



Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Newsletter

Volume 33:7 September 2022

Message from the President

I would like to welcome everyone back to our first meeting of the autumn, and our first regular in person meeting since the start of the pandemic. I am excluding a few summer picnics, but our regular schedule will start again, and hopefully we can continue throughout the winter.

Our first meeting will be a casual affair, mainly because the Speaker Chair didn't get it together in time to get a speaker. My only excuse is that now that I am retired my time management skills have gone out the window. This has served us well, because Al Murray has offered to step up and show us some of his propagation techniques, and I, for one, am looking forward to this.

We all start our garden career carrying our impulse purchases home from the Garden Centre, or carefully planting a gift from the neighbour, or a treasured plant from a parent's or grandparent's garden. But sooner or later, and it is usually sooner, the propagation urges strike us. The biblical injunction to go forth and multiply has never been taken as seriously as by your average gardener. Pulling out a piece of a perennial while weeding – I'll just pot that up. A shrub has layered itself in the mulch you so carefully applied last autumn. A miracle! You carefully pot it up. Your favourite perennial has self-sown all about itself; on hands and knees you gather the seedlings (all of them) and assiduously pot them up.

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CVRS September Meeting

Wednesday
September 7, 2022
7:30 pm

In Person Meeting
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Banner Photo:

Hydrangea paniculate
'Tardiva' with *Phlox*
paniculate 'Mauve' and *Phlox*
paniculate 'Star Fire'

This is how it begins. Soon you are actively taking cuttings and sowing seeds. Your driveway looks like a nursery, and you can't go anywhere because you don't trust anyone to water while you are away. You look into the whys and wherefores of cutting propagation. Your ideal Christmas present is a heat bench. Your house is carrying a second mortgage because you had to have a greenhouse. You investigate grafting, and before you know you are getting in touch with your inner surgeon. You can ask me about that one.

We have a solution to those plants proliferating in your garden, your driveway, and lining your window-sills. Donate them to the Rhododendron plant sale in May! It supports you club and clears out your driveway and garage so you can park there again. Indeed, in feeding the addiction we are thinking of having a short workshop on dividing perennials in the autumn. This is a select group, the plants not the members, although you are pretty select too. Not all perennials respond well to division at this time of year, and I know this from bitter experience. Many perennials can be sown at this time of year and will form an attractive 4" in the spring.

I hope to see you at this meeting. As an added incentive AI has donated a small propagator for raffle! If that doesn't rouse your propagation blood, I don't know what will.

Barrie Agar





CVRS Social Evening

with

Special Presentation

Wednesday, September 7, 2022 7:30 pm

PUTTING DOWN ROOTS

Do-it-yourself Rhododendron Propagation



Al Murray

Our own highly esteemed CVRS member and respected propagator of rhododendrons, will demonstrate how **all club members** can propagate rhododendrons in their homes for either their own purposes,

and/or for the CVRS club, in an exceptionally simple way, utilizing a small propagator that he and Liz discovered this past spring. Al described it at the CVRS Summer Picnic and is now sharing the specifics of this method with all of us.

Win a propagator set-up by entering the draw at the first Fall Meeting on September 7, 2022 at St. John's Anglican Church Hall 486 Jubilee Street, Duncan, B.C.

Letter from the Editor

Hi Friends,

It's rather nice to be back in contact with you after the two summer months that, despite our apprehension in Spring, turned out to be wonderfully hot once again. The roses did eventually bloom, and they did so vigorously having appreciated the wetter and cooler months before. Irises, lilies, and other perennials responded suddenly to the warmth blooming in harmonious overlapping periods of brilliant displays. Now starring are phlox, dahlias, and of course the massive blooms of *Hydrangea*! What a show these shrubs provide!



Lilium 'Salmon Star'

Hopefully your summer was as good as the weather, and your gardens grew and bloomed and thrilled you with surprises often.

In this newsletter, you will find photos of the CVRS Summer Picnic in June and photos of a summer garden tour. Thanks to the contributions of Alan Campbell, you will learn about two species *Rhododendrons*. Note, as well, a checklist to begin Fall garden tasks.

