



# NEWSLETTER

Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Volume 25:2 February 2014

## President's Message



It appeared as though I was viewing another person's garden when I looked out following this past snowfall. The garden looked very bare, with all of the shrubs flattened under the weight of the foot of snow. I am sure more than a

few members can relate to being outside over the past few days, standing under the avalanche of snow when shaking your trees and shrubs to protect them from snapping their branches. Don't you just hate it when the cold, wet snow falls between the back of your hat and your jacket collar and runs down your neck? It is quite enjoyable to be out removing the broken limbs and cleaning up the minor damage after the fact.

## Upcoming Events

March 5: Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society Monthly Meeting @ 7:30pm

March 8: Seedy Saturday, Cobble Hill BC

March 30: Seedy Sunday, Duncan BC

April 19: Victoria Chrysanthemum Society Annual Cutting Sale

April 25 & 26: Rhododendron Species Foundation 50th Anniversary Celebration

See details on page 7 & 8



Cathy Jo

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## President's Message cont ...

A certain silence comes with the snow. It brings a smile when I see the crocuses, eranthus and hellebores spared from full impact and showcased by the sun reflecting off of the snow around them.

I had an opportunity to view the JARS Winter 2014 Journal on line. The directions for registering for the journal provided by the OARS (Office of the American Rhododendron Society) are very clear. You will require your membership number and this can be found on the address label of your last hard-copy of JARS. I believe I am going to prefer this method of receiving the journal in the future. Especially since I am trying to downsize on my collection of journals and magazines I have accumulated over the past few years.



We will have sign-up sheets for you to organize your area and times for volunteering for the Cowichan Valley Garden Fair at the next meeting. This growing event is a very important fund raiser for our club so hopefully everyone will be able to volunteer and assist in some way.

Please remember to pot up plants when you begin working in your garden in March. We are requesting each member contribute 10 to 15 plants for the member's table at the Garden Fair. One gallon pots will be available for the taking at the next meeting.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, March 5 @ 7:30 pm and encourage you to invite a friend to hear Lois Blackmore presenting on the registered hybrids of Jim Barlup, "A Journey of Love".

Sandra Stevenson

## California-Oregon Bus Tour

### May 7 to 12

This CVRS Bus Tour coming in May is now sold out and there is a wait list. Those of you on the tour please advise Bill of your travel plans to San Francisco where the tour starts. There is lots of room to ride the bus down if you prefer not to fly to SFO. It's only \$125 per person to ride the bus. It will leave Victoria early on May 6 and arrive the next evening in time for the 5:30 pm welcome Wine and Cheese Party at the Day's Inn in San Bruno near the SFO Airport.



Crater Lake

## February Meeting Panel Provides Excellent Advice for Rhodoholics

At this month's CVRS regular meeting an esteemed panel that included Ken Webb, Art Lightburn from the Nanaimo Chapter, our

own Liz Murray and Bill McMillan from the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific in Victoria were peppered with lots of questions on favourite topics ably chaired by our President Sandra Stevenson.

They all shared their many years of experience with rhododendrons and why they love the species and its many hybrids.



Stevenson-McMillan-Webb-Murray-Lightburn



## Alan's Recommendations

Nine years ago, shortly after I arrived in the Cowichan Valley I asked Alan Campbell, a long time CVRS member for his recommendations for medium to tall rhodos to consider for planting locally.

I kept that cherished list and am happy to share it with you:

