Newsletter

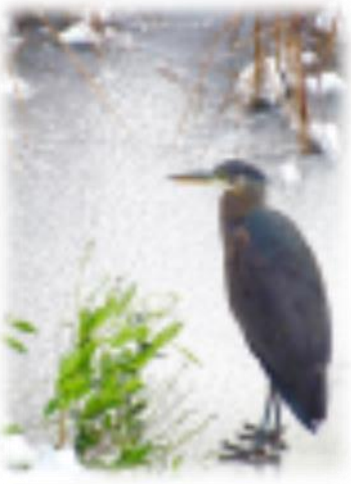
Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society Volume 28:1 February 2017

President's Message

This has been one of the more prolonged cold periods we have had for some time. We have looked out on the landscape of Rhododendron leaves hanging forlornly, curled tightly to conserve moisture. Snow covered boughs curve towards the earth, weighed down by the snow and ice clinging to them. Those of us with humming bird feeders find them frozen solid every morning. Snow damaged limbs will need to be pruned off and tidied up when the weather finally allows us back in the gardens.

I have spent these cold days perusing seed catalogues, imagining colourful glory in the season to come. It is a good time to look at the bare bones of the garden, and make plans for improvements, plant relocation, or even culling. Those tiny plants, planted a few years ago, may have suddenly, more than filled their allotted spaces.

The extent of damage will not be apparent until spring, when some blooms and shoots will fail to open. But the cold also has its benefits, killing pests and diseases that may have increased unchecked over the past years. Most of the rhododendrons we grow are fairly hardy, and could indeed tolerate worse. As well, the cold has a beneficial effect on the flowering of some trees, encouraging an earlier and prolific display of blooms. And any gardener, when removing the botanical casualties of the Arctic chill will immediately think of a coveted plant he or she can replace it with!



Barrie Agar, President

CVRS Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, February 1
7:30 pm St. John's Church
Education Event - Expert Panel
Lee Valley Tool Sharpening Demonstration/Clinic
(Come prepared with your questions!)
More details on page 2 & 3

In This Issue:

Experts Ready for Tough Questions at Next Wednesday's Meeting

February 1 at 7:30 pm

Al Campbell, our own rhododendron specialist, has put together an expert panel to lead discussions and respond to questions about "Growing and Caring for Rhododendrons". Come to our February meeting prepared with all of your queries. Don't miss this great opportunity to take advantage of the skills and experience of these gurus!

This year's panel includes:

Art Lightburn, Past President Nanaimo Chapter; rhododendron species gardener, traveller, and speaker on visited rhododendron gardens around the world. Art and Susan Lightburn, well-known photographer, grow a beautiful collection of rhododendrons, particularly species, on their large property near Parksville, Vancouver Island.

Sean Rafferty: RSF Vice President; an expert on rhododendron species, a plant hunter on numerous expeditions around the world, and an avid proponent of ongoing developments of the Rhododendron Species Foundation. Sean and Brenda Macdonald are creating a new rhododendron paradise, featuring a large variety of species rhododendrons, on their property in Shirley, on Vancouver Island.

Rose Rogan: CVRS member, owner of Perennial Ridge Nursery, specializing in deciduous azaleas and rhododendron hybrids. Rose is renowned for the quality of her rhododendron and azalea plants, and is expanding her nursery business. Her property in the Cowichan Valley reflects her creativity in garden design, and her down-to-earth passion for plants and animals.

Rose Rogan's Perennial Ridge Nursery & Garden

Are your favourite gardening tools destined to become wall art?

Maybe not….

Sharpen and Care for Your Pruners

Following the Panel Discussion on Wednesday February 1, 2017

Bring in your pruners for assessment, and learn how to restore them in time for spring pruning.

Shannon Lanning will walk us through the process of preparing our tools for the spring tasks ahead of us. She will demonstrate sharpening, cleaning and adjustment of pruners. These are skills every gardener should learn! Not only will you extend the life of your tools, you will prevent the spread of disease through your garden.