Welcome back and enjoy this new season!

Verna



Zantedeschia 'Vermeer'

Renew Your CVRS Membership

September, October, November are the months to renew your CVRS membership by paying your fees

For the last two years, due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID pandemic guidelines and resultingly fewer activities being offered, the CVRS membership fees were reduced. However, the American Rhododendron Society fees still needed to be covered, so the CVRS subsidized the fees to the ARS for these two years.

This year, the fees for new or renewal are being restored to regular levels.

FEES FOR 2022 – 2023:

Adult Membership: \$40

Associate Membership: \$10

David Annis, CVRS Membership Chair, will welcome your payments at the monthly Wednesday meetings, or you may pay by cheque or via E-transfer:

- **Cheque:** Mail to 695 White Cap Road, Cobble Hill, BC V0R 1L4
- **E-Transfer auto deposit:** emailto: cowichanvalleyrhododendron@gmail.com

ANTICIPATE THESE ENJOYABLE EVENTS!



Speakers:

- October: Tamara Dinter *Soils*
- November: Colin Tamobline *Lilies*

Garden Tours:

- CVRS Member Fall Open Garden Tours

Christmas Party:

- December

Thank-you. . .

FALL GARDENING TASKS

The real joy of West Coast Gardening in fall is planting. Gardeners in our entire region can install new trees and shrubs before the first frost. But there are a number of other tasks that can be done as well to make your garden exuberant in spring.

- **Begin with an honest evaluation:**
What worked well this year? What did not? What plants could I move or add for specific effects? Begin a list.

- **Fall is for planting:**
Warm soil and cooler air allow for healthy root development. Divide or move perennials and look for end of season sales for trees and shrubs.

- **Plant spring flowering bulbs:**
A wide variety of bulbs are available at garden centers in fall. Consider planting

them with plants that will cover the foliage when the bulbs go dormant.

- **Cut back SOME perennials in fall:**
Once perennials have gone dormant, foliage can be cut back to the ground. However, **not all perennials** should be cut back. Evergreen or semi-evergreen varieties like *Heuchera*, among others, should not be cut back until spring. Leave woody stem perennials such as *Hibiscus* or *Lavendula*, and winter interest plants such as *Echinacea* and *Helleborus*. Diseased foliage should not be added to your compost.

- **Continue to water the garden:**
Although plants may appear to be dormant, roots are still active. Water until rainfall is reliable.

- **Rake, shred, and mulch with leaves:**
Some fine leaves that will decompose readily may be left in place in fall, but those that will become matted and smother other plants should be raked.

- **Protect sensitive and new plantings of perennials and shrubs:**
Mulch helps keep the soil at more consistent temperatures and protects the rootball

- **Research before pruning trees and shrubs:**
Pruning out dead, diseased and broken branches can be done, at any time, but other pruning should be done cautiously. Research specific shrub and tree pruning guidelines.

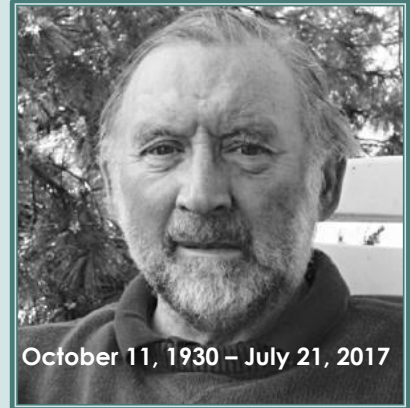


Fall for Rhododendrons

By Norman Todd

First published in 1990.

Norman Todd was a highly respected rhododendron enthusiast who generally wrote articles saturated with humour and wit. This article, however, is straightforward and informative, and may be particularly helpful to new rhododendron growers in our club.



October 11, 1930 – July 21, 2017

In the gardens of coastal British Columbia, the best time to plant broad leaf shrubs and trees is the fall. In October and November, the soil is still warm, the autumn rains have begun, and conditions are best for the development of new roots. If you plant in the fall, plants will become established before the burgeoning demands of spring signal the roots to send more nutrients for swelling blossoms and expanding leaves.

