



# Newsletter



Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Volume 28:2 March 2017

## President's Message

"If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" Percy Bysshe Shelley in his poem, 'Ode to the West Wind', offers a classic expression of our anticipation of the resurgence of new life.

We could be forgiven for thinking that spring has abandoned us altogether but hope is at hand. The snowdrops are everywhere, and heliobores are pushing through flattened foliage and soil. The first winter aconites are bright, cheerful jewels upon the dark soil, a tiny harbinger of the great flush of blooms and life to come. The early flowers may not be of great size, they may not blind us with overwhelming scent or colour, and we may have to kneel to truly appreciate their beauty. But they have all the more value for their small stature, and

### CVRS Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, March 1  
7:30 pm St. John's Church

**Lois Blackmore**

**"The Birds and the Bees" The  
Art of Research and Science of  
Hybridizing**

(More details on page 3)

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R. 'Praecox'



**R. 'Seta'**

for standing out against a drab and dull background, so we can truly see them as an individual, not as a mass of undifferentiated colour.

We will be anxiously examining our rhodos to see what has broken under the weight of the snow, and if the flower buds have been frozen beyond recall. The later flowering rhododendrons usually come through these freezes with impunity, as they have the sense to keep their heads down until the weather is surely committed for spring. But the early flowering rhodos may have taken a hit. Disappointing though it is, it seldom proves fatal. Cutting back damaged and broken branches will encourage new

growth. Most rhodos do break readily from bare wood.

Hopefully in a few weeks with the warm weather we should see some of our favourites begin to bloom. *R. 'Praecox'*, *R. 'Seta'*, and *R. moupiense*, generally meet some of our earliest expectations.

I am sure you can come up with many more. Why not send in some photos of **your** March rhodos for our April newsletter?

Barrie Agar, President

### **Rose Rogan's Rhododendron Planting Mix**

Rose Rogan, owner of Perennial Ridge Farms, usually prepares an 8-yard mix, but has broken her recipe down into a 1-yard quantity to make it easier for all.

1 yard fine bark mulch

1 1/2 bales of peat

8 pound nutricote (14-14-14)

1 pound superphosphate

1 pound trace elements

1 pound dolomite lime.

"When I make my big 8-yard mix, I spread the bark and peat out on a big cement slab. Next, I apply all the fertilizers on top. Then I rototill it 3 times over, until fully mixed; so with the one yard mix, it could be done by hand on a driveway slab or such."

Rose Rogan

**“The Birds and the Bees”  
The Art, Research and Science of  
Hybridizing**

**Guest Speaker, Lois Blackmore**

**March 1, 2017; 7:30pm**

Lois Blackmore will present a visual history of the many steps involved in creating a new hybrid rhododendron. Her presentation is based on Jim Barlup and his love, devotion and discipline to the genus rhododendron, a journey of over 40 years.



**Lois Blackmore, in her greenhouse, willingly shares growing tips with guests.**



**Rhododendron 'Lois Blackmore' Jim Barlup registered this rhododendron in 1996. ('Fantastica' x 'Rocky Point')**

Lois Blackmore and her husband Roy live on a large, mountainous and rocky property on Triangle Mountain in Langford. They have been fortunate to become friends with Jim Barlup, a world-renowned rhododendron hybridizer from Bellevue, Washington. This friendship has blossomed into an extensive collection of Barlup hybrids both on their property and in many containers located on an expansive deck overlooking the western foothills.





# Letter *from the Editor*



Most of us are rather eager to see the drifts of winter disappear. We groan a little when we see lacy snowflake images in the weather forecasts.

We have had more time to create our plant labels, to research with new interest and meaning the hardiness of the rhododendrons both in our gardens and those we may have scribbled unto our Wish Lists in preparation for the Plant and Seed Sales noted on our calendars. In doing so, we have studied climate zone maps and attempted to apply plant hardiness data in making both plant purchase and planting decisions. That process may be confusing. However, thanks to Joe Hudak, who recommended Kenneth Cox's Hardiness Chart for this month's newsletter, some clarification is at hand.



Photo by Barrie Agar

Thanks to the advice of Sean Rafferty, Rose Rogan, Art Lightburn, and Al Murray, our Expert Panel at last month's meeting, we know to wait before aggressively attacking our rhododendrons with our pruners this spring. They encouraged us to wait for Nature to reveal its regenerate powers before becoming too discouraged. Damaged leaves will drop in their own time, and new growth may appear on branches that, on first analysis, appear dead.