Bill Dumont



Golden Wedding

## Rhododendrons: Medium to Tall

- Aladdin-pink and fragrant
- Alison Johnstone-amber/pink
- Anah Kruschke-red to purple
- Angelo-white, fragrant
- Annabelle
- Anna Rose Whitney-pink
- R. augustinii-many forms white to purple
- R. auriculatum-late flowering pink
- Babylon-white with dark blotch
- R. barbatum-red
- Biskra-vermillion
- Blaney's Blue-misty blue
- Blue and Gold – purple with yellow blotch
- Bruch Brechtbill-pink/yellow
- Buchanan Simpson-pink
- R. bureavii-white red markings
- R. calophytum-large leaves pink
- Cathy J- wine purple
- Cecily Enid-white/purple blotch
- R. cinnabarinum-yellow to purple
- Courtney King
- Crater Lake-violet blue
- Crest- yellow
- R. davidsonianum-pink
- R. decorum-light pink, fragrant
- Double Date-dark pink double flower
- Edith Bosley-dark purple
- Elsie Watson-pink/purple
- R. fortunei-pink fragrant
- R. fulvum-white to rose
- Golden Wedding-yellow
- Grace Seabrook-red
- Halfdan lem-red
- Harry Carter- pink
- Henry's Red-very dark red
- R. hodgsonii-large leaves pink
- R. irroratum-white spotted red
- Jean Marie de Montague-red
- Jean's Favourite-lavender blue
- Lilian Hodgson-apricot
- Loderi's-fragrant-white to pink
- R. lutescens-yellow
- R. macabeanum-lge leaves yellow
- R. macrophyllum-pink, local
- Malahat-red
- Moonstone-light yellow
- R. morii-white blushed rose
- Mrs. A.T. de la Mare-frag, white
- Mrs. T. H. Lowinsky-white/ orange
- Naomi's-fragrant, white to pink
- Old Copper- orange
- R. oreotrephes-pink/rose
- Peeping Tom-white with purple
- Princess Abkhazi-white with red
- Purple Lace-purple
- Red Bye-purple with red
- Royston's –peach, orange
- Rubicon-red
- Seaview Sunset-yellow orange
- Silver Skies-white edged pink
- Starbright Champagne-cream, red
- Tofino-yellow/red
- Transit Gold – yellow/gold
- Van Nes Sensation -light pink fragrant
- R. xanthocodon - yellow

## RHODO PHOTOS: ALAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS



Halfdan Lem



Moonstone



Seaview Sunset



Old Copper x Mrs. T.H. Lowinsky





Special Gifts for first 100 Customers  
Don't miss it!!

## Giant Plant Sale and Garden Equipment

Saturday May 3 10 am – 2 pm  
Cowichan Exhibition Grounds Duncan

- Free Coffee and Donuts for first 200 customers
- Free admission-lots of free parking
- Doors open at 10 am sharp, come early for best selection!
- High quality plants from 16 nurseries on island and mainland
- More than 3000 rhododendrons for sale
- Rare, hard to find rhodos available
- Many Companion and other beautiful plants for sale
- Truss (flower) display of local rhodos in bloom
- Variety of unique vendors and garden suppliers
- Planting, growing, maintenance advice from experts
- Many excellent buys on quality plants
- We'll help load your plants
- Cash/cheque only please – ATM on site

Help us find Gold Sponsors for the Garden Fair. Please Sign Up for helping at the Garden Fair- signup sheets at Wednesday's meeting. If you can we would also like each member to donate 10 plants for the Club's Plant Table for Sale. Thanks.

[www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com](http://www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com)



twitter.com/**CowGardenFair**



www.facebook.com/CowichanValleyGardenFair

### Name Our Newsletter! Win a Prize

The CVRS newsletter has been published for much of the life of our Club and it's time we had a unique name for our monthly publication other than NEWSLETTER. More than half of the other rhodo clubs in District 1 have a relevant name for theirs –such as The Yak, The Rhodovine, The Rhodoteller, Whidbey Rhodies News, Cal Chapter News, etc. etc.

Submit your ideas to [wedumont@hotmail.com](mailto:wedumont@hotmail.com) or bring it to the next meeting. A special prize will be awarded to the selected winner. Thanks very much.



Tofino

# Upcoming Events 2014

## **March 5: Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society Monthly Meeting**

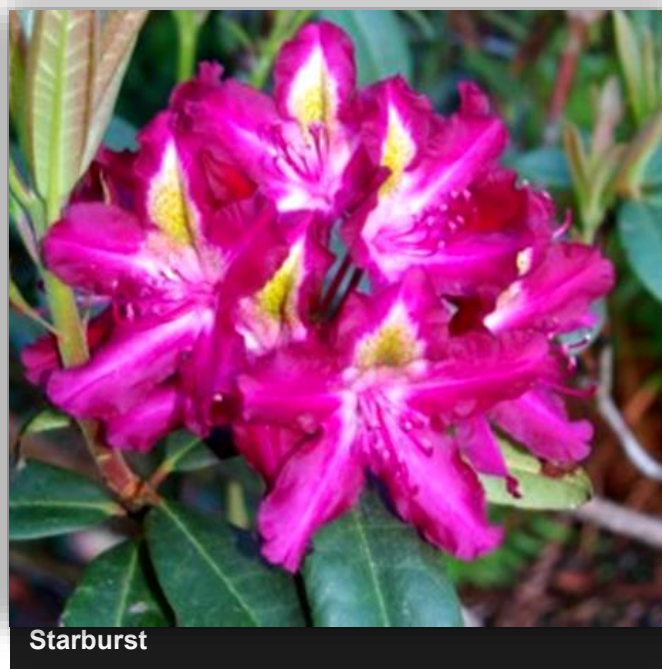
- Wednesday @ 7:30 pm
- St. John's Hall, Duncan