As long as the ground is not frozen the roots of the broad leaf evergreens are purposefully working. To the human eye there does not seem to be much going on above soil level, but the plant is still photosynthesizing. Sugars and starches are being manufactured from the nutrients the searching roots are pumping up to the leaves.

When a plant is dug up and replanted or taken from a container and put into the ground, the roots are always disturbed. To assist them to grow into soil in their new environment, the roots of a potted plant must be teased apart quite vigorously so that they can make intimate contact with the welcoming environment of their new, freshly prepared home. **For rhododendrons this means an open, friable soil with a high content of organic matter, located in a well-drained site.** Rhododendrons hate standing in water: they drown. Their roots need loose, airy, *humusy* soil around them.

One of the best and easiest ways to give them this open soil and the right acidity is to incorporate bark mulch. Up to 50% of the mix in the planting soil can be bark mulch – not too coarse and not dust either. Many people like to use peat moss, but much of the moss available today is so fine that if it ever dries out it is very difficult to moisten it again. Furthermore, peat moss breaks down far more quickly than bark mulch.

The number one cardinal rule for growing rhododendrons is that the roots must never dry out.

If your soil is a black, humus-rich loam, you are fortunate indeed and no amendment may be necessary. You can plant the rhododendron as deeply as it was in the pot. But if the natural soil is a heavy clay, then 8 to 12 cm of coarse sand should be dug in, to a depth of 30 cm before the addition of bark mulch. Composted leaves, preferably oak, can be used instead of bark mulch. If the soil is heavy clay, you can plant very shallowly, bringing the amended soil higher than the soil level at which the plant was previously growing. Mixing some fertilizer in

the planting hole is beneficial but make sure it does not come in contact with the roots. Avoid using animal manures that are less than a year old.

An excellent fertilizer you can make yourself is a mix of:

***4 parts canola
4 alfalfa
4 blood meal
1 bonemeal
1 kelp
2 dolomite lime
1 rock phosphate***

Most of the rhododendrons we grow are hybrids. Hybrids result when two or more of the found growing in the “wild” – the species – have been combined by cross-pollination. Most of the species that have been used have relatively dry winters and high summer rainfall. In the Victoria area, we have the reverse. One of the consequences of our persistent winter rainfall is that the nutrients that are at the surface of the soil get leached downwards quite quickly. Rhododendrons, which are very shallow-rooted, can in fact be starved in our winter because of goodness goes past them before they can catch their fair share. If the roots can't in fact supply the nourishment, then the plant will draw from its reserves – its rainy-day account – leaving less for production of flowers and foliage.

The regime that I follow is to feed every two months with the last feed on Canada Day. Rhododendrons are not gross feeders, but they do like three meals a day, light ones in the winter, heavier ones in the spring.

Choosing the right variety [of rhododendron] for the right spot is important. There are now more than 30,000 registered hybrids. This is a daunting number but, from its very size, you can be sure that the right plant for your particular location can be found. Some need almost no direct sun, some need full sun; some will grow to be trees, and some will never be more than 5 cm high; some will bloom in December and some will bloom as late as August; some are deciduous, most are evergreen. Colours range through the entire spectrum except for pure gentian blue. Even that is now a possibility with our increased understanding of genetics.



One of the convenient characteristics of rhododendrons is that because they are shallow-rooted they are very portable. For gardeners who would really like their plants to come with wheels so that they can move things around until their concept of horticultural artistic perfections is reached, rhododendrons come quite close to being ideal. They can be moved at any time of the year. The huge majority are planted in the spring and they do very well.