Shannon Lanning is certified as a horticulture technician by Camosun College and worked in local garden centers before moving on to less seasonal retail work. A recent graduate of Camosun College's fine furniture/joinery program, Shannon is an employee of Lee Valley Tools.

Letter *from the Editor*

It seems like a long while since we have been able to get together, and I have to say that I am looking forward to gathering some energy from you, my gardening friends. Thanks, in advance!

This year, I have been walking on top of hard snow in our yard instead of mercilessly describing my January gardening exploits to my sister in Manitoba. As I trudged through the frozen garden with my dogs on numerous occasions, sniffing for the five balls that disappeared on each first toss, I noted that the curled and humbled rhododendrons, despite being heavily pinned down with hard, crusted white crystals, looked okay. To confirm that rhododendrons really were as tough as they appeared to be, I began to research how these wonder shrubs fare in cold conditions like those we have experienced this season.

And, yes, research warns that the effects of winter damage might not be fully apparent in the short term. In the past, I have heard several of you looking at various rhododendrons and confidently saying that those plants would not be hardy in your gardens. I didn't factor such wisdom into my purchasing choices. Just this week Rose Rogan asked me how my 'Polar Bear' had fared in the cold spell. Something about 'Polar Bear' and concern about the impact of cold threw me into a momentary state of disequilibrium. It definitely was time to take a closer look at the plants. I went out with trepidation, and my camera in hand.

So what was I now afraid that I might recognize in a walk-about? Well, many of my plants are small, planted thoughtfully, I thought, with room to grow. Unfortunately, that meant they were not at all protected from harsh elements by other plantings around them. Were they strong enough in fall, adequately prepared after some very dry stretches in summer, to survive a cold winter? Which of my

rhododendrons should have been wrapped and protected? How did my Far Reaches 'rare' plants fare? I had no idea about the hardiness ratings of these rhododendrons. Then again, did I actually know, or heed, the hardiness rating of any of my rhododendrons? How *was* my 'Polar Bear' after her interaction with the ice flow? Will I come to face that careful pruning of damaged sections of my plants will not be required because the young plants are simply dead? My photos validated the fearful questions that had formed. Only in hindsight does it seem that H2 actually matters.

Hopefully, several articles in this newsletter may be encouraging despite despair following those walks through our gardens. And, we may find tips from various experts helpful in minimizing the impacts of winter damage if we recognize them early enough.

Of course, if you are the guru who purchased, prepared, and protected wisely over the years, please identify yourself at our next meeting, Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Simply stand up and shout with both arms raised above your head. Many of us, or at least one of us, will humbly shuffle over---finally, in learner readiness---to heed that advice that you have been trying to share all along.

Verna Buhler

Rhododendrons Response to Cold

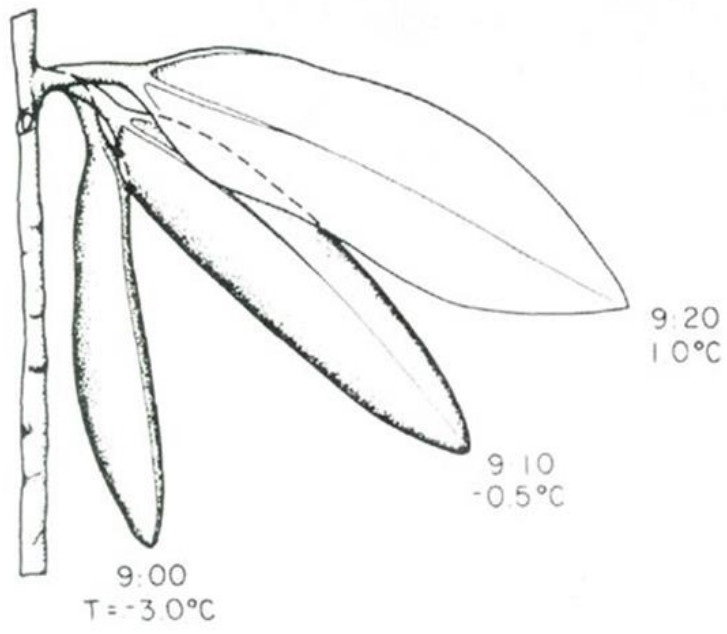
Excerpt from “Causes and Significance of Winter Leaf Movements in Rhododendrons” by Erik T. Nilsen, JARS Volume 40, Number 1, Winter 1986