Fortunately, if we apply what we learned from Shannon Lanning, also at last month's meeting, we will have sharp tools to approach the pruning task when it does present. Also, the February 2016 CVRS newsletter includes an article explaining how to prune rhododendron plants that could be helpful.

Personally, I feel a need to review several valuable Spring Care tips published in the March 2016 CVRS newsletter issue: Sean Rafferty's advice on applying Epson salts, Al Murray's annual application of organic fertilizer, and Rose Rogan's Rhododendron Planting Mix. I plan to print and laminate this page to post in my greenhouse, and as soon as the snow is gone from our yard, I know I will eagerly begin these tasks.

Verna Buhler

# *Rhododendron albrechtii* and Related Species

Ian Efford

At the question and answer session this month, when Art Lightburn was asked to name his favourite rhododendron, he replied *R. albrechtii*. This reminded me that this species and its close relatives are particular favourites of mine. I first saw *R. albrechtii* when attending the international rhododendron conference in Edinburgh in 2008. The conference included an extensive truss show and, after touring it a couple of times, I decided that the most beautiful truss on display was a branch of this same species. The lighting was poor but I did manage to take a photograph, which is shown below. The flowers are delicate, dispersed in small clusters and the whole is more aesthetically pleasing than the “in-your-face” beauty of many of the large trusses. Since that time, I have obtained two plants, one of which is still rather small and has not yet flowered.



This species comes in a range of shades of pink, from the rather dark pink shown in the photograph to a more delicate light pink. *Hirsutum.com* shows that the species can have reddish and bluish flowers as is shown by two of the photographs which happen to have been taken in the Nanoose Bay area by Susan Lightburn, one of our own members.

According to *hirsutum.com* the name '*albrechtii*' commemorates Michael Albrecht, a physician at the Russian consulate in Hakodate, on the southern tip of the island of Hokkaido, Japan. Albrecht discovered this azalea growing near Ha-

kodate in 1860. It was described by the botanist, Maximovicz, in 1870. In nature it occurs at elevations of 2,500 to 6,500 feet from central Honshu, the main island in Japan, northward to Hokkaido, the large island forming the northern part of Japan. It should grow very well on Vancouver Island, as our climate, fauna and flora are very similar to that in Hokkaido. Another similarity is the presence of first national Ainu populations, which I have rarely seen in the rest of Japan.

The species is one of a group of four that are in the section *Sciadorhodon* of the azalea subgenus *Pentameria*. The other three are *R. schlippenbachii*, *R. quinquefolium* and *R. pentaphyllum*. It differs from the other three in that the leaves are in small clusters. One of the great delights of the other three species is



Colour variation in *R. albrechtii*. Both photographs by Susan Lightburn

that they have very attractive leaves, which form a flat layer of five leaves, quite unlike the usual leaves found in the genus. The leaves are pale green and often have a red border, which adds to their attractiveness when the plant is not in flower.

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*R. schlippenbachii* is well-known and can be found in the gardens of many of our members. I have one plant, which seems reluctant to grow in height but I am being patient. Because I like this species so much, I also have twenty-four seedlings, which are small but seem alive and well. If they grow well, you should see many of them in the raffle in a couple of years.

*R. quinquefolium* is closely related to *R. schlippenbachii* but with white flowers which are a little small-

er. I have found it much more difficult to grow and have lost two plants.

The flower colour of *R. pentaphyllum* is very similar to that of *R. albrechtii*.

All four of these species are from the Asian Far East. In the wild, *R. schlippenbachii* is found at mid-levels in the mountains of Korea and extends as far north as Russia; the other three are restricted to Japan but, again, at about the same altitude in open forest areas. They are hardy and all should survive quite well in our island climate.

*R. albrechtii* and *schlippenbachii* are both in Finnerty Gardens and *R. quinquefolium* at Glendale Gardens. I know of no public garden where *R. pentaphyllum* is growing.

I also grow two other species that are in the section Brachycalyx, evolutionarily close to section Sciadorhodon in the subgenus Pentanthera. They are both Japanese species, *R. nudipes* and *R. sanctum*, which grow in similar habitats to the Sciadorhodon species. They both have pink coloured flowers, which are not flat but closer to those of *R. albrechtii*. *R. nudipes* may well be a regional variety of *R. reticulatum*, which is widespread across Japan and has a at least eight identified forms.





