



The **Rhodoholic**



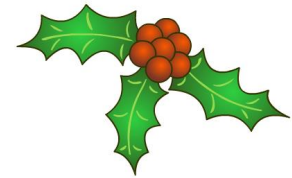
Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Volume 26:9 December 2015

President's Message

I want to begin this month's message by recognizing the passing of one of our members, Roger Slaby. I did not know Roger well but when I first joined the club, and subsequently the propagators committee, I marveled at Roger's capacity to converse at length with the likes of Al Campbell and Al Murray, tossing around the Latin names of species, verifying the parentage of hybrids, using technical terms and referencing scientific journals and texts as he went. These gentlemen inspired me to try my hand at propagation which I have thoroughly enjoyed. So thank you Roger – may you rest in peace in a garden of joy.

The Christmas party is when we normally present the Silver Cup for outstanding service to the club. The silver cup is chosen by the previous 3 recipients of the award. This year the award goes to Marie



**6:00 pm - Wednesday,
December 2**

**RHODO CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

See you there!

Details on page 3.

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David G Hammond, a featured rhodo hybrid beginning with the letter D.

Jacques who has been the Membership Chair for some time, doing her job quietly and patiently and often in great pain. Recently Marie had surgery and we wish her well and a speedy recovery. As Marie is unable to attend the Christmas party, a few of us surprised Marie at home to present her with the cup. Congratulations!

Please join me in recognizing the past treasurer, Bill Dumont, for his 5 years of service to the club and orienting the new treasurer, Elaine Kitchen to the position. Elaine has served as a member at large on the board for a few years and generously volunteers her time at the Garden Fair and I thank her for stepping up.

The Board has approved, in principle, the purchase of materials and labour to construct 2 propagators. The proposal and budget, drafted by Ian Efford and Joe Hudak, will come to the February general meeting for a vote by the membership as the cost is estimated at \$2000. If approved, the project will get underway and be ready for the 2016 propagation season. I have also asked Ian to provide a brief submission and request for matching funds made available to clubs that assisted at the Spring 2015 con-

vention in Sydney. If accepted, the matching funds will bring our costs down to \$1000. Ian will expand on the benefits of this project for club members and how they can be involved and the anticipated partnership with Providence Farm.

The board requests volunteers from our membership to establish a sub-committee to explore the options of presenting rhododendron education programs or presentations to horticulture students at the college level or possible to secondary school science classes to promote the value of and share info related to rhododendrons.

I hope you can all attend the Christmas party on Dec 2 at the church hall. The party is shaping up to be a great time. Bring your photos, something for the gift table and the food bank and remember to create your short story using the key words: CHRISTMAS CHEER – SEX – RHODO – RHODOHOLIC – RED WINE – DUNCAN – JUSTIN TRUDEAU.

See you then.

Carrie Nelson



***Ken Webb's Rhodo
Propagators***



Rhodo Christmas Party

**Wednesday, December 2
6 pm – St. John's Church**

Our ever popular Christmas party will be held on Wednesday December 2 at 6 pm. Guests and spouses are most welcome. We have a great program to guarantee fun and good friendship and food to celebrate the season.

The Rhodo Photo Contest – bring a couple of your best rhodo photos – 8 x 10 inch format in colour plus at least 4 quarters to vote for the best choice. Here's your chance to show off your photographic skills! Along with getting the quarters voted for your photo there is a \$25 prize for first, \$15 for second and \$10 for third.

The Great Christmas Story Contest - excellent prizes for the best 2 to 4 minute stories using the following words at least once:

CHRISTMAS CHEER
RHODO
RED WINE
JUSTIN TRUDEAU

SEX
RHODOHOLIC
DUNCAN



Gift Draw Table Items - Bring an unwrapped \$20 or less value gift for the draw table – a long arm's length of draw tickets will be sold for \$5- all proceeds to the Salvation Army Christmas Fund



Food Hamper - Bring dry goods item for the Cowichan Valley food bank hamper

Foodie Favourites - Bring a savoury finger food dish (hot or cold) or something sweet for the pot luck table

Rhodo Questions - Give us your best Rhodo question for the expert panel to respond at our February 2015 meeting.

Libations - The Club will provide wine, a nice punch and soft drinks.