Erik T. Nilsen is Assistant Professor of Botany at VPI. He [was] awarded an American Rhododendron Research Foundation Grant for 1985 for the study: "Mechanisms of Winter Stress Tolerance in Rhododendrons and Azaleas".

There is definitely significance to the two types of leaf movement in rhododendrons, which protects leaves from mortality. The ultimate cause of leaf movements is most likely to avoid chlorophyll bleaching.

Leaf curling occurs during the winter in many rhododendron species of temperate to alpine habitats. This phenomena has been observed for many years. However, the first published research project on leaf curling was done in Japan in 1933 by Fukuda on *Rhododendron micranthum*. Fukuda felt that leaf curling was due to ice formation between the cells in the leaf. We now know this is not possible because curling occurs at temperature well above the freezing point of intercellular water.

Most casual observers, and the early researchers, were so taken with the leaf-rolling phenomenon, that they failed to observe a coinciding change in the leaf angle. During the summer, mature leaves are horizontal, while during the winter mature leaves are often pendulant. Therefore, there are two leaf movements, curling and angle, which occur during the winter months.



Changes in leaf orientation from curled and pendulant at 9:00 am to flat and more horizontal by 9:20 am. This is a frequent occurrence for Rhododendron maximum leaves during the winter months in Virginia.

These leaf movements occur rapidly and they are reversible. Frequently in the winter, sometime after dawn, leaves of rhododendrons will move from a pendulant curled position to a semi-horizontal flat position over as little as twenty minutes. Our work has shown that leaves uncurl in response to their leaf temperature. Uncurling occurs at a leaf temperature of approximately -1 to 0°C (30-32°C).

Leaf angle is responsive to both leaf temperature and light intensity. In bright environments, rhododendron leaves are more pendulant than those in shaded environments; however, leaf angle is also associated with leaf temperature.

We have also studied the consequences of drought on leaf movements. During dry conditions leaves curl and droop only slightly. Less than 10% of the winter leaf movements can be explained by severe water stress. When some rhododendron species are grown in sunny locations, their leaves grow during a temporary period of water stress. The temporary water stress results in leaves that are permanently, slightly curled and pendulant. These results indicate that water stress can cause some change in leaf curling or leaf angle but temperature and light are the most important causes.

These environmental causes are the triggers initiating the leaf movements and such mechanisms are called proximate causes. The ultimate cause is the adaptive significance of these movements to the growth or success of the species. There must be a significant adaptive importance to leaf movement in rhododendrons because of several lines of evidence. First, the leaf anatomy is very unusual because the water and food carrying system (xylem and phloem) has a corrugated shape traveling from one side of the leaf and back. This orientation limits stretching of the rigid water conducting tissue during leaf curling. There must have been strong evolutionary pressure for leaf curling to select for such an unusual leaf anatomy. Second, if the leaves are not allowed to curl during the winter, up to 30% die. The remaining leaves have a much-reduced photosynthetic rate. The leaves, which are not able to curl or droop, become chlorotic (yellow) before death. We believe that rhododendron leaves curl to prevent photo-oxidation (bleaching of chlorophyll) by high irradiance during cold temperatures. Other leaves have been shown to be most sensitive to photo-oxidation when they are cold. Drooped and curled leaves reduce the amount of radiation they lose. However, we have done studies, which show that the leaf movements do not keep the leaves warm. Curled leaves may also limit the amount of water they lose, thereby possibly keeping the leaves hydrated during the winter when the soil is frozen. But, our measurements indicate that the leaf movements have no affect on water loss in the winter. There is definitely significance to the two types of leaf movement in rhododendrons, which protects leaves from mortality. The ultimate cause of leaf movements is most likely to avoid chlorophyll bleaching. Our work is continuing in an effort to definitively explain the significance of leaf movements to the growth and survivorship of rhododendron plants. We hope to expand our studies to other rhododendron species that show leaf movements in alpine environments.