## **March 8: Seedy Saturday, Cobble Hill BC**

- Saturday 10-3pm
- Cobble Hill Hall, 3550 Watson Ave
- [www.cobblehillseedysaturday](http://www.cobblehillseedysaturday)

## **March 30: Seedy Sunday, Duncan BC**

- 10 –2pm
- Si'emLeLem Gymnasium (5574 River Rd, Duncan)
- [www.cowichangreencommunity.org/events](http://www.cowichangreencommunity.org/events)



## **April 19: Victoria Chrysanthemum Society Annual Cutting Sale**

- 10a.m. to Noon
- St. Mathias Church Hall, 600 Richmond Ave. (at Richardson), Victoria, BC

## **April 22: CVRS April Coffee Meeting**

- 10am – 12 noon
- Mayo Creek Gardens

## **April 25 and 26: Rhododendron Species Foundation 50th Anniversary Celebration**

- Federal Way, Washington

## **April 26: Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society Show and Sale**

- 10 am to 2 pm
- Parksville Arena

## **April 26: Victoria Rhododendron Society Show and Sale**

## **May 3: Cowichan Valley Garden Fair and Plant Sale**

- 10 am to 2 pm
- Cowichan Exhibition. Rhodos and many other plants- free entry and coffee
- [www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com](http://www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com)

### **May 7 - 12: Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society California Bus Tour**

- Day's Inn San Bruno San Francisco
- 5:30 pm Welcome Wine and Cheese Reception

### **May 7: Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society Monthly Meeting**

- A special treat - An excellent video "Heaven with the Gates Open" - Exbury Gardens—Narrated by Lionel de Rothschild - "From purchasing the near derelict mansion and grounds in 1919, these gardens are now amongst the finest in the world"
- 7:30 pm

### **May 10: Cowichan Valley Garden Club Annual Spring Flower Show and Plant Sale.**

- May 10 and 11: MARS Garden Tour

### **May 16-18: ARS Annual Convention**

- Cleveland, Ohio

### **June 21: Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society Annual Picnic**

### **September 26-28: ARS Western Regional Conference**

- Everett, Washington

### **Dinters Classes for Gardeners**

- presented by their staff or visiting experts. The seminars last about one hour and there is no charge or registration required.
- For more details, visit [www.dinternursery.ca/seminars.htm](http://www.dinternursery.ca/seminars.htm)

### **Glendale Gardens and Woodlands Upcoming Workshops:**

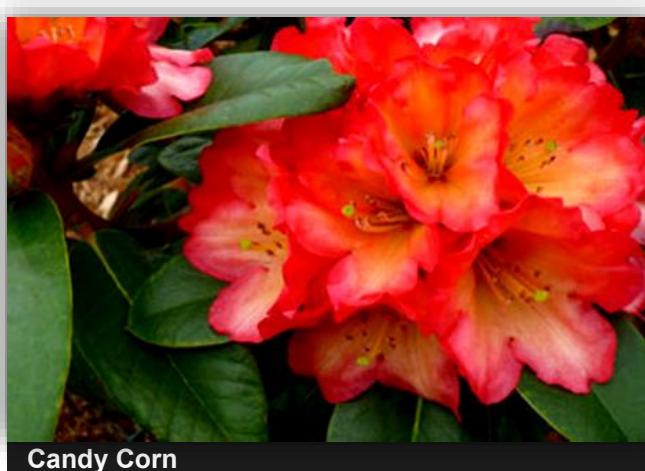
- see <http://www.hcp.ca> for full details and costs of all Glendale events.