Always welcome are volunteers to help dress up the hall for our gala due – please be there by 5 pm if you can help with setup.

Complements of the Season to All!!

Amazing, Blazing Autumn...

Reprinted from the MARS Rhodovine- November 2015

Linda Derkach

For many people, autumn is a favourite time of year. The heat and drought of summer is gone, things are slowing down, and the warm, golden glow of leaves as they turn brings us much pleasure from our gardens. And rhododendrons provide a very valuable service as a beautiful dark green foil for the gold, orange, red and purple of many deciduous plants and trees.



For Al and Maria Bieberstein this much-loved Acer palmatum 'Noto No Ito' – a threadleaf maple in all its autumn glory – is a standout in their garden.

In fact, Japanese maples are an essential element in many fine gardens, and make excellent companions for rhododendrons – especially at this time of year.

Acer palmatum 'Osakazuki' turns a brilliant red in autumn, here in the Loyer garden. This Japanese maple tolerates sun and heat, and can grow to 25 feet.





Acer 'Orange Dream' is a medium-sized bushy shrub to 15 feet with leaf colour varying in different seasons: yellow in spring, greenish in summer and orange/yellow in autumn. To add to this smorgasbord of flagrant colour, 'Orange Dream' can also produce red fruits from reddish/purple flowers.

Cotinus 'Grace' is a large shrub that never disappoints.

Cotinus (Smoke Bush) is a very desirable family of shrubs/small trees that works well in any garden, and especially with rhododendrons. Green, purple and gold are spring and summer colours, but in autumn they absolutely glow, bringing cheer on gray or sunny fall days. And most are deer resistant and quite drought tolerant. Cotinus can be pruned in early spring as the new buds start to form to keep it bushy and compact. Or it can be allowed to grow unrestricted producing large airy balls of flowers resembling puffs of smoke.



Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple' is probably the most commonly grown Smoke Bush. Through summer the leaves are a deep purple, turning a burnished amber and copper in fall.

A great favourite, Cotinus coggygria 'Golden Spirit' has lime green leaves in spring turning a golden yellow in summer and then pinky/orange in fall. At 7 feet high, 'Golden Spirit' will work well with most gardens and is worth seeking out in nurseries.



Kathy Loyer's lime green wheelbarrow holds flowers in summer, and now in autumn boasts the bounty from her garden. Some old tools and a rooster complete this outdoor decoration.

For more fall colour, the Fothergilla family is a good choice. Fothergilla x intermedia 'Mount Airy' has abundant white, honey-scented brush-like blooms followed by superb autumn colour of yellow, orange and scarlet. At 3 – 6 feet tall, it will earn its keep in a small or large garden.



Roger Slaby

1931-2015

Roger died at Cairnsmore Place in Duncan on Sunday November 22. A true Rhodoholic, we were so lucky to have Roger as a member of the Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society. Partners in the Cherry Point Rhododendrons, Roger and his wife Anne joined the group that became the founding members of our Society.

Roger enjoyed propagating Rhododendrons, he put about 500 to 1000 cuttings into his propagator each year for more than 36 years, some at Squamish but most at Cherry Point. He grew Rhododendrons from seed and purchased tissue culture plants to grow.

Over the years some very choice plants were grown and sold. We remember Roger and Anne coming to many of our plant sales and loading the tables with beautiful plants. Many of us have plants in our gardens that we won in the raffle at meetings, donated by Roger.

He was a lifelong student and rarely missed a spring or fall get-together of the ARS. The CVRS honoured Roger and Anne with the Silver Bowl, the Bronze medal and other tokens of our appreciation. We will miss the knowledge that he so willingly and generously shared, his sense of humour and his companionship.

Roger was born in Illinois and was raised in Wash-



ington State. He obtained a Degree in Horticulture and then a Masters in European History. He moved his young family to Squamish B.C. and then to the Cherry Point property.

He taught school for about 20 years and then worked for BC Forest Service at the Mesachie Lake Research station after obtaining his Canadian citizenship.

Roger will be sadly missed by his wife Anne of 49 years and his son Mark and wife Mavis and his daughter Lynn and husband Tim and his grandson Cole.

Liz Murray

This month in the *Rhodoholic*
we are featuring
**Rhododendrons that start with
the letter D.**
Enjoy!

