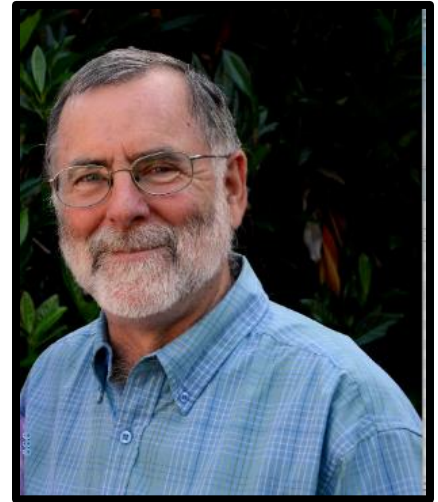
## Growing Figs in South Coastal British Columbia – Bob Duncan

This presentation will provide information on training systems, pruning techniques, variety selection and suitable sites to successfully grow figs on the south coast of British Columbia. Although some of these tree fruits have specialized cultural requirements, it is possible to successfully produce heavy crops of high-quality fruit here on the south coast.

### Bob Duncan

Trained as a botanist and entomologist, Bob has over 49 years' experience growing tree fruits on Vancouver Island. He operates a specialty plant nursery and demonstration orchard near Sidney. He specializes in temperate, warm temperate citrus, Mediterranean and hardy subtropical fruit trees. His demonstration orchard includes many varieties of tree fruits including citrus, subtropicals, apples, pears, plums, peaches, apricots, nectarines, cherries, quince, medlar, kiwis, pineapple, guava, figs, pomegranates, loquats, persimmons, olives, jujube, avocado, pawpaw and white sapote!! The orchard is used as a teaching tool to demonstrate various training systems and cultural techniques.

You can explore their website at: <http://www.fruittreesandmore.com>



Dear All,

Subscription renewal time is here again and we hope to be welcoming you all back for the new 2022/2023 year. **November meeting at latest is the target.**

Full membership: Single \$40, Family \$45

Associate Membership: Single \$10, Family \$15

Student Membership: \$10

Subscriptions can be paid at a meeting with cash or cheque.

Alternately, you can send by post to our treasurer at this address:

Ron Sutton,

7310 Cougar Smith Rd.,

Fanny Bay BC V0R 1W0

**or preferably, send an e-transfer to our treasurer Ron Sutton at this email address: [rondsutton@shaw.ca](mailto:rondsutton@shaw.ca)**

Jan Moles, Membership Secretary

*\*\*\*Please Note: if you were a new member in 2022 AND paid after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022, there is no need to pay again. 😊*

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

## Twigs and Stems: Calendar of Other Upcoming Events:

**Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society:** John Deniseger – “Why I Grow Rhodos”; Qualicum Beach Civic Center, Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**North Island Rhododendron Society:** Leslie A. Cox aka ‘The Duchess of Dirt’ – “Changing Climate Affecting Gardens”, Comox United Church Hall, Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm

**Victoria Rhododendron Society:** Propagation Practices. Thursday, October 6, 2022. Glendale Gardens, 7:30pm

**Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society:** Speaker info unavailable. St. John’s Anglican Church Hall 486 Jubilee Street, Duncan. Wednesday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm

**Milner Gardens and Woodland:** –October openings: Friday and Saturdays from 11am to 3:00 with viewing until 3:30. Check the Milner website for details: [Milner Garden Events](#)



## Live the Garden Life - check this out to see what's going on in our area:

In recognition of the “Year of the Garden”, Milner has created “Live the Garden Life” on the Milner website. It is a guide to local resources to support the mid-Island community in getting out into the garden.

Whether you visit our Milner’s beautiful gardens for inspiration, join a garden club to meet other gardeners and share knowledge, are planning your first garden and want to gain knowledge, or take courses to learn more about gardening, celebrate everything gardens do for us at a local garden event, or check out our trusted web resources, ... see the listings in each category. For more information, click here to [“Live the Garden Life”](#).



## NRS UPCOMING PROGRAM

Our club’s program committee (Chris Southwick, Dorothee Kieser, Glenda Barr, Rosina Schmidt and John Deniseger) have been busy. Working together (isn’t it always easier when we work together?), they have booked an exciting list of speakers for much of the 2022/23 season. Make sure to mark those dates on your calendar!