*R. schlippenbachii* at Lu Zsu taken during the CVRS tour of this wonderful and unusual garden.

This group of Asian rhododendrons is well-worth growing if you like a more subtle perspective. They are from the Far East and fit in perfectly with traditional Japanese and Korean artistic traditions.

"Since writing this article, I have received the latest volume of "Rhododendron Species 2017" from the RSBG. It contains a detailed review of this same group of rhododendrons written by the assistant curator at RSBG, Atsuko Gibson. It is an excellent article covering all the Sciadorhodon. This volume will be in our Library as our chapter is a member of RSBG."

## On Nutrients

Both Al Campbell and Sean Rafferty offer their rhododendrons a mixture of  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , magnesium sulphate, (Epsom salts), at this time of the year.

Then, a little later in March, Al adds a little fertilizer, using 'Al Murray's Mix'.

### Early Season Plant Nutrients

Sean Rafferty mixes a handful of **Epsom salts** and a tablespoon (approx.) of **chelated iron** (*chelated* meaning that it will dissolve in water) into a two-gallon watering can and applies this at this time of the year.

The Epsom salts will increase the pH level of the soil and help roots absorb nutrients more easily.

The Mg ion helps leaves create chlorophyll for photosynthesis.

### If you prefer organic fertilizer to chemical:

Alan Murray has the answer for you with his special formula, which one can see has proven to be very effective in his mountain-side garden in the Duncan area.

#### Al Murray's Mix:

4 parts each of alfalfa meal, canola meal, and blood meal. . .plus

2 parts dolomite lime. . .and

1 part each of rock phosphate, bone meal, kelp meal, and greensand

**Apply this mixture only ONCE A YEAR!!**

# JIM BARLUP

## West Coast Rhododendron Hybridizer

A brief introduction to spark your interest in Lois Blackmore's presentation at this month's CVRS Meeting

*Information for this article was drawn from JARS Fall 1998, Volume 52 , Number 4*



**R. 'Early Winters'**

Spectacular images come to mind when we see or hear word pairings such as 'Sun Silk', 'Early Winters', 'Amber Waves', 'Midnight Song', 'White Ginger', 'Amber Honey', 'Ice Prism', 'Night Music', 'North Wind', 'Coral Mist', 'Champagne Lace', 'Roy Blackmore', and 'Lois Blackmore'.

Margaret Atwood is known for concisely stating: "A word after a word after a word is power". Jim Barlup's word combinations prove that "a word after a word", carefully chosen, also create seductive rhododendron names. When these names are attached to the fabulous blooms that have resulted from the plant crosses that Jim Barlup creates, the results are completely irresistible.

According to Kristi O'Donnell, in an article supporting the 1999 ARS Annual Convention, Jim Barlup's "background in illustration and professional photography and his eighteen years in the retail nursery business [were] instrumental in polishing his ability to visualize a new plant".

In his earlier years, Jim's objectives were relatively straightforward. "In 1975 there was a lack of apricot, orange and peach colors. I wondered why...could I create them? After years, I [came to] know why . . .they just [weren't] hardy."

Jim has spoken of his early trials and disappointments, and encouraged hybridizers to share their knowledge, to respect other view-



**R. 'Roy Blackmore'**



points, and to inspire one another. "Learning from our own experimentation is a slow process."

*"In the fall of 1987, I potted 1,150 new seedlings in gallon containers and placed them under fir trees for protection as I had done for the previous nine years. 1987/88 was a winter to remember! Temperatures ranged from 0°F to 10°F for about 10 days. I lost 800 of these container plants and about 50 percent of the rhododendrons that were planted in the ground. This gave me an opportunity to step back and evaluate everything I was doing. That winter truly changed my way of selecting parents."*

Because choosing the parent plants is so critical, Jim carefully considers a set of important questions.

*"What do you really want to create? As hybridizers, we have the unique privilege of selecting the parents we want to use to create new hybrids. There are so many factors to consider that it's difficult to know where to start. Do we want dwarf or tree type, fragrance, beautiful foliage, huge trusses or nodding bells? What color range will we pursue? Shall hardiness be a major or minor part of our program? When do we want the new plant to bloom? Will powdery mildew become a factor in choosing which parents to use? As we learn what works and what does not, we become more discriminating as to what we are after and why."*

As a result, Jim Barlup has clearly become a pairing genius.