### **Marigold Nurseries Seasonal Workshops and Events:**

- see <http://marigoldnurseries.com/seasonal-hints/seasonal-workshops-events> for details



**Peeping Tom**



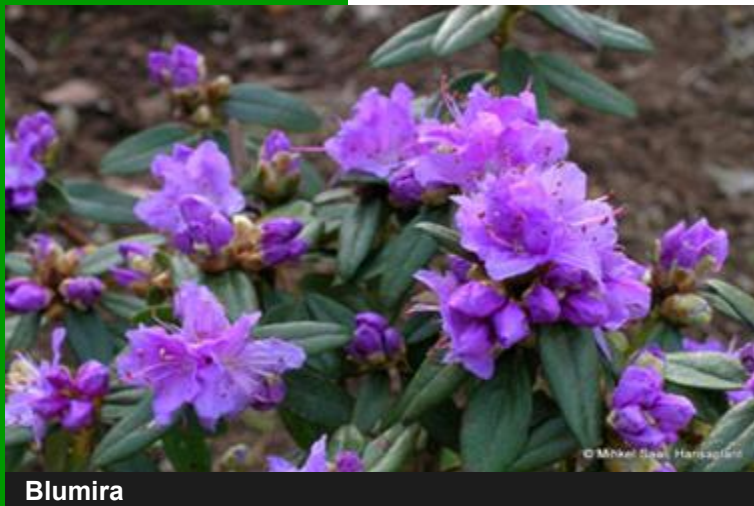
**Candy Corn**



# Colours in the Garden

Marilyn Dawson of the Mount Arrowsmith ARS Chapter shares information gleaned from a workshop with Lucy Hardiman at last fall's ARS Conference in Newport Oregon.

*Reprinted from the MARS November 2013 Newsletter.*



Blumira

So, you've accumulated some rhododendrons and want to place them around the garden with other plant material. Where do you begin? What do you look for and is there such a thing as garden décor?

Lucy Hardiman a well-known design specialist from Portland, Oregon says there are elements to look for in garden design just as there is in home décor. A fifth generation Oregon gardener and owner of Perennial Partners, a design group in Portland, she was one of the "how-to" speakers at the recent Western Regional Rhododendron Conference in Newport.

In designing a garden, Ms Hardiman considers form, texture, color and color schemes. Here are some of her suggestions:

**Form:** The shape of individual plants creates rhythm. Upright spiky plants add height and rounded shapes are soothing, so mix them up for added interest. Prostrate ground creepers, "the carpet of the garden" are particularly useful for areas that move from sun to shade. They also visually weave diverse plants together.

**Texture:** Both foliage and flowers have various textural qualities. There are the airy blooms of baby's breath, the feathery look of ornamental grasses and some ferns, the foliage of hardy geraniums, and the bold look of large leaves. As an example of mixing textures, she suggests planting Hosta 'Frances Williams' beside one of the delicate fern fronds.

**Color:** Everyone responds differently to color. It changes our moods, and in turn changes with the quality of light, full sun or shade. If seen separately, colors keep their identity, but plant several colours together and new images emerge.

**Blue:** A cool colour, it mixes well with others, appears bluer in shade and glows at twilight. It stays visible longer than any colour other than white.

**Red:** A hot colour that adds drama to the garden and works particularly well in the high light of summer. Hummingbirds love it.

**Yellow:** Another hot colour, yellow is perceived by the eye before all other colours.

**Green:** There is a huge range of shades in this colour that forms the backdrop of the garden but can also be used to effect in the foreground.

**Pink or Mauve:** There is a wide range of colour here from blush to magenta that tend to look darker with white or silver, and brighter with gray.



**Olga**

**Gedser Gold**

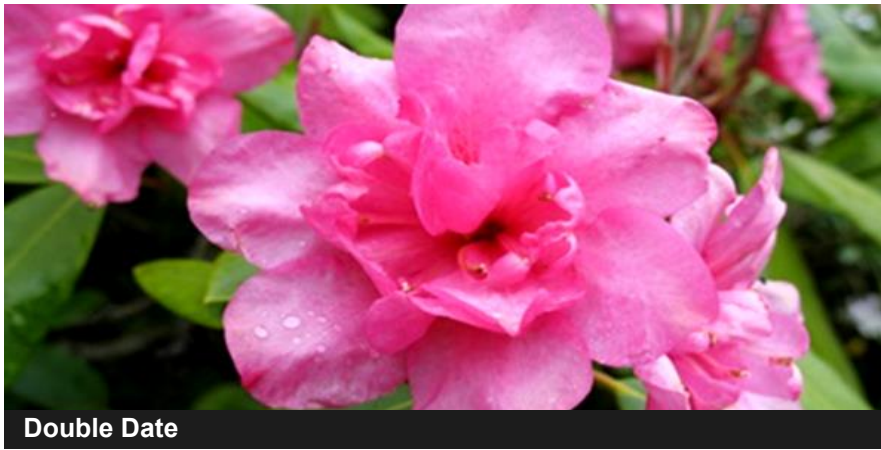
**Orange:** A hot colour that is difficult to place, it goes well with bronze, some purples and chartreuse; softer salmon and apricot shades are easier to use.