Erik T. Nilsen studied this phenomenon in five rhododendron species. In his article, “The Relationship between freezing tolerance and thermotrophic leaf movement in five Rhododendron species”, published in Oecologia (1991) 87:63-71, he reported that the more winter-hardy the species, the more the leaves curl and droop in response to temperatures below freezing.

Nilsen's experiments showed that the degree of curling is related to the temperature of the leaf, rather than to the temperature of the air. The leaves always curl before the temperature reaches the freezing point of the leaves. Curling helps prevent damage to the membranes of leaf chloroplasts during repeated cycles of freezing and rapid thawing (for example, from colder night-time to warmer daytime temperatures) during very cold winters. Leaf angle droop protects leaves from having a significant drop in photosynthesis that is caused by a combination of bright sunlight and very cold temperatures (approximately 18 degrees Farenheit). This combination can reduce photosynthesis by up to 50 percent in leaves that don't droop. Thus, leaf curling and drooping protect hardy rhododendrons from cold damage. These mechanisms were even described by Charles Darwin in 1880.

Rhododendron **'Unique' suffers winter damage, while the rhododendron in the background appears untouched.**

Newer growth of *Rhododendron augustinii* appear damaged by cold, whereas more mature lower leaves appear healthy.

Rhododendron **'Polar Bear' showing severe winter damage.**

A young and unprotected rhododendron may not survive this winter's cold period.

Rhododendron manipurense subsp. crassum FMWJ **(A collection by Floden-Mitchell-Wynn-Jones from Vietnam in 2011 of this hardier Maddenia) shows some winter damage.**

Minimizing Winter's Damage In Our Gardens

Pestalotiopsis species often invade leaves damaged by winter desiccation and exacerbate marginal spot/ blotch symptoms.

Rhododendron Leaf Spot

Cercospora species and Colletotrichum gloeosporioides are a couple of fungi that cause leaf spots on rhododendron and azalea (Rhododendron). In addition, Pestalotiopsis species often invade leaves damaged by winter desiccation and exacerbate marginal spot/blotch symptoms.

Host Plants

Azalea cultivars of *Rhododendron* species are most susceptible to *Cercospora* and *Colletotrichum* anthracnose leaf spot. *Pestalotiopsis* gray blight invades wounded foliage on all *Rhododendron* species.

Description

Small, lop-sided to round tan-brown spots with yellow margins appear throughout the year on leaves infected with *Cercospora* species. Heavily infected leaves drop prematurely. The lesions caused by *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* appear on azalea leaves. They are round brown areas visible on both the upper and lower surfaces of infected leaves.

Leaf blotch and marginal browning symptoms caused by winter desiccation begin to appear in late winter, although the full extent of the damage is often not apparent until early April. Pestalotiopsis gray blight worsens browning of lesions, which often coalesce causing large portions of the leaf to have a gray cast. Defoliation often follows extensive leaf discoloration.

Disease Cycle

Knowledge of the life cycles of leaf spot fungi that commonly infect rhododendron and azalea foliage is incomplete. Infections by *Cercospora* species and *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* usually begin on immature azalea foliage in the spring even though symptoms may not appear until the winter and spring on one-year-old leaves. During wet springs fruiting structures of *Cercospora* leaf spot form in the leaf spots on attached one-year old leaves, while the fruiting structures of azalea anthracnose form only on leaves that have fallen during the spring. Spores blow and splash onto nearby foliage. If the leaf is

wet for several hours, the spores germinate and penetrate immature leaves. At least two months passes between infection and the appearance of leaf spot symptoms. On the other hand, *Pestalotiopsis* species causes gray blight, which infects the injured leaves and worsens damage beyond what would normally happen by these factors alone. Fruiting structures of the gray blight fungus develop under the surface of dead portions of infected leaves and release spores during cool, wet periods all through the growing season. Wind and rain spread spores to nearby foliage. *Pestalotiopsis* spores invade wet leaves damaged by winter sunscald, dehydration damage, and physical wounds.