Dad's Indian Summer



A Glimpse of Gold

Felice Blake

Reprinted from the Winter 1987 Journal of the American Rhododendron Society



'Talavera' Photo by Felice Blake

In early spring when our garden is stirring from its winter sleep, what do we look for most as the days begin to draw out a little? Well, to me, it is always the "yellows" that lighten up the garden - they glow in the sunshine and on dull days they give a lift to the garden scene. All yellows are welcome from the pale primrose to the bright golden shades.

In our garden the cold days of late winter bring the first flowers of one of my favourite yellows, this is 'Talavera', one of the 'Golden Oriole' group. It is remarkably weather hardy, the winter rains seem not to bother it a bit. 'Talavera' is the child of *R. moupinense* x *R. sulfureum*, so if you can grow *R. moupinense* in your garden I feel sure that 'Talavera' will be happy with you too. This rhododendron has been around for a long time, but strangely it does not seem to have been as widely commercialized as

one would expect, when one considers its many attributes

It was hybridized at that beautiful home of many hybrids, Caerhays Castle, in the English county of Cornwall, by the late Charles Williams. It received the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Merit in 1947, as 'Golden Oriole', when it was described as follows: "The stems are bright cinnamon-brown, and bear elliptic, coriaceous leaves about 2 inches long and scaly beneath on red petioles. These, together with the crimson bud-scales, form a pleasing background to the three-flowered trusses of Dresden Yellow (H.C.C. 64/2) flowers. The corolla is 1½ inches long, 2 inches wide at the mouth, with five rounded and spreading lobes." To those who are interested in such things, the current equivalent of the old H.C.C. 64/2 on the R.H.S. Colour Chart is Yellow



R. sulfureum



R. moupinense

Group 5C, although personally I do consider that 'Talavera' is more of a golden yellow than that colour.

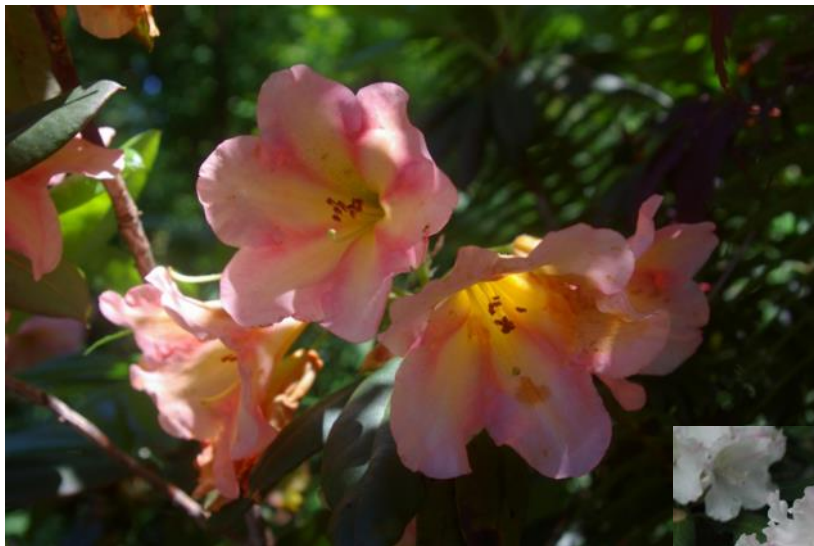
Over the years there has been a certain amount of confusion concerning the name. After others of the same grex were named, this hybrid was renamed 'Golden Oriole Talavera', but apparently in accordance with the rules of nomenclature, the 'Golden Oriole' was dropped and this rhododendron was named simply 'Talavera'.

So over the years, it has been grown under three names! A bit confusing isn't it? In our garden, my plant grown from a cutting, seven years ago, now measures about two feet high by two and a half feet across. It is suitable for a large rock garden, and also for the border. I grow it in filtered sun, as in our climate it does not like hot afternoon sun in summer which, although it does not burn the leaves, does

bleach them. Certainly this does not add to its attraction. In semi-shade the deep green leaves retain their richness, and shade does not deter the plant from freely forming flower buds. One great advantage it has over some other early flowering rhododendrons is that rain does not spot the flowers. It is very easily propagated from cuttings taken in late summer or as the wood ripens a little. Use a hormone (0.25% I.B. acid) in a peat and coarse river sand mix, in a heated propagator with misting. One usually has nearly 100% strike. These will flower within three years.