**Violet/Purple:** A cool colour that attracts bees and other insects. Use as background with brighter hues.

**Gray:** It never clashes with other colours.

**White:** Few flowers are truly white, but even so they glow in the dark as well as provide contrast to the garden.

As for a colour scheme, it all depends on what the garden owner is striving to achieve. For a daring, bold look, choose colours that are opposite on the colour chart. For a harmonious look, go for colours that are next to each other on the colour wheel. Lucy Hardiman seems to favor a monochromatic colour scheme, with one element repeating itself in another. But a full-fledged monochromatic design which may be trendy can be boring and “difficult to do well.”



CVRS April

Coffee Meeting

Mayo Creek Gardens

Tuesday April 22,  
2014

10am – 12 noon

We will be having a second meeting in April to accommodate past and present members who have been unable to attend our evening meetings. At this gathering we will have a short business meeting to update members and bring forward other items that may be of interest to the group. All members are welcome to this casual coffee gathering.

Where: Mayo Creek Gardens

RSVP – this will ensure we arrange appropriate seating

Contact :

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or

Ingeborg Woodsworth

250 749 6291

[mayocreekgardens@shaw.ca](mailto:mayocreekgardens@shaw.ca)

## Bill's Excellent Lime Chicken

I have been begged many times for this recipe and now I am sharing it for the first time This recipe makes enough marinade for approximately 2 whole chickens- cut up or about 15 chicken thighs or a few chunks of turkey.

In large glass or stainless bowl (can also put in plastic bag if space is tight in fridge) add:

- 4 or more tablespoons of grated lime peel
- 1 cup of fresh or mixed bottled/fresh lime juice
- 1 cup chopped cilantro
- 6 to 8 tablespoons of canola oil/olive oil
- 6 teaspoons of seasoned or regular salt
- 1 tsp of freshly ground pepper
- 2 tsp of powdered or granulated garlic
- 3 tsp of powdered onion
- 1 tsp of Louisiana Hot sauce
- Light soy sauce to color
- 2 tbsp of Sesame oil

Mix thoroughly, add chicken pieces and marinate for at least two hours or overnight-occasionally stirring- keep in fridge

Using the oven broiler on medium to high, put chicken pieces on broiler pan rack and cook, turning once and basting once with marinade until done, about 15 to 20 minutes – keep a close eye so it doesn't burn. ENJOY! –Make more than you think you need-it disappears quickly!



## 2013-2014 Executive

- President: Sandra Stevenson  
([pinchofherbs@shaw.ca](mailto:pinchofherbs@shaw.ca) 250-748-5570)
- Past President: Ian Efford  
([efford@shaw.ca](mailto:efford@shaw.ca) 250-597-4470)
- Secretary: Vacant
- Treasurer: Bill Dumont  
(250-743-9882)
- Membership: Marie Jacques
- Newsletter Editor: Bill Dumont

## Members at Large

- Bernie Dinter, Joe Hudak, Elaine Kitchen,  
Christopher Justice

## Convenors

- Sunshine: Mary Gale
- Tea: The Team
- Raffle: Hilda Gerrits
- Club Liaison: Alan Campbell
- Library: Joyce Rodger
- Programme Co-ordinator: Alan Campbell/Sandra Stevenson
- History: Ian Efford
- Garden Tours: Alan Murray
- CV Garden Fair: The Team
- Facility Liaison: Roy Elvins
- Christmas Party: The Team
- Bus Tour: Bill Dumont

For our **Spring Garden Tours** we are looking for members and others willing to open their gardens. It's fun to share and show off your local jewels.

Please contact Alan Campbell  
if you can help!

[Stonefold@shaw.ca](mailto:Stonefold@shaw.ca)



## Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

A Chapter of the American  
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