Management Strategies

Rhododendron leaf spots seldom cause significant damage to the health of infected plants unless they are young or weakened by other harmful agents. Maintain plant vitality with proper fertilization, irrigation during dry periods, mulching, and attention to soil pH levels [sic] is the best way to minimize these diseases. Prune plants to promote, sunlight penetration, air circulation and rapid drying of foliage. Also, minimize leaf wetness by irrigating before midday so the leaves dry rapidly in the afternoon. Removal of infected fallen leaves reduces the amount of the inoculum present for new infections. Rhododendron leaf spot diseases are usually more severe after wet springs, but they rarely warrant fungicide controls. Fungicide sprays protect the new green shoots and leaves. Begin sprays as the buds swell and reapply 2-3 more times at label intervals to maintain protection during vulnerable periods.

Written by: Dan Gillman *Revised*: 09/2011 Photos: Gary Moorman, Penn State University and R. K. Jones, *Diseases of Woody Ornamentals and Trees*. APS Press.

Interesting Ornamental Trees

Ian E. Efford

In the February 2013 newsletter, I wrote an article about the very interesting origin of four trees that are very rare or extinct in the wild but can be grown as shade trees in our gardens. One was *Franklinia alatamaha,* which was discovered as a small clump of trees along the border of Florida and Georgia in 1765; these trees were last seen in 1803. A famous American plant hunter, John Bartram, discovered the tree, but at that time he could not find any seeds to collect. Luckily, his son, William, another plant hunter, found seeds in 1777 and all the plants now grown in gardens around the world are descendants of these seeds. It seems likely that the tree disappeared because of logging and possible disease .

In the article, I mention various theories about the origin of this tree and one of the considerations is that it appears to prefer cooler climates, not the hot humid climate of the south Georgian border country. How cool it prefers is unclear although it is generally accepted that our local climate is too cool for it to flower. Despite this, I planted one, which now is about 8ft tall.

This year is the second one in which we have had high temperatures and long summers. My *Franklinia* showed no sign of flowering last year but, lo and behold, this year it has been covered with large flower buds and a few opened in October! The buds are pure white and round and about an

Three photos of the bud and the flower opening. Rain affected the quality of the third photo.

***Franklinia* is related to the Camellias [*Theaceae*].**

inch across. In all of the published photos of the flowers, the blossoms are shown to be wide open with white petals and a clump of bright orange stamens in the middle. Our flowers opened more like a cup and never opened flat. This might have been because the hot weather did not extend far enough into October.

Another couple of years of hot weather and we might have fully open flowers and even seeds!

I have mentioned to many of the branch members my frustration with our *Stewartia pseudocamellia,* which is often described as an excellent ornamental columnar feature tree. Well, mine is not. It is short and wide and, despite my best pruning efforts, it remains a large multi-stemmed bush. This autumn, my frustrations were somewhat alleviated by its colour: a striking bright orangy-red, which glows even in the rain and is just as attractive as the rhododendrons will be in the spring. In fact, I am now convinced that it is an excellent addition to the garden and would recommend it to everyone seeking a feature tree. If you purchase one, look at its structure and choose the one that appears to be destined to become tall and columnar not short and fat!