R. 'Amber Waves'



R. 'Violet Magic'

## HARDINESS RATINGS for Rhododendrons and Azaleas

Kenneth Cox, in his comprehensive and thoroughly researched book, *Rhododendrons and Azaleas, A Colour Guide* (2005), offers extensive assessment of performance of varieties of rhododendrons and azaleas for different countries and climatic conditions. Kenneth Cox's frustration with the disparity between ratings systems and the confusions these created led him to create a chart with ratings H1 – 8. He provides a cautionary statement.

*"Hardiness is hard to quantify precisely, as it depends on the timing of cold weather as well as the presence or absence of summer heat. Sudden drops in temperature are more damaging than gradual drops. . . . Only the 'ironclad' rhododendrons can tolerate the combination of high summer temperatures and very cold winters."*

The footnote below the chart explains some of the difficulties Cox experienced when referencing hardiness charts.

**TABLE 1: HARDINESS RATINGS**

<b>RHS/COX RATINGS</b>	<b>USDA</b>	<b>DEGREES CELSIUS</b>	<b>DEGREES FAHRENHEIT</b>	<b>EXAMPLE AREAS</b>
H9	4a	-31.7 to -34.4	-30 to -25	Minneapolis /St Paul, Minnesota. Finnish hybrids and Northern Lights azaleas
H8	4b	-28.9 to -31.6	-25 to -20	Coldest parts of E. Europe and much of inland E. U.S.A. and Canada. Varieties known as 'ironclads'
H7	5a	-26.2 to -28.8	-20 to -15	Colder parts of Germany and Scandinavia, New York, Nova Scotia, etc., much of Sweden, inland New England, Des Moines, Iowa; Illinois.
H6	5b	-23.4 to -26.1	-15 to -10	Columbia, Missouri; Mansfield, Pennsylvania
H5	6a	-20.6 to -23.3	-10 to -5	Hardy anywhere in the U.K. and moderate parts of Europe such as Holland, S. Sweden, coastal Denmark, favourable parts of Germany, etc., moderate parts of N.E. U.S.A and E. Canada
H4	6b	-17.8 to -20.5	-5 to 0	Hardy in all but the coldest parts of Pacific Northwest and U.K., coastal France and N. Italy, around Bergen (Norway) and mildest parts of N.E. U.S.A. such as Cape Cod.
H3	7a	-15.0 to -17.7	0 to 5	Hardy in a sheltered site in most of U.K., coastal France and N. Italy and Pacific Northwest gardens, but may be damaged in severest winters. Often early into flower and growth.
H2	7b	-12.3 to -14.9	5 to 10	Hardy outdoors in milder parts of the U.K., such as Cornwall and Argyll; S. Ireland; most of California; Vancouver Island, Canada; most of New Zealand; Tasmania
H1	8a	+9.5 to +12.2	10 to 15	Greenhouse culture, except for milder areas such as most of California, mildest western U.K. gardens
H1	8b	+6.7 to +9.4	15 to 20	
	9a	+3.9 to +6.6	20 to 25	Houston, Texas; St. Augustine, Florida
	9b	+1.2 to +3.8	25 to 30	Brownsville, Texas; Fort Pierce, Florida
H0	10a	1.6 to +1.1	30 to 35	Greenhouse culture, except in mildest areas of California, Hawaii, Australia and N. New Zealand and similar

**Note:** "There are two main rating systems used for plants, both useful and somewhat inadequate and misapplied. The USDA ratings are used in North America, sometimes in Europe and seldom in the United Kingdom. In most cases the way the USDA ratings are mapped onto Europe is often very inaccurate: southern Denmark placed in zone 8 for example, where it should probably be in zone 5a. Most UK publications use the parochial and utterly inadequate rating system of H1 (tender) - H4 (hardy) promoted by the Royal Horticultural Society, which is not even sufficient for the U.K., let alone further afield. Royal Horticultural Society publications, widely sold internationally, are full of plants rated as H4 that they define as "fully frost hardy" which is factually incorrect for the coldest parts of Scotland, let alone most of continental Europe." (Cox, 2005)

## SANDRA STEVENSON

### 2016 SILVER BOWL AWARD WINNER

Sandra good-naturedly scampers over to the wall where Sean and Carrie hold up a six-foot piece of canvas on which are some notes and a rough impressionistic painting of a bowl filled with orange azaleas. She laughs as she is nudged and shifted to align her stance so that the image is at approximately shoulder height.