Date	Speaker	Topic
November 10, 2022	Sean Rafferty	My Favourite Himalayan Plants
December 8, 2022	Christmas potluck and auction	
January 12, 2022	Linda Derkach	Garden Sense for a Changing Climate
February 9, 2022	Allison McCabe	Invasive Species in the Vancouver Island Garden – Identification, Management, and Removal

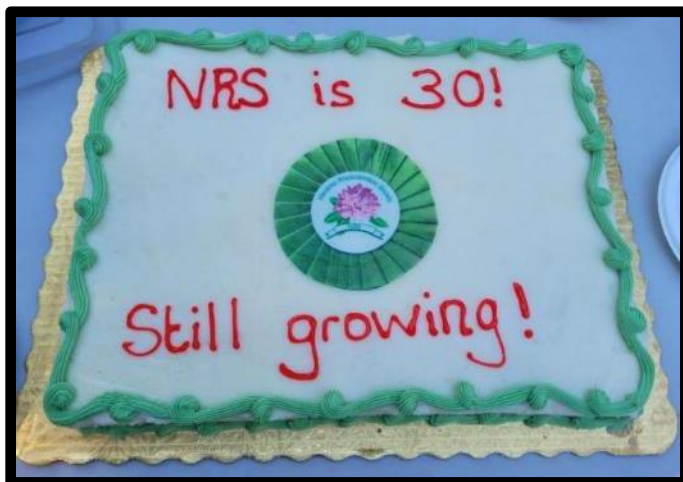
## *A Look Back at our AGM and 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on September 10<sup>th</sup>*

We were so fortunate to have a glorious sunny day for our September meeting / AGM and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration! It was great to see so many members come out for the event, including representatives from each of the other four Vancouver Island ARS chapters in attendance. As always, the food was delicious, plentiful and varied. Thank you to everyone for contributing to the wonderful potluck! And thank you to Rea and Ron Sutton for hosting the event in their beautiful Fanny Bay garden. Please see below for some highlights of the day!

**Check out our new executive below!**

**Congratulations and thanks to our new members!**

**And a special thank you to our outgoing executive members for their years of service to the NRS!**



### **OUR EXECUTIVE**

<b>President</b>	Ron Sutton	416-951-1373
<b>Vice President</b>	Chris Southwick	390-3415
<b>Past President</b>	Rosina Schmidt	758-7589
<b>Secretary</b>	Deborah Francis	756-2220
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ron Sutton	416-951-1373

### **Directors:**

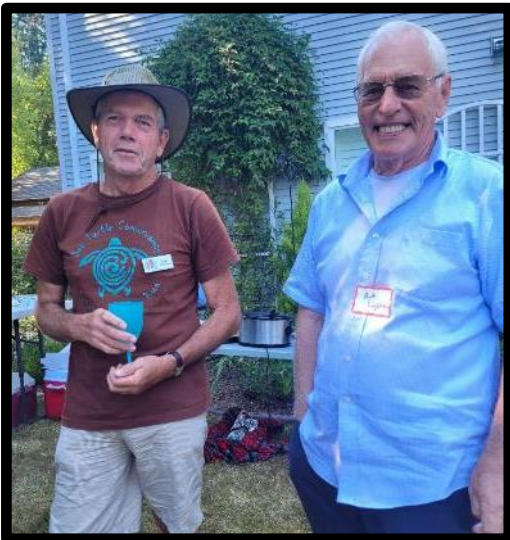
Margaret Cadwaladr	585-6046
Dorothee Kieser	390-4136
Paul Lawry	816-2370
Arthur Lightburn	468-7516
Gaylle McRae	758-7589

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

Advertising	Margaret Cadwaladr
Library	Ann Beamish / Gaylle McRae
Newsletter	June Bouchard / John Deniseeger
Membership	Jan Moles
Program	by Committee
Raffle	Val Harvey
Social	Deborah Francis
Bargain Table	Reinhold Gorgosilich
Website	Deborah Francis/Rosina Schmidt
Bus Tour	David & Joyce Mitchell
Sunshine	Wanda Brenton
Propagation	Vacant
Hailey Grove	Kevin Francis
Show and Sale	Jan Moles and Rosina Schmidt

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society  
Box 241, #101-5170 Dunster Road  
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6M4  
Website: [nanaimorhodos.ca](http://nanaimorhodos.ca)





A few photos showing NRS members enjoying a lovely afternoon at the Sutton's garden. For more photos of the event, [click here](#) .