Rhododendrons In The Redwoods—Annual International Convention

American Rhododendron Society
Eureka, California
Red Lion Hotel And Sequoia Conference Center
April 27-30, 2017

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

At the Red Lion Hotel

9 AM – 5PM: Board of Directors meeting

9 AM – 10 PM: Registration desk open - Lobby

10 AM – 7PM: Plant and art sale open – tent and Humboldt Room

6 PM – 7 PM: No host social hour - Evergreen Room

7 PM - 9 PM: Welcome and introduction – Evergreen Room

Welcome: Eureka Chapter President Max Abrahamsen

Introduction to the Redwoods: District 5 Director Tim Walsh

"All in the Family - Ericaceae": Bruce Palmer

Keynote Address: Mike Stewart

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

At the Red Lion Hotel

8 AM – 2PM: Tour S-1: South Bus Tour: Trinoskey Garden, Anderson Garden, Humboldt Botanical Garden and Founders' Grove

8 AM – 2 PM: Tour N-1: North Bus Tour: Magnuson Garden, Singing Tree Gardens, Wells Garden and Stagecoach Hill

10AM – 6 PM & 9 PM – 10:30 PM: Plant and art sale and photo contest: Tent and Humboldt Room

9 AM – 6 PM: Registration desk open: Lobby

At the Sequoia Conference Center

3 PM – 3:45 PM: "Japanese Garden Design" by Eureka Chapter Member Paula Trinoskey

4 PM – 4:45: PM: "Soils" by Kellogg representative Giselle Schoninger

6 PM – 7 PM: No Host Social Hour

7 PM – 8:30 PM: Buffet dinner

Keynote Address: Dr. Peter Raven

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

At the Red Lion Hotel

8 AM – 2 PM: Tour S-2: repeat of Tour S-1: South bus tour: Trinoskey Garden, Anderson Garden Humboldt Botanical Garden and Founders' Grove

8 AM – 2 PM: Tour N-2: repeat of Tour N-1: North bus Tour: Magnuson Garden, Singing Tree Gardens, Wells Garden and Stagecoach Hill

8 AM – 2 PM: Tour A: Architectural tour of Eureka and Ferndale with breakfast at the Carson Mansion

10 AM – 6 PM & 9 PM - 10:30 PM: Plant and art sale open; photo contest closes at 4 PM: Tent and Humboldt Room

At the Sequoia Conference Center

3 PM – 3:45 PM: "Hybridizing with a purpose" by Eureka Chapter member Don Wallace

4 PM – 4:45 PM: "Gardening in Normandy" by Marc Colombel

6 PM – 7 PM: No Host Social Hour

7 PM – 8 PM: Buffet dinner by Marcelli's

7:30 PM – 8:30 PM: Society business meeting

9 PM – 10 PM: Keynote Speaker: Steve Hootman

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

At the Red Lion Hotel

8 AM – 12 Noon: Plant and art sale open: Tent and Humboldt Room

9 AM – 10 AM: Organizational roundtable for chapter officers: Evergreen Room

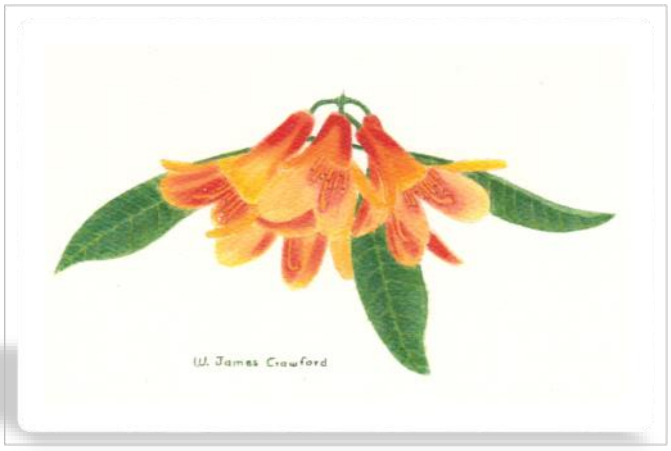
10 AM – 12 Noon: Hybridizers' Roundtable chaired by Don Wallace: Evergreen Room

W. James Crawford

A Passion for Rhododendrons and Art

W. James Crawford is a long time member of the Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society. Jim Crawford is a life member of the Rhododendron Species Foundation, and the American Rhododendron Society. Unfortunately, because he lives on Saltspring Island, very few of the members of the CVRS have actually had the pleasure of meeting, and getting to know, this very talented gentleman.