**Sandra, a most deserving recipient, holds the highly polished Silver Bowl. (Photographer, Barrie Agar, reflected in the bowl)**



After the outline of her body has been drawn around her onto the canvas, Sandra steps back and reads some of the notes inscribed on the canvas: "Thanks for your inspiring leadership", "Genuine and caring, thank you!" "Thanks for all you have done and continue to do for the club", "Loved working with you!" "So creative and generous", "SMART! SMART! SMART!" She steps up to the Silver Bowl and smiling innocently, confesses, "It was simply a mistake, a rather big mistake, that I that joined this club." Amid protests from her fellow members in the room, she humorously explains her statement. Furthermore, she admits immersing herself in this "mistake".

At the February CVRS Meeting, fellow members gratefully awarded Sandra the Silver Bowl for the past, and ongoing, contributions that she makes toward the growth and development of the Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society. Since she joined the club in 2006, she assumed formal roles as Membership Chair, Vice President, President, and became involved in the multitude of organizational tasks for events such as the CVRS Plant Fair, Summer Picnics, and annual



Christmas parties. Sandra understands all aspects of both the energy demands, and the fulfillment, that club membership can offer participants.

Sandra may insistently describe herself as a “transient” type. Self-deprecatingly, she maintains that her approach to life is “scattered and chaotic”---never fully completing her tasks---rushing from one to another! What counters the validity of her self-description is that Sandra fully commits to her many callings, expect-



ing perfection and creativity in each effort, so perhaps the connotations of her descriptors change. Life, for her, offers so much---there is much to spontaneously appreciate and even more to share with others. With such a desire to learn, engage, and experience at such a high level, life becomes extremely busy!

It appears that Sandra has been busy since the day she was born. Throughout Sandra's years of travelling back and forth between



Banff and Ontario, acquiring a variety of skills such as those required of telephone or switchboard operators, bartenders and waitresses, garden and grounds keepers, a primary interest in pursuing an education and a career in horticulture persisted. Most of her employment positions were, in fact, situated on the campuses of U. of Alberta, U. of Calgary, and U. of Victoria. Unfortunately, when Sandra gained acceptance to the horticulture program of her choice at Carlton University, the timing was such that she was not in a position to attend. Some time later, on her way to explore Australia and New Zealand she stopped in Victoria to visit a friend. Thus began another phase in her life that did involve gardens---



rhododendron gardens, and the mentors at Finerty Gardens at the University of Victoria.

Sensing, after some time, that she needed to expand her already broad skill base, Sandra applied herself to the intense study of a Registered Nursing Program. Her years immersed in this career were consuming of time and energy, yet always, a thread of her love of horticulture continued to wind through and germinate in creative ways. She earned certification in Herbal Medicine, directing some of her knowledge into making beautiful herbal soaps. Later, Sandra decided to leave nursing to launch a gardening business, and became certified as a Master Gardener. Creatively, she combined her many skills, mentoring her clients about Nature's gifts of peace and wellness, while working together with them in their gardens.

Dogs, too, are beneficiaries of Sandra's desire to help living beings fully enjoy their days on this earth. She and Bryson adopt dogs that require extra gentle care due to trauma, failing health,

or end of life needs. She explains that they receive more than they give in these special relationships.

Wandering with Sandra through her own garden is a tantalizing journey as she directs attention to the spectacular beauty of azaleas. As a guest, you may be zooming your camera lens to capture the exquisite features Sandra has pointed out on her "simply most favourite" azalea. You lose that focus when she excitedly beckons you to note her "absolute favourite" azalea in the nearby garden bed. It is such an adventure, darting back and forth gathering close-up images of her "totally favourite" azalea, that you completely dispense with the idea of determining her actual definition of "favourite".

So what does Sandra's future hold? "Well," she says thoughtfully, "I have been thinking that I might want to do something special with that canvas, with all those far-too-generous comments from everyone. Aren't there just so many wonderful people in this club, so knowl-



**Sandra gently tending her favourite azalea**



edgeable and so willing to share! I just love that about of the rhododendron club. Isn't it amazing that right in our community, we get together with people who share our passions and interests, and we just keep on learning! And not only that! We're connected to such a vast network of information and friendships that we develop all over the world. Like that rhododendron flowchart in Greer's book! How the species and subspecies and varieties are somehow categorized and related! We need someone, like Sean maybe, to do a flow chart presentation to make sense of all that!" Then she laughs. "That was one of the better mistakes I've made--- showing up at that first meeting."