## *NRS Members Memories ... 30 years and still growing!*

As part of our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, some members contributed some “special memories” of what makes NRS special to them.

Here’s a sample of a few of them – please [click here](#) or [here](#) for more lovely NRS memories.

### **Ron Sutton & Rea’s Special NRS memories:**

I have two special memories involving the NRS.

Moving to the Vancouver Island from Ontario we were impressed by what can be grown here. We joined the NRS in October 2017, while temporarily living in Nanaimo, and just before finding our place in Fanny Bay.

At the very first meeting we attended, we were approached by Dick & Ann Beamish, who extended an invitation to tour their garden, which we accepted. The second was when another member, Craig Clark, took me to see UBC’s Botanical Garden, where I got to see some special species rhododendrons in bloom. It was also Craig who got me hooked on purchasing species rhododendrons from the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden.

Always enjoyed our potluck get togethers.

### **Rosina Schmidt’s fond NRS Memory:**

Years back, when I arrived from Ontario and purchased my current property, I studied the gardening books about the different climatic zone on Vancouver Island and what plants deer do not eat. In my postage stamp size lot, three deer with collectively 6 fawns strolled day in and day out. Whatever the gardening books suggested planting as deer resistant, ‘my’ deer ate it all. The problem was, that those deer did not read those books.

On one of the hikes on our wonderful hiking trails, I cried my heart out on the shoulder of another hiking friend, Mike Miller, who offered to come over and see my beginner’s garden. Mike’s suggestion was to plant Rhododendrons, which are poisonous to deer and they do not eat. At least, they do not graze on most of these kinds of plants. Since I did not have much knowledge about Rhododendrons, I decided to join the local Rhododendron club, where Mike was a member also. It was a happy ending.

### **A few NRS Memories from Chris Southwick:**

1. The 2012 Fall Conference hosted by the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society. It was such a success! The table favours from many of our local gardens, the welcoming registration table, the silent auction, many talented speakers, and lots of folks from out of town who all seemed to love our community in the fall! The best part, though, was how many of our wonderful NRS members and those from other Island clubs chipped in to help out!
2. Sandra Evelyn’s garden cuttings were always something that I personally looked forward to seeing at monthly meetings. Sandra and Trevor Evelyn were very knowledgeable and excellent gardeners who were an integral part of our NRS chapter for many years. Sandra was keen to encourage folks to use the library and she almost always brought some examples of what was blooming in her garden each month. She taught us all a lot about various plants – especially non-rhododendrons! Thank you, Sandra.
3. One fall, June and John organized a fall nursery crawl to the North Island. It was such fun as folks car-pooled and half dozen vehicles drove north to check out the northern nurseries and their fall sales. Some people came home with their vehicles absolutely stuffed with bargain basement treasures!!





### From Dorothee Kieser:

Congratulations, Nanaimo Rhododendron Society on your 30th anniversary. While not a founding member, I joined in the mid-90's on the suggestion of Dick Beamish, Trevor & Sandy Evelyn and Craig Clarke and have enjoyed being a member all these years. NRS has accomplished a great deal during that time: new projects such as Bowen Park, propagation of rhodos, and being part of District 1 to establish the Greig Species Garden at Milner Gardens and Woodland. To me the fun parts are the social engagements (open gardens, Christmas Auction, End of Year Picnic) but equally the monthly meetings where we have had some excellent speakers and good learning opportunities. Most recently, Lionel De Rothschild comes to mind.

Good luck for the next 30 years!