The very best time [to plant rhododendrons] however, for gardeners in our area is in the fall.

~~~~~



Al and Sandy Campbell's *R. augustinii*

In December of 1990, Norm Todd wrote that his favourite rhododendron was *Rhododendron augustinii*. He suggests that if the emotive response is not enough, he could offer several objective reasons for his choice.

First, it is a species; *"what nature has taken 70 million years to produce gives it some seniority over plants produced manipulatively in the last 25 years."*

This species tolerates more drought, is fast growing—from a cutting to a six foot plant in ten years; it then blooms in four or five years.

Best are the blooms *"in shades of deep magenta through all the mauve and lilac tints to white. . .some with poetic names such as 'Azurese' and 'Blue Cloud'; but others have proprietary names like 'Barto Blue', 'Tower Court' and 'Frazer's Form'."* Apparently, those with *"dark throats like 'Marine' sell best."*

Lastly, Norm Todd appreciates its name.

It was named after *"Augustine Henry who first described the plant. He was a medical doctor of Irish/Scottish ancestry who when he retired from doctoring in China had a fulfilling second career as a professor of forestry and who in his elderly years was described as being a fascinating bore. I say, 'no wonder' and 'good for him'."*



# Rhododendron crinigerum

By Alan Campbell

*Rhododendron crinigerum*  
(epithet: bearing hairs)



Leaving our large garden at Shawnigan Lake was a rather long soul-searching process as well as an eventual realistic decision. A garden developed through artistic vision over twenty-seven years. A garden which gave us twenty-six years of recreation, developed into, the twenty-seventh year, a garden of overwhelming labour.

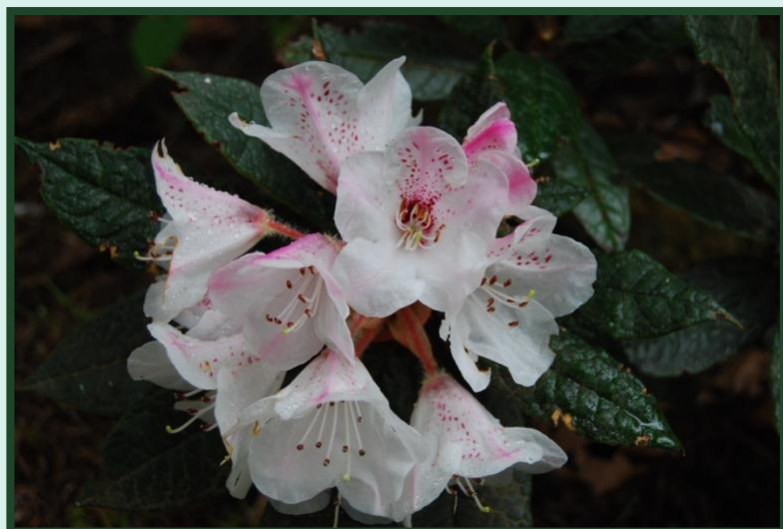
We released ourselves from the garden we had built but were determined not to leave the world of the genus *Rhododendron*. Leaving a property of 2.2 acres to move onto one-fifth of an acre caused some consternation. What rhododendrons could be grown on the smaller property? More importantly, how many plants could accompany us, and which ones should we choose?

Top of the list of the chosen few was *Rhododendron crinigerum*. *Rhododendron crinigerum* is within the Sub-genus *Hymenanthus* and the Section *Ponticum*. All rhododendrons within the Sub-genus *Hymenanthus* are collectively called *elipidotes* (those having no scales). *Rhododendron crinigerum* is one of eight species and five, or so, sub-species or varieties within the Sub-section *Glischra*. A rather small sub-section with plants rather rare in cultivation, perhaps the more well-known species being *R. recurvoides*. The species within Sub-section *Glischra* are known for having hairs or bristles covering the branches and leaf petioles.

*Rhododendron crinigerum* is indigenous to a widespread area of Asia, from Western Sichuan to Eastern Tibet, from North Eastern Burma to North West Yunnan. Given its wide distribution and exposure to diverse growing conditions, *R. crinigerum* can exhibit variations in habit and form. Noted evidence of this is an oft mentioned comment given by George Forrest when he considered it "...the worst species I have collected". Forrest's introduction was from Yunnan in 1914. Subsequent collections by Joseph Rock and others have provided more outstanding forms. One form, exhibited by Lionel de Rothschild at Exbury, received an Award of Merit.