He was born in Victoria in 1928, grew up on Saltspring Island, and thanks to a 'green thumb gardener mother, inherited an interest in native plants. Jim taught technical drawing at Tacoma Community College. He spent twenty summers on mineral exploration programs in the Arctic, where he developed a keen interest in wildflowers and nature photography.



Upon retiring in 1991, Jim took a drawing class with botanical illustrator Louise M. smith, at the Rhododendron Species Foundation. Here, he found the patience and perseverance skills of technical drawing readily applicable to botanical illustration. He joined Val Konig's watercolour class in 2001.

A HUGE thank you to Ian Efford, for submitting a copy of a beautiful art card and information about Jim Crawford, to the CVRS editor. We know there are many valuable members of the CVRS who are unable to attend regular monthly meeting, and that this represents a great loss for all of us. We believe that meeting and chatting with those who share passions for plants and gardening, and in particular, the Rhododendron genus is a special gift for everyone involved. Wouldn't it be wonderful for all members to gather together more frequently and more conveniently? Please let us know what obstacles we might remove to enable such events to happen. Please speak to any members, that you, personally, find approachable, and let them know that your ideas can be shared!

Christmas 2016 Festivities at a New Venue

The CVRS Executive was pleased to find a more intimate venue for the Christmas Party this year. Thanks to Peter Lewis who insisted that a smaller space would be more enjoyable, the new venue did meet that expectation. Unfortunately, some of our longer-term members were still unable to attend. However, efforts will continue to encourage your valued attendance at these enjoyable events, dear friends!

In the story-telling contest, three creative and extremely entertaining women, Sharon Tillie, Lois Blackmore, and Carrie Nelson, shared the first place prize, as no obvious winners could be determined. Thank you ladies, for the belly laughs!!

The *Silver Bowl Award* was to be presented to Sandra Stevenson who unfortunately fell just prior to the event as she was gathering plant material to complete the beautiful wreath she was creating for the Christmas Event. Although her wreath showed up at the party, Sandra could not. The Silver Bowl Award will be formally presented to her at the February Meeting.

The food was wonderful, as is usual at CVRS events, and those who enjoyed the festivities were entertained by one of the hosts, a guitarist and singer. The executive plans to arrange for Christmas festivities to be held in a similar setting in the future.

Upcoming Events/Speakers

February 1, 2017

CVRS Monthly Meeting - 7:30 pm St. John's Church: Member Education Event Panel Art Lightburn, Rose Rogan, Sean Rafferty, http://cowichanrhodos.ca/

February 4, 2017

Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday

Flourish and Nourish – A Focus on Backyard and Organic Gardening

Our speakers: Linda Gilkeson of Salt Spring Island and Amy Robson from Natures Choice Design.com

For more information on the speakers, subjects and schedule, please check out our website at http://w.qbseedysaturday.com/.

February 9, 2017

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society Meeting: Leslie Cox, a.k.a **Duchess of Dirt** *Healthy Soil*

February 18, 2017

Victoria Seedy Saturday, Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC http://jamesbaymarket.com/seedysaturday/

February 27, 2016

Sooke Seedy Saturday 10 am to 3 pm – Sooke Community Hall ,2037 Shields Road-$5 entry fee http://www.harbourliving.ca/event/sooke-seedy- saturday83/

March 1, 2017

CVRS Monthly Meeting 7:30 pm St John's Church, Lois Blackmore, *The Hybrids of Jim Barlup*

JIM BARLUP AND THE VICTORIA RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

The Victoria Rhododendron Society has been gifted with a most precious asset for the club. Jim Barlup has agreed to support VRS by donating cuttings and stock plants of his registered hybrids for its use, under a common agreement as outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement between Jim Barlup and the Victoria Rhododendron Society.