### June and John Looking Back:

The N.R.S. began during the fall of 1992. By then, we'd begun landscaping our Nanaimo property including the addition of a number of rhododendrons. The founding president of the club, Ward Porter, was our neighbour back then. Every month, he would tell us: "You should come to a meeting, you'd really enjoy it!" For the first couple of months, we would find excuses, as a garden club really wasn't on our radar. Finally, in the spring of 1993, we relented – we thought that we'd go to a meeting and that would be the end of it. Obviously, we couldn't have been more wrong.

Our first meeting was in the spring of 1993 and the speaker was Terry Richmond who featured "Yak" hybrids. He had also brought plants to sell. Of course, we went home with a couple of rhododendrons and decided to return for the following month's meeting. We joined the club at that meeting and we've kept coming back ever since.

We've enjoyed the various club events (auctions, tours, sales/shows, etc) and have learned so much through the years. Here we are, 29 years later, and what keeps us coming back? It's the people that ultimately make our club strong and vibrant. We sometimes think that we use rhododendrons and horticulture as an excuse to socialize and get together. We enjoy seeing each other, sharing gardening stories, telling a few tall tales and making the club work. It's always been the people that have drawn us and kept us coming to the N.R.S. We have made so many wonderful friends and met such a wide variety of people through the club. That first meeting turned out to be a life changer! 😊

*If you have a special memory you might like to share, please forward to our webmaster Rosina to be included on our webpage. [rosinatschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:rosinatschmidt@gmail.com)*



*"Memory is the best of all gardens.  
Therein, winter and summer, the seeds of  
their past lie dormant, ready to spring  
into instant bloom at any moment the  
mind wishes to bring them to life."*

*Hal Boyle*

# *Bronze Medal Presentation to Krystyna Sosulski*

**Congratulations Krystyna!**



**The Nanaimo Chapter  
Of the American Rhododendron Society**

**Presents**

**THE BRONZE MEDAL**

**To**

**Krystyna Sosulski**

It is with great pleasure that the Nanaimo Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society bestows its highest honour on Krystyna Sosulski. Krystyna has been a member of our club's executive for many years and has been involved in many of the club's activities. She was both the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society's Treasurer and the Membership Chair for many years. She has generously hosted many executive meetings at her home and has also opened her garden to members. In addition, she has been an active part of our plant sale and has promoted the Society's events. Thank you, Krystyna!



## We are Looking for a New Propagation Coordinator

Our current NRS Propagation coordinator, Rosina, has “retired” effective immediately - due to some unexpected medical problems. Thank you, Rosina, for everything you’ve done to make this a successful initiative for our club!

**This is a great opportunity for a new member to step forward to take on this role.** It’s an interesting position that has become a very important part of our club and future plant acquisition and plant sales. Please contact Rosina [rosinatschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:rosinatschmidt@gmail.com) for further information.

(Ed. Note: See pp.10-11 for the latest news on the propagation group.)



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## Hailey Rhododendron Grove Work Bee ~ Bowen Park

By Deborah Francis, coordinator



The heat of the summer has stressed the rhododendron grove, however, the invasives were not to be deterred. The weather is great, fall is a fantastic time to get ahead of the weeds. Your help is needed, mark your calendar and come and join us to connect and have some fun on the following dates: October 11th, November 8<sup>th</sup>, and December 13<sup>th</sup>—always the second Tuesday of the month from 10am to 2pm!



Bring your lunch and a sunny disposition! 😊

**As they say... “Many hands make light work!”**

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### October Gardening Calendar by Rosina T. Schmidt

- Rhododendrons: apply woodchip mulch where needed.
- Mason Bees: If you have not done so yet, collect nests and harvest cocoons. Clean nests and cocoons. Store cocoons.
- Garden: Apply lime to lawns. Plant spring flowering bulbs using bone meal. Lift gladiolas, begonias, cannas and dahlias; apply bulb dust before storing. Plant winter varieties of broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and Brussels sprouts.
- Bring tropical plants indoors; check for bug infestation.



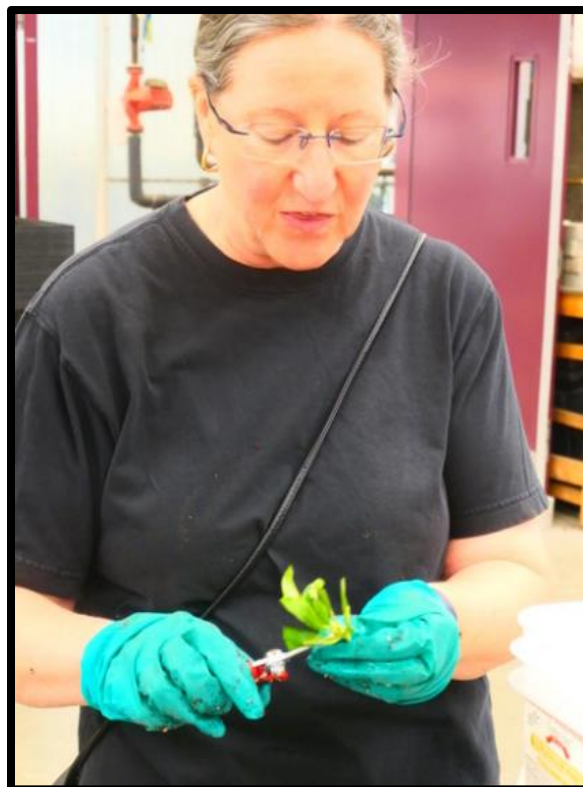
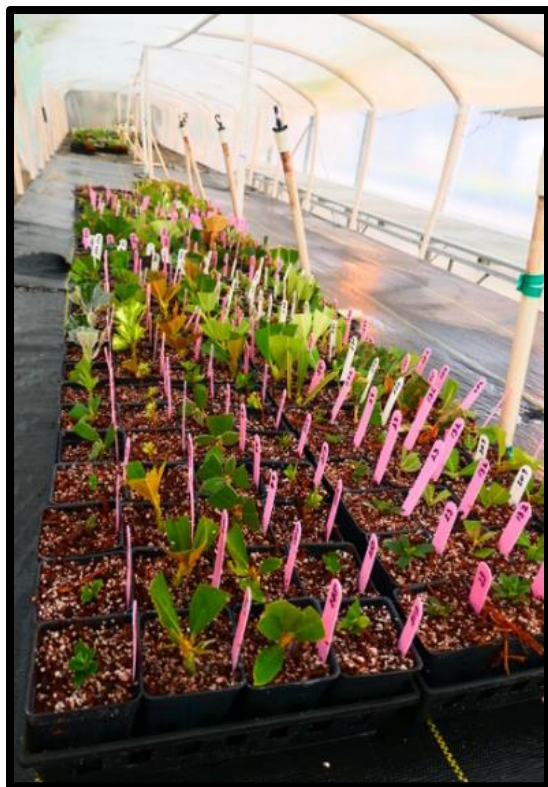
## NRS Propagation News by Rosina Schmidt

The NRS Propagators are delighted to report that 2022 rhodo cuttings were planted on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. All 300 of them!!! Once again, we are thankful to have the opportunity to use VIU's G. R. Paine Centre greenhouses with the guidance of Christine Quist. While Deborah, Jan, and Allen were mixing the soil, Gayle and Elaine were updating the inventory, and Chris, Dick, and Rosina started with the cuttings. The rest of the crew joined them after they finished their part of the preparations.

From now on, it will be a weekly check that the sprinkler systems are working fine, and to see if additional watering is necessary. By June, hopefully, most of the cuttings will develop roots and at that time will be repotted into 1-gallon pots.









## In Chris's Garden in Mid-Summer (our apologies as we neglected to include these in the September newsletter)

Rhododendron 'Radiance':

- both pink and white blooms on the same plant
- has *R. hemslayanum* in its parentage



Rhododendron 'Copper' on July 11<sup>th</sup>:

- a hybrid of *R. auriculatum* x *R. 'Fabia'*
- Chris's grandmother Mary Greig often used *R. auriculatum* in her crosses as she wanted to develop mid-summer bloomers