Not a mistake at all Sandra. This is a club that values all that energy, care, encouragement and playfulness that you share. Your enthusiasm and fun-loving approach in all you do models how the love of plants, gardens and the mysteries of Nature can provide us with shared purpose, enjoyment, and many special relationships.

Okay, you have decided to hang the canvas in your greenhouse with its window that looks out over the most spectacular, and, of course, your favourite azalea in the garden. That's a great idea! But wait, has anyone seen that Sandra has a highly mobile greenhouse?



**Apparently, . . . Sandra opens her lovely red mailbox, takes out a notebook and pen, tucks her weeding tools and gloves inside it, settles into her rustic willow chair, rubs her faithful buddy's ears, ticks off a few boxes and pauses to add a few more items to her ten-page list of creative garden projects. Her companion knows to nap patiently, sometimes for hours, or even days, before she actually settles beside him.**



# Eureka!

*This article was written by Michael Martin Mills, newsletter editor of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter and forwarded by June Walsh to entice you to visit!!*

## Rhodos, Victoriana and Redwoods at April's ARS Convention

An ARS convention on the West Coast always means voluptuous flowers that we Eastern gardeners simply cannot grow. Species with vast leaves and cabbage-size trusses, yellows to die for, fascinating gems for the rock garden, and the one native deciduous azalea that *will not* survive on the East Coast, *Rhododendron occidentale*.



*R. occidentale*

All of these await ARS members who book passage to the national convention in Eureka, California on the last weekend of April. Tours include the Humboldt Botanical Garden and several private gardens, and speakers include Steve Hootman of the Rhododendron Species Foundation, French hybridizer Marc Colombel, and botanist Peter Raven, formerly of the Missouri Botanical Garden, noted for his conservation and biodiversity advocacy. It's all so very alluring.



**The scale of redwoods** challenges photographers – best to go see them in situ.

But there's something about this convention locale that no other venue can top: redwoods, *Sequoia sempervirens*. Drive south toward Mendocino, and there's a state highway that's named Avenue of the Giants, for all the soaring specimens that dwarf us pipsqueak motorists. There's a tree you can drive through (not the one that fell on Jan. 8, farther south), and a gondola ride that takes you high through the trees. Go to <http://avenueofthegiants.net>, and download a map and brochure, or have them mailed to you.

Or head north, to Redwood National Park and several affiliated state redwood parks, which are designated as a World Heritage Site as well as an International Biosphere Reserve. You might add a few days to your rhododendron trip to camp in the parks or stay in nearby lodges. The National Parks Service's website has much information: <https://www.nps.gov/redw/index.htm>.

Meanwhile, back in Eureka, the local architecture rivals the rhododendrons for color and flamboyance. On Saturday, ARS members will have the option of taking an architectural tour of Eureka and nearby Ferndale, which the Los Angeles Times called “the best preserved Victorian village in California.” The tour includes breakfast at the flabbergasting Carson Mansion in Eureka.



**On view in Eureka and Humboldt County:** An exuberant Victorian house and two forms of *R. occidentale*.

If action is what you want, you might even skip the Saturday night banquet and head for the roller derby at nearby Redwood Acres Fairgrounds, featuring competition by such all-female teams as the Redwood Rollers and the Widow Makers Exposition. For full information on the ARS convention, go to <http://eurekarhody.org/convention.php>, which has a registration form, hotel information and more. The deadline to avoid a late-registration fee is March 22.

For information on all sorts of things to do in and around Eureka and Humboldt county, check out this website: <http://101things.com/humboldt/category/activities-attractions/tours-activities-attractions>.



# Upcoming Events/Speakers

## March 1, 2017

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

## 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 & 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. 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](http://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



## 2016-17 Executive

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

Vice President: Judeen Hendricksen

Past President: Carrie Nelson

Secretary: Verna Buhler  
[Vlbuhler@shaw.ca](mailto:Vlbuhler@shaw.ca) 250-748-8889

Treasurer: Elaine Kitchen  
[y1880@yahoo.ca](mailto:y1880@yahoo.ca) 250-746-6419

Membership Chair: Trudy Muir

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

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



## Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

A Chapter of the American  
Rhododendron Society  
P.O. Box 904  
Duncan, British Columbia  
V9L 3Y2

<http://cowichanrhodos.ca>



Saturday, April 29, 2017; 10-2  
<http://cowichanvalleygardenfair.com>



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