March 5, 2017

Nanaimo Seedy Sunday, Nanaimo, BC

March 11, 2017

Cobble Hill Seedy Saturday 10 am to 3 pm, Cobble Hill Hall

March 13, 2017

BC Iris Society AGM, Victoria B.C.

March 19, 2017

Duncan Seedy Sunday 10 to 2 Cowichan Tribes Si'em Lelum Gymnasium, Duncan, BC

April 5, 2017

CVRS Monthly Meeting 7:30 pm St John's Church – Brian White, PhD, School of Tourism and Hospitality, Faculty of Management, Royal Roads University

Brian White will present a compilation of twelve years of plant exploration in the Huong Lien National Park in Northern Vietnam.

April 7 – 8, 2017

Rhododendron Species Symposium at The RSBG

The second annual Rhododendron Species Symposium will be held at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington. Featured speaker: Dr. Hartwig Schepker, Scientific Director of the Botanic Garden and Rhododendron Park in Bremen, home of one of the largest Rhododendron collections in the world; Secretary of the German Rhododendron Society. Hartwig has been on several rhododendron trips in South East Asia and North America, including four journeys to Arunachal Pradesh.

Cost to attend the entire Symposium weekend: $125 if registered before February 10th. Late registration of $145 begins February 11th.

April 11 – 13, 2017

PHILIP MACDOUGALL from Maple Ridge, BC

- Tuesday April 11, 2017 NIRS, Comox
- Wednesday April 12 MARS, Qualicum Beach
- Thursday April 13 NRS, Nanaimo

April 22, 2017

Mount Arrowsmith Plant Show and Sale

April 27 – 30, 2017

2017 ARS SPRING CONVENTION
"Rhododendrons in the Redwoods" Eureka, California

April 29, 2017

Cowichan Valley Garden Fair 2017
Saturday 10 – 2 pm
www.CowichanValleyGardenFair.com

May 3, 2017

CVRS Monthly Meeting St. John's Church, 7:30 pm

May 7, 2017

Nanaimo 24th annual Truss Show & Sale Centennial Building, Beban Park

May 12, 2017

BC Iris Society – Oregon Garden Tour (4 day tour)

June, 2017

CVRS Summer Picnic and Awards/Wrap Up

The CVRS Cowichan Valley Garden Sale Planning Committee would like to ask members to think about propagating plants for the CVRS table at the Garden fair. Any divisions, or extra seedlings, that could be potted up and put on the sales table would be gratefully appreciated!! Volunteer sign-up for the many positions that need to be filled will soon begin as well. Thank-you so much, in advance, for willingly supporting this popular event!

2016-17 Executive

President: Barrie Agar
barrie.agar@shaw.ca (250) 748-2308

Vice President: Judeen Hendricksen

Past President: Carrie Nelson

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Membership Chair: Trudy Muiser

Directors at Large:
Siggi Kemmler, Alan Campbell, Peter Lewis, Ron Martin

Convenors

Sunshine: Mary Gale

Tea: Judeen Hendricksen

Raffle: Hilda Gerrits

Club Liaison: Alan Campbell

Library: Joyce Rodger

Membership Recruitment: Peter Lewis

Program Co-ordinator: Peter Lewis, Sandra Stevenson

History: Ian Efford

Garden/Bus Tours: Peter Lewis

CV Garden Fair: The Team

Facility Liaison: Roy Elvins

Christmas Party: The Team

Bus Tours: Vacant

Species Garden Reps: Siggi Kemmler, Alan Campbell

Newsletter Editor: Verna Buhler

Judeens's CVRS group is now responsible for TEA at the upcoming meeting Wednesday, February 1. David Annis's group will be responsible for the March time slot instead of February's.

Newsletter design/format & website edits by
Mary-Lynn Boxem (mlboxem77@gmail.com)

Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

A Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society
P.O. Box 904
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http://cowichanrhodos.ca

Saturday, April 29, 2017; 10-2
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