## *Plant of the Month* by Ron Sutton

### ***Rhododendron mallotum***

There are a number of rhododendrons that are known for their beautiful foliage, and *R. mallotum* is certainly one of them. This rhododendron should be in every rhododendron enthusiast garden. It is one of Steve Hootman's favourite rhododendrons. It has also received an Award of Garden Merit in 1933. Belonging to section Ponticum, subsection Neriiflora, it is found in the wild, in a narrow range along the Myanmar, Yunnan Chinese border. It is considered endangered, due to development in the area where it is found. The 6-inch leaves are dark green with a rugose surface and light cinnamon coloured indumentum. When it reaches a certain maturity, it will produce scarlet red flower trusses of 7-15 flowers in Late March early April. It isn't a vigorous grower, and will only be 3 feet high by 3 feet wide in 10 years, and is rated hardy to -15°C. It has a tidy compact habit, and is not prone to being leggy. My plant, purchased from the RSBG, is grown mostly in shade with a little morning sun. Information I found, suggests light shade for this plant. The first photo is my plant, and it hasn't flowered yet. The second photo is from a site on the internet showing the flowers.



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The RSBG is pleased to announce the return of online ordering and their latest selection of rhododendron species, hybrids and companion plants. Check out their catalogue at [RSBG fall catalogue](#)



Here's a link to the BC Council of Garden Clubs newsletter – lots of interesting things to read at [BCCG newsletter](#) Please note that the NRS is a member of the BC Council of Garden Clubs.



# 2022 Fall into Gardening

## *"Coping with Climate Instability in your Garden"*

**MARS** (Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society), **NRS** (Nanaimo Rhododendron Society), and **VIMGA** (Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association) are pleased to offer a day of education and enjoyment with internationally recognized gardening experts.

**Tickets: \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door**

See NRS website for details about **how to register:** <http://nanaimorhodos.ca/>

- **Date:** **Sunday, October 23, 2022**
- **Location:** Qualicum Beach Civic Centre  
747 Jones St. Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1S7
- **Time:** 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

10:00 AM – 10:05 AM	Introductory Remarks
10:05 AM – 11:00 AM	<b>Douglas Justice:</b> UBC Botanical Garden Associate Director and Curator <b>"Planting Trees for a Drier and Hotter Future"</b>
11:00 AM – 11:20 AM	Break
11:20 AM – 12:15 PM	<b>Caroline Josefsson:</b> Vancouver Island University Biology Department <b>"Gardening with less water – learning from the Garry Oak Ecosystem"</b>
12:15 PM – 1:15 PM	Lunch
1:15 PM – 2:10 PM	<b>Des Kennedy:</b> writer, activist, celebrated speaker <b>"Weather or Not – a light-hearted romp through the triumphs and travails of the weather-beaten gardener"</b>
2:10 PM – 2:30 PM	Break
2:30 PM – 3:25 PM	<b>Bonnie Zand:</b> Entomologist and owner of Bonnie's Bugs IPM <b>"Gardening for pollinators: supporting BC's diverse native bees"</b>
3:25 PM – 3:30 PM	Closing Remarks

**Refreshments:** coffee, tea, and treats will be provided. **Please bring your own bag lunch.**





## 2022 Fall into Gardening

### **“Coping with Climate Instability in Your Garden”**

**Douglas Justice presents “*Planting Trees for a Drier and Hotter Future*”**

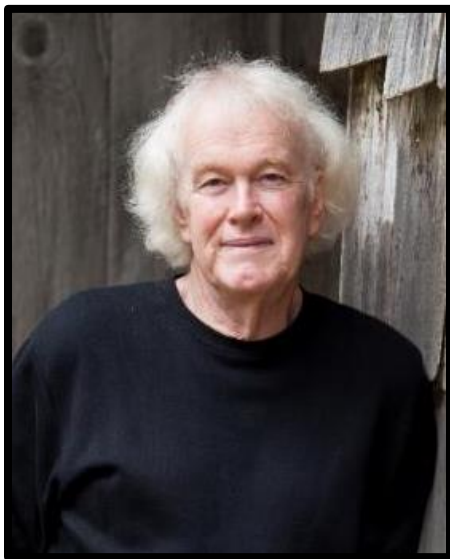


There is increasing awareness among gardeners, if not the public at large, for the need to reconsider many of our planting choices. Numerous factors contribute to this change in perspective, but climate change, sustainability in horticultural practices and the biodiversity crisis are paramount among them. Douglas’s presentation will address tree selection in light of these issues.