The characteristic which draws me to this rhododendron is the foliage. Leaves up to 4 times longer than wide, have a shiny dark green *bullated* (puckered) upper surface with an *indumented* lower surface. The flowers are quite variable with some opening pure white with others being heavily striped and/or spotted pink. Our plant, now six years old, is 2½ ft. wide and 1½ ft. high. The flower is magnificent, looking like peppermint candy as it begins to open, then showing full colouration when fully open.





As I write this the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden has yet to release its Fall Plant Catalogue. Once the catalogue is published hopefully *Rhododendron crinigerum* will again be offered. Look for Keith Rushforth's collection, KR #9832 and the RSBG code 179sd2011. I highly recommend this plant.

## CVRS Members' Photos



Brilliant rhododendron



'Elizabeth' rose: a whiter shade of pale

Mary Pike submitted these photos that she took while on her trip to Ireland.

Thank-you for your photo contributions.



# CVRS SUMMER PICNIC

Hosted by Laurie and Jan Mosley

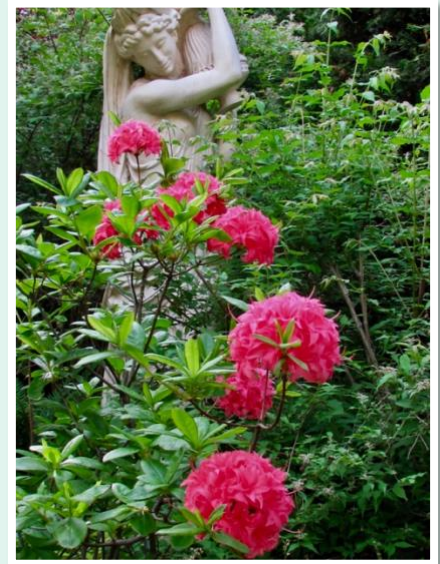
June 2022



## Our Hosts

Jan and Laurie

Warm  
Welcoming  
Charming  
Creative  
Imaginative  
Hard-working  
Playful  
Humble







### The Setting

Inviting  
Colourful  
Whimsical  
Pastoral  
Spacious  
Intimate  
Relaxing  
Peaceful



### Plant Draw

Generous variety of plants donated  
by CVRS Members





### Guests

Delight in the setting  
Wander and Explore  
Settle in the Shade  
Dine on Potluck Specials  
Relax and Chat



### For Fun

AGM Meeting  
Elections  
"Skit Special"



# ~~~~~ UPCOMING EVENTS ~~~~~



## 2022 Fall into Gardening

### *"Coping with Climate Instability in your Garden"*

**MARS** (Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society), **NRS** (Nanaimo Rhododendron Society), and **VIMGA** (Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association) are pleased to offer a day of education and enjoyment with internationally recognized gardening experts.

**Tickets: \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door**

See NRS website for details about **how to register:** <http://nanaimorhodos.ca/>

- ☐ **Date:** **Sunday, October 23, 2022**
- ☐ **Location:** Qualicum Beach Civic Centre  
747 Jones St. Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1S7
- ☐ **Time:** 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00 AM – 10:05 AM | Introductory Remarks                                                                                                                                                      |
| 10:05 AM – 11:00 AM | <b>Douglas Justice:</b> UBC Botanical Garden Associate Director and Curator<br><b>"Planting Trees for a Drier and Hotter Future"</b>                                      |
| 11:00 AM – 11:20 AM | Break                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 11:20 AM – 12:15 PM | <b>Caroline Josefsson:</b> Vancouver Island University Biology Department<br><b>"Gardening with less water – learning from the Garry Oak Ecosystem"</b>                   |
| 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM  | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1:15 PM – 2:10 PM   | <b>Des Kennedy:</b> writer, activist, celebrated speaker<br><b>"Weather or Not" a light hearted romp through the triumphs and travails of the weather-beaten gardener</b> |
| 2:10 PM – 2:30 PM   | Break                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2:30 PM – 3:25 PM   | <b>Bonnie Zand:</b> Entomologist and owner of Bonnie's Bugs IPM<br><b>"Gardening for bees" supporting BC's diverse native bees</b>                                        |
| 3:25 PM – 3:30 PM   | Closing Remarks                                                                                                                                                           |

**Refreshments:** coffee, tea, and treats will be provