



NEWSLETTER

Volume 19: 3

Editor: Ian E. Efford

March 2008

From The Editor

This is my second attempt to put out the newsletter. I think that I have corrected two problems in the last edition. Firstly, some of you received the PDF file with the right 15% cut off. Why, I do not know, but I hope that the problem is resolved. Secondly, the e-mail lists that I received differed. I think that everyone with an e-mail address is now included.

One big problem remains, the cupboard is bare of articles. The newsletter should have a balance between news items and articles about rhodos. This one contains plenty of news and very little information.

Finally, Maria Kemmler has prepared a list of members to contribute to the refreshment sessions at each meeting. This is a small task taking less than an hour a year for the members. It includes helping with the setting up of the refreshments and the clearing up afterwards. Let us not leave Maria to do all the work on her own

Ian E. Efford

What's Coming Up

March Meeting: Wednesday 5th, 7.30pm

Paul Wurz will speak on "Getting back to basics"

March 11th: The propagaooin meeting will be at 7:30 pm at the Campbells' home in Shawnigan Lake. All are welcome.

March 13th: The directors' meeting will be at 7.30pm at the home of Ingeborg Woodsworth, off Highway 18 near the Skutz turnoff.

April Meeting: On Wednesday 2nd, Leslie Drew will speak on the major contribution the Stokers and the Simpsons made to rhododendron growing in this part of the world.

May: The speaker will be Ingeborg Woodsworth

May 3rd: The plant sale will take place between 10am-2.00pm. This year it will be at Queen of Angels School at the junction of Maple Bay Road and Tzouhalem Road.

The Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

A Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

PO Box 904, Duncan, British Columbia V9L 3Y3 <http://cowichan.rhodos.ca>

Propagation Meeting

The next meeting will be on March 11th at the Campbells' home at 1995 Shawnigan Lake Road, Shawnigan Lake, 7:30 pm.

This is seed time so check out the seed exchanges:

The Rhododendron Species Foundation
<http://www.rsfcitymax.com/f/2008Seed.pdf>

The Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society
http://www.willowgarden.net/2008_ARHS%20SeedExchange/ARHS_2008SeedList.htm

The ARS 2008 seed list will be posted shortly at
<http://www.rhododendron.org/seedexchange1.htm>

New Zealand Rhodo Tour

Diane Weissman, De Anza Chapter, is organizing a trip to New Zealand this fall to attend the New Zealand Rhododendron convention in Geraldine and then tour both public and private Gardens of the South Island of New Zealand. Dates are 24th October - 10th November, 2008.

Here's your opportunity to visit an area which has been called "garden heaven" on a fully escorted tour with a group of fellow rhodie members. Full details will be available shortly - contact Diane at diane1030@gmail.com or 650-964-1003. Diane is a licensed travel professional. She and her husband Bob Weissman, ARS webmaster, have been members of the American Rhododendron Society for over 20 years. Diane has previously taken rhododendron groups to Hawaii and Tasmania.

President's Message

Spring Greetings to you at last, or are there more snowfalls in the weather forecast? It has been an honour and privilege to be your president these last two years and 'thank you' for entrusting the chapter's well-being to me for another year. I would like to thank all members for the help and support that you have given me and look forward to the coming year.

My surprise on receiving the 'Silver Bowl' could not have been greater. There have been questions as to what the bowl stands for; one of our Executives will once more state the criteria at the next meeting.

Ian Efford is presently preparing our May 3rd Show/Plant Sale and still needs an assistant. Please, do step up to him and help. Another request, our tea convener Maria Kemmler still does not get enough support with refreshments. Do remember, we can cancel 'refreshments' all together ...

On a happier note - do bring a rhodo blossom to the meeting and as you start tidying your flower beds, dig up or divide those perennials you intended to 'split' last year.

Did you remember to send your down-payment to Bill Dumont for this year's SUPER BUS TOUR? I know that those of us who were along last year have done this at the first opportunity. Wouldn't want to miss out on all that fun. Looking forward to see you March 5th.

Ingeborg

Truss Boxes

The truss show boxes have been stored in a barn which is now a barn. A new home is required. They require about 4 x 4ft of floor space and are about 5ft high. Can anyone provide such space? If so let Ian Efford know at 246-1453. Thanks.

Tofino in May

Bill Dumont has organised an exciting two day tour of rhodo gardens and special sites on the west coast of Vancouver Island at Tofino and Ucluelet on May 24 and 25- the peak blooming times for rhododendrons.

There remain a few places if you wish to join us on this overnight tour to premiere gardens and enjoy the company of dedicated rhodoholics in a spectacular location near Pacific Rim National Park. The tour includes the following:

- A guided tour of the magnificent old growth Douglas fir and western red cedar forests of MacMillan Provincial Park

- A boat trip to Stubbs Island near Tofino to view the island's world-class rhodo collection on the only Open House day at this garden. CVRS members who have visited the site rate it as "amazing".

- A visit to one of Vancouver Island's most impressive rhodo gardens hosted by Ken and Dot Gibson

- An evening session about the life and accomplishments of George Frazer, an early rhodo pioneer and horticulturist on Vancouver Island.

- A tour of George Frazer's original and restored rhodo garden in Ucluelet established more than 75 years ago.

- A tour of the main beaches in Pacific Rim National Park.

- A Visit to the 70 acre Milner Garden woodland and rhodo estate in Qualicum including afternoon tea and plant buying opportunities

The costs including all meals (2 lunches, 1 breakfast, 1 supper) coffee breaks, afternoon tea, hotel, and bus transportation, gratuities and taxes are \$210 per person (double occupancy). Single supplement is \$70 extra. Departure will be at 7 am on May 24 with return to Duncan by 6 pm on May 25.

Limited hotel capacity in Tofino means we need to confirm booking by the end of February. To join the tour you must send a cheque for \$50 per person to Bill Dumont 1753 Peerless Road, Cobble Hill, BC V0R 1L6. Balance will be payable by May 15.

Non-members, spouses and others are welcome and encouraged to join us for this chance of a lifetime visit to Canada's true west coast. For further information contact Bill at 743 9882 or wedumont@shaw.ca

Well over 35 people have paid a deposit including several from Saanich, Victoria, Chemainus and even the Fraser Valley.

If more than 43 register it might be possible to get a larger 52-seat bus. Bill will keep bookings open until March 5 or till we hit 45.

The Plant Sale

The barn at the Exhibition Grounds will not be available this year as it is being used in the preparation for the Aboriginal Games this summer.

Thanks to the suggestion of Leslie Bundon, we have decided to rent the large gym at Queen of Angels School at the junction of Tzouhalem and Maple Bay Roads. As our cashiers will appreciate, this location has the advantage of being a very large warm room. It has an entrance and an exit and easy access for the delivery of plants and the loading of vehicles. It also has a large parking lot and one way entrance and exit for cars.

The 3rd of May is before the May meeting which means that volunteers will have to come forward at the April meeting.

Remember to bring plants for the Society table as we receive 100% of their sale price.

February Executive Meeting

Information from the Executive Meeting is summarized below unless the point is covered elsewhere in this newsletter.

1. Bill Dumont obtained quotes on new club vests of about \$50 plus tax and for green hoodies pockets for about \$40. It was discussed whether there should be the society emblem on the front and a distinct Cowichan logo on the back. The directors felt that just the club's logo, on the front of a vest would be preferred.

2. An exchange of visits with the Fraser Valley Rhododendron Society, visitors staying at members' homes, was deemed a good idea --for next year .

3. Members were informed in the February Newsletter of proposed changes to the bylaws. The major change is in moving the club's election of officers from the end of the calendar year to late spring, to conform with practices of the ARS. The other change is of a housekeeping nature, that is, removing mention of the "local membership category" that no longer exists. The changes will be voted on at the March 5 meeting.

4. Discussion took place as to how to publicize the club's bursary offered annually to a Cowichan Valley student planning a career in horticulture. Ideas from the members would be welcome.

5. The president reported that 41 rhododendrons had been planted so far a

garden being built at the Town of Lake Cowichan in memory of the Stokers and the Simpsons of Marble Bay on Cowichan Lake.

Peach Arch Sale

The Peach Arch Rhodo Society sale is on Saturday April 5th at Elgin hall 14250 Crescent Rd in Surrey BC from 9am-3pm.

2008 Directors

President:	Ingeborg Woodsworth
First Vice President:	vacant
Second Vice President:	Janet Gardner
Secretary:	
Meetings:	David Annis
Executive:	Janet Gardner
Treasurer:	Siggi Kemmler
Membership:	Carrie Nelson and Peter Lewis
Members-at-Large:	Bill Dumont Leslie Bundon Sharon Tillie Jeremy and Marie Terese Evans
Ex-Officio	Alan Campbell

2008 Conveners

Garden Tours	Anne Slabey
Historian	Bev Mountain
Inter-Chapter Relations	
	Ingeborg Woodsworth
Librarian	Leslie Bundon
Newsletter	Ian Efford
Ways and Means	Peter Lewis
Raffle	Hilda Gerrits
Speakers	Alan Campbell
Spring Sale	Ian Efford
Propagation	Alan Campbell
Refreshments	Maria Kemmler
Sunshine	vacant
Website	Alan Campbell

Other Chapters Newsletters

Reading other chapter newsletters on-line take a fair amount of time. So, pour yourself a cup of tea or coffee and open up one of archived newsletters for an enjoyable and formative read. Perhaps you will meet new friends or find some new activities for our chapter to try.

Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island

Cowichan Chapter

[cowichan.rhodos.ca / previous-newsletters .html](http://cowichan.rhodos.ca/previous-newsletters.html)

Fraser South Chapter

[www .flounca/FraserSouth/yak.asp](http://www.flounca/FraserSouth/yak.asp)

Fraser Valley Chapter

fvrs.rhodosnewsletters.html

Mount Arrowsmith Chapter

mars.rhodonewsletters.html

Nanaimo Chapter

[nanaimo.rhodos.ca/newsarchive .html](http://nanaimo.rhodos.ca/newsarchive.html)

North Island Chapter

nirs.rhodosnewsletters.htm

Peace Arch Chapter

www.peacearchrhodo.ca
"Newsletter" link

Vancouver Chapter

[www.ubcbotanicalgarden .org/vrs](http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org/vrs)

Victoria Chapter

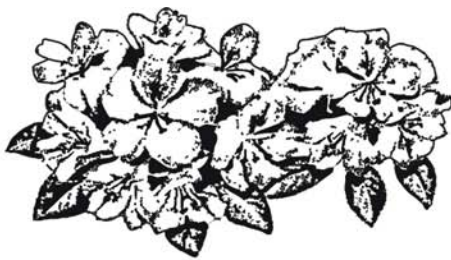
victoriarhodo.ca/newsletter-archive.html



Two views of Allan and Liz
Murrays's Garden



Contrasting greens and reds make a garden beautiful. Nova Zembla is the rhodo.



\$1⁰⁰ off

a one gallon or larger rhododendron
with this coupon

View and Identify your favourite Rhodos
Limit one coupon per visitor
Valid only on show day April 26, 2008

**RHODODENDRON
SHOW & PLANT SALE
and
GLENDALE GARDENS
SALE of PERENNIALS**

at Glendale Gardens, 505 Quayle Road



April 26

9:30am

3:00pm

**Admission to Show
by Donation**