This delightful rhododendron flowers prodigiously every year, and with blue primroses blooming at its feet, makes a lovely early spring picture.

An avid gardener, writer, photographer and researcher, Felice Blake regularly contributes articles to the ARS Journal.



Darigold

Dave Dougan



Tips for Beginners: Mulching

Reprinted from the ARS Journal 46:4 1992

*Terry Richmond
Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada*



Some of the best gardening ideas come from nature. Mulching - one of the very best gardening ideas when it comes to rhododendrons - is one of these. In their wild homelands rhododendron roots are covered with nature's own debris of leaves, twigs and whatever else finds a resting place about the plant. This cover, gardeners have discovered, is beneficial, if not downright essential, for the shallow rooted rhododendron. When gardeners take matters into their own hands and do the spreading themselves they call it "mulching", and the material they cast about is, of course, called "mulch".

Benefits of Mulching

The benefits of mulching are many, some of which are obvious to any gardener with a little common sense and others of which need explanation by trained scientists. The first of these benefits is that mulching conserves moisture by physically holding it and releasing it slowly to the soil beneath. Since rhododendrons like a damp soil, this is an obvious plus. Mulch also conserves moisture by reducing evaporation by up to 90 percent. The results of this conservation is that the need for external water is reduced by one third to one half of that needed for un-mulched soil.

Mulches also moderate soil temperature. Mulched soil is up to 10 degrees C cooler on hot summer days and up to 10 degrees C warmer during chilly spring and fall nights, extending the growing season at both ends. Most plants, in fact, virtually cease taking up food and water when the soil temperature is below 6 degrees C (43 degrees F) or above 30 degrees C (86 degrees F).





Nature can at times be excessive, and mulches can protect the rhododendron from nature's intemperance. Erosion from heavy rain and winds can be moderated by mulch. Soil compaction from heavy rain and hail can be prevented. The heaving of roots by frost can be prevented as can the drying of roots by high temperatures and winds. Mulch can even prevent the uprooting of the whole plant by winds. The shock from sudden changes in temperature can also be moderated by mulching.

Humans, however, can be even more excessive than nature, and mulching protects the rhododendron from their lack of restraint. Mulching can protect the plants from soil compaction due to foot and cart traffic, cold water on hot days and overdoses of water, fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides and salt deicers on sidewalks and roads.

Salt is very destructive of the biological life of the earth and of the tiny feeder roots through which plants take up their nourishment. An organic mulch locks up and hastens the degradation of these soil and plant poisons.

Much to the gardener's liking, a mulch can help eliminate weeds under the rhododendron. Not only does it lessen the work load but it reduces the competition for moisture, nutrients and sunlight. Besides, removing the weeds can cause damage to shallow rooted plants.

Mulching can minimize damage caused by insects and disease by curbing "back-splash inoculation", slowing their growth cycles. It helps prevent the spreading of disease spores by foot traffic, and some mulches even repel insects and combat diseases.

Plants that are undernourished and in distress will produce more carbohydrates than proteins. Insects will zero in on these plants since they are attracted to plants high in carbohydrates.

Mulching also helps protect the lower leaves of sprawling rhododendrons from dirt contamination and loss from insects and fungus. By maintaining a dry, sanitary work environment, gardening is made more pleasant. Moreover, mulch creates an attractive background accent for your plants. Pleasing visual effects can result through the use of different mulch textures and colors in combination with plants of various structures and colors.





One of the most beneficial aspects of mulching, however, is the improvement it brings to structure and fertility of the soil. Mulching establishes a cool, moist environment where bacteria and other micro-organisms (e.g., worms) can aid in the decomposition process. This process, among many other things, produces humic acid, which helps release bound-up materials such as phosphorus and iron to the soil, carbon dioxide to the plant for use in food production and ammonia, a form of nitrogen plant food, to the plant. As a general rule, the more organic material there is in a soil, the less important the pH level will be and the more flexible your rhododendrons will be in their ability to grow in a range of pH levels.

Mulching Materials

The wide range of potential mulching materials gives gardeners a chance to let their imaginations soar. Among the organic, inorganic and living mulches is an almost infinite number of possibilities.