Douglas had his initial exposure to horticulture in his parents' garden in Vancouver and at the family farm in Duncan. His passion for plants eventually led him into nursery work, then to degrees in horticulture and botany, which spurred him to pursue a career in teaching and public garden management. For the last two decades, Douglas’s job has been Associate Director, Horticulture & Collections at UBC Botanical Garden. He teaches in UBC's Landscape Architecture program and in the Botanical Garden's Horticulture Training Program, and is currently working on a manual of Vancouver's

cultivated woody plants.

**Des Kennedy presents “*Weather or Not – a light-hearted romp through the triumphs and travails of the weather-beaten gardener*”**



Des Kennedy is a writer, an activist and seasoned back-to-the-lander. He and his partner Sandy have for the last 50 years lived a conserver lifestyle on Denman Island. Their gardens, hand-built house and surrounding woodlands are regularly featured on the Denman Island Home and Garden Tour.

A celebrated speaker, Des is the author of ten books, in both fiction and non-fiction. He has been three times nominated for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour. His latest book is a novel titled “*Beautiful Communion*” (Ronsdale Press.)

**Caroline Jossefson presents “*Gardening with less water – learning from the Garry Oak Ecosystem*”**



Climate projections suggest that summers in our region will become increasingly warmer and drier, presenting challenges to gardeners. Can we look to our local flora, our region’s ancient history, and traditional ecological practices for solutions? The Garry oak ecosystem is a species-rich, drought-adapted plant community that originates in a warm dry period of British Columbia’s ancient past, 8,000 to 6,000 years ago. As the climate became cooler and moister about 6,000 years ago, the ecosystem was protected from encroaching conifers by Coast Salish Peoples who benefitted from the game and edible plants associated with it. The Garry oak ecosystem can serve as a model for sustainable gardening in our area, one that honours our region’s cultural history and its biodiversity. I will speak to my experience of gardening with Garry oak ecosystem-associated plants in my small front yard in Nanaimo, and suggest resources for information, seeds, and plants.

Born and raised in the southwest of Sweden, Caroline’s life-long interest in plants and plant propagation originates from her grandmothers, who were keen gardeners, house plant keepers and observers of nature. At the Swedish University of Agriculture, Caroline pursued an undergraduate degree in Horticulture and Biology. For her doctorate at the University of Washington, she studied gene deregulation stemming from hybridization in the plant model system *Arabidopsis*. Caroline joined the Biology Department at Vancouver Island University in 2009. There she teaches plant biology courses, as well as courses in genetics and biochemistry. In 2020, together with students from VIU’s Eco Club, Caroline initiated a Garry oak ecosystem restoration project on the VIU campus.

**Bonnie Zand presents “*Gardening for pollinators: supporting BC’s diverse native bees*”**



When most people think of pollinators, they think of honey bees. But did you know that there are more than 450 different bee species in BC, along with other pollinating insects? These pollinators are incredibly diverse in size, appearance and lifestyle, and are vitally important for pollination of both food crops and wild plants. Learn to observe and appreciate some of these less well-known pollinators, find out what challenges they are facing, and learn what you can do within your own gardens to support native pollinators!

Bonnie Zand is the owner of Bonnie’s Bugs IPM, a private consulting company working with farmers to manage insect pests on Vancouver Island. She is currently running the Vancouver Island Pests, Pollinators and Beneficials Project. Bonnie holds a BSc in biology from UVic, is a board member of the Native Bee Society of BC and is part of the recovery implementation group for the endangered Taylor’s checkerspot butterfly. Bonnie is also the BC instructor for the Master Melittologist program. In her spare time, she likes to look for interesting native bees and other insects, raise mason bees, garden with native plants and instill a love of insects in her five-year-old daughter.

*Looking forward to seeing you all at our  
October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting as well as at our “Fall  
Into Gardening” event on October 23<sup>rd</sup>!*



*October is the month for painted leaves.... As fruits and  
leaves and the day itself acquire a bright tint just before  
they fall, so the year near its setting. October is its sunset  
sky; November the later twilight.*

*~Henry David Thoreau, "Autumnal Tints"*