Following is a sampling of possible organic mulches: seaweed, kelp or eel grass; shredded bark, wood chips or sawdust; straw, hay or grass clippings; compost, mushroom compost or various rotted manures; hulls, shells or cones; conifer needles and twigs; coffee grounds and tea leaves; ground oyster shells or egg shells; ground corn cobs or shredded sugar cane; shredded cardboard or whole or shred-

ded newspaper; peat or sphagnum moss; rotted wood; leaves; burlap sacks; and bracken fern.

Most of these mulches are acidic, but some such as crushed oyster and egg shells are alkaline. Determine the correct pH for your particular application. Rhododendrons, of course, like acidic conditions.

Some carbon-rich materials such as fresh sawdust, newspapers and straw temporarily take nitrogen from the surrounding soil, causing plants to become yellow. Neutralize this situation by applying a nitrogen-rich material in combination with one high in carbon, or spread a nitrogen fertilizer on most soils before applying carbon-rich mulches.

Examples of carbon-rich mulches are: straw, sawdust, bark, ground corn cobs and leaves. Nitrogen-rich mulches include cottonseed meal, manure, blood meal, grass clippings and compost.

Inorganic mulches provide a permanent mulch which will not break down. Among the possibilities in this category are: rocks, bricks, boards, gravel, solid plastic sheeting (black or clear), perforated clear plastics, fiberglass wool, kitty litter, aluminum foil and expanded vermiculite. Most of these materials are designed to be used in a special situation.

Living mulches include the ground covers such as grass, periwinkle and other plants that can be used to satisfy certain landscaping requirements.

When a mulch should be applied depends upon your climate. In the moderate Pacific Northwest, mulches should be applied in spring after the soil has warmed up. Be sure the soil is moist before the mulch is applied. Top up mulch in the fall before the temperature drops off. In warm climates such as Florida or California, maintain full mulch all year round.

In cold climates such as Prince George, apply mulch in the fall after the ground has frozen to one inch. Uncover in the spring and after the frost danger has passed, recovering again before the heat of

summer. Alternatively, spread black plastic over the mulch in the spring and remove after the soil has thawed and warmed sufficiently. But remember, never mulch a heavy, waterlogged soil.

How much mulch to apply will vary according to the density and texture of the chosen mulching materials. Apply the amount necessary to maintain a cool, moist soil. Following are some examples:

- Coffee grounds: one-half inch.
- Sawdust: two inches.
- Bark mulch: three inches.
- Needles and small twigs: four inches.
- Seaweed or straw: five inches.

Once you begin using mulches on your rhododendrons you will see the benefits of imitating nature in this rewarding garden activity.



Danuta



Doctor Joseph Rock

Dexter's Appleblossom



How to Grow Rhododendrons from Seed

Reprinted from the ARS Journal 48:1 1994

Allan and Shirley Anderson
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey

Growing rhododendrons and azaleas from seed is not difficult if one remains conscious of their physical needs, e.g., light, warmth, fertilizer and moisture. As long as these are provided at the proper time and in the right amount, many methods have been successful. Rhododendron seedlings are adaptable and can succeed with less than ideal environmental factors, but it is important to remember that whatever method issued the planting medium must never be allowed to dry out. Germinating seeds or small seedlings cannot survive even one such episode.

We grow our seeds on damp, slightly firmed milled sphagnum moss in small plastic "deli" containers. Screened peat moss and perlite mixtures have been equally successful. We drop the seeds on the surface and enclose the container in a polyethylene sandwich bag with the top folded under the container. Such an enclosure will usually keep the medium moist until the seeds germinate at which time the bags are gradually opened and medium watered carefully to be sure it doesn't dry out. Each container is labeled and contains seed of a single variety.

While seeds do not require light to germinate they do need light to photosynthesize and grow immediately after. We therefore put the containers on a bed of peat moss over the heating cable and suspend a light source

over the top. A fluorescent shop light about 8 inches over the containers works well. A time switch is used to provide about 16 hours of light each day. In the past years we handled fewer containers by placing them on a serving tray on top of the refrigerator for warmth. A desk lamp with a time switch provided light. We have also used old aquariums using an automatic heating cable in the bottom with a layer of damp peat moss under the deli containers.

While some seeds, especially yakushi-



manum hybrids, may germinate unpredictably, most other hybrids and species seed germinates in 10 days to 3 weeks time. In 4 to 8 weeks more the small seedlings will have two or four true leaves in addition to the original cotyledons. Now we transplant them into flats containing a screened peat-perlite mixture and fertilize every other watering with one-third strength soluble acid type fertilizer (Miracid® or equivalent). About 50 seedlings are planted in each flat. We still maintain the 16-hour days with overhead light.

We place the flats on the bench in a small greenhouse, but other hybridizers have used basement tables under suspended fluorescent lights, sun porches or various types of light stands. Just remember the basic requirements which are moisture, weak fertiliz-

er, light for 16 hours a day and warmth, about 70°F if you can provide it.

When weather permits and natural days become longer the flats are placed outdoors in a moderately shaded area. Supply with one-half strength soluble fertilizer and water as needed to prevent drying. The seedlings will grow through the summer. We stop fertilizing about the middle of July, and in the fall we transfer the 3 to 6-inch plants into individual containers for winter protection under plastic. In earlier years we left the seedlings in the original flats and wintered them over in cold frames for planting out in the spring.

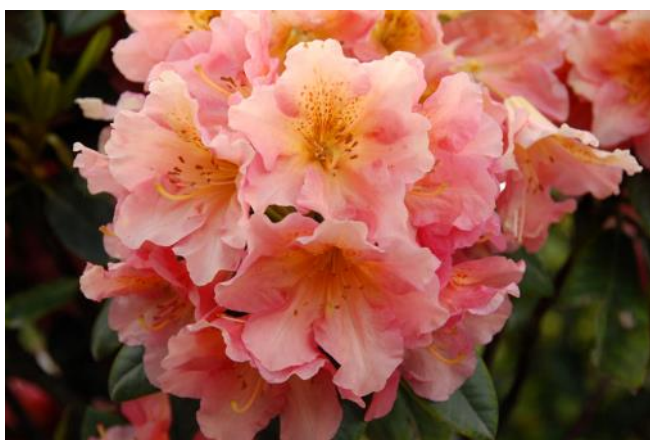
Whether you want to try a few or many, the growing of rhododendron seeds is great fun and an absorbing pastime. We recommend it!



David



Diane's Delight



Dolcemente

Cox's Dwarf Hybrids

Reprinted from the December 2015 Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Newsletter

The listed hybrids are very popular as they are usually fairly dwarf and slow-growing. They are good “doers” and many of them are available either at local nurseries or through our growers at our annual plant sale. These hybrids are from the famous Glendoick Gardens in Scotland, and as such are well suited to our climate. In addition, since they are quite dwarf in nature, they can usually take more sun than their larger cousins, thus good candidates for future garden plants. As you can tell from the list, they are named after different birds found in Scotland and the brilliant idea of naming them after birds has made them quite a collector’s delight. This is not a definitive list but many of those listed are in our local gardens. They are listed by colour below:

Yellow

Chikor
Curlew
Merganser
Teal
Wren



R. 'Wren'

Pink

Pipit
Snipe
Razorbill

Red

Grouse

Lavender

Phalarope
Wigeon

White

Egret
Eider
Ptarmigan



R. 'Razorbill'



R. 'Egret'



Dandy



Dear Barbara

Rhododendron Garden Tours Are a Key Activity for the CVRS

Since the beginning of the CVRS more than 25 years ago bus trips, both locally and internationally have been a key activity of the CVRS.



Lu Zhu Garden Tour 2013

Long-time members Al and Liz Murray recall many excellent trips to gardens and events in both BC and the US. “We had a number of fun tours to Tofino to see the Gibson’s garden and several in Port Alberni. There was a trip to Gabriola Island to see Bob Rhode’s garden and the wheelbarrow nursery. We also visited the north island to visit the Wrights garden in two vans to help celebrate their own club’s yearend picnic. We followed this up several years later with a visit to gardens on Whidbey and Bainbridge islands near Seattle and we also visited the Whitney Garden in Brinnon. These trips

were organised by members on an ad hoc basis and really helped to bring our club together. “

Ian Efford in the CVRS history noted “one of the first bus tours organised was during the first or second year of the club’s existence. It was a visit to the UBC botanic gardens where the tour guide was Peter Wharton. The bus used was the Old Legion Bus.”

More recently since 2007 Bill Dumont has organised and conducted 9 of these tours to various local and international destinations including the United Kingdom and San Francisco.



Coleton Fishacre Garden—CVRS UK Tour 2015

More than 375 people participated and almost \$39,000 in revenue has been raised for the CVRS. In 2016 there are 3 planned tours, a return trip to the West Coast and Tofino in May, a trip to the ARS Regional Meeting in Newport Oregon from Sept. 30 to Oct. 3 and the New Zealand trip from October 23 to November 13 which includes participation in the 2016 New Zealand Rhododendron Association convention.

Ian Efford summarised some the benefits of such tours to the CVRS membership “during these garden visits we learn about different rhododendrons, companion plants, garden design and propagation techniques as well as developing friendships with other gardeners. Often outcomes of such visits are plant exchanges which enhance our own gardens and return visits”



San Francisco 2014 Tour



Dorothy Bishop



Dot Gibson

2015-16 Coming Events

December 2, 2015

CVRS Christmas Party—6 pm St. John's Church
Bring a food goodie, a gift, favourite rhodo photo
and something for the Food Bank.

February 3, 2016

CVRS Monthly Meeting—7:30 pm St. John's Church
Member education event
<http://cowichanrhodos.ca/>

March 2, 2016

CVRS Monthly Meeting - Doug Justice
UBC- Biodiversity in the Garden

April 6, 2016

CVRS Monthly Meeting –Ian Efford
The Public Rhododendron Gardens of
Vancouver Island

April 30, 2016

Cowichan Valley Garden Fair Cowichan Exhibition
10 am – 2 pm
www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com
Please donate plants for the CVRS plant table

May 1, 2016

Nanaimo Rhodo Club Plant Sale
Beban Park Nanaimo

May 4, 2016

CVRS Monthly Meeting St. John's Church,
Duncan - 163 First St. 7:30 pm
Gordon Murray - Trilliums in the Garden
www.cowichanrhodos.ca

May 9-11, 2016

CVRS West Coast/Tofino Garden Trip -overnight

May 14-15, 2016

Nanaimo Rhodo Society Public Garden Tour
<http://nanaimorhodos.ca>

May 28, 2016

CVGC Annual Flower Show and Tea St. Peter's
Church Hall 10 am
www.cowichanvalleygardenclub.com

June 11, 2016

Community Flower and Garden Show
Cobble Hill Hall – 9 am to 2 pm
www.MillBayGardenClub.com

June 18, 2016

CVRS Summer Picnic and Awards/Wrap Up
11:30 am to 2:30 pm

September 30- Oct. 2, 2016

ARS Western Regional Conference
Newport, Oregon

October 23-November 13, 2016

CVRS New Zealand Garden Trip



Duke of York

2015-16 Executive

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Library: Joyce Rodger

Program Co-ordinator:
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Campbell,

History: Ian Efford

Garden Tours: Alan Murray

CV Garden Fair: The Team

Facility Liaison: Roy Elvins

Christmas Party: The Team

Bus Tours: Bill Dumont

Species Garden Reps: Siggie
Kemmler, Alan Campbell

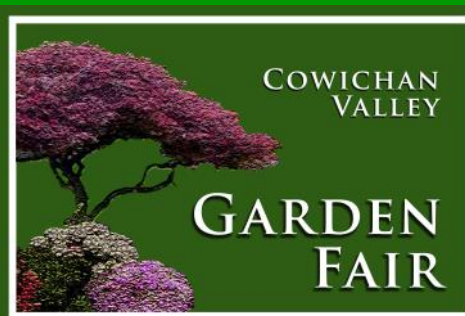
Newsletter Editor: Bill
Dumont



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www.cowichanvalleygardenfair.com

Saturday April 30, 2016

Newsletter design/format
& website edits by
Mary-Lynn Boxem
(mboxem@shaw.ca)

New Education Subcommittee Volunteers Wanted

The CVRS is planning to establish a sub-committee to explore the options for presenting rhododendron education programs and presentations to college level horticulture students and secondary school science classes to promote the value of and share information on rhododendrons. Let Carrie know if you can help out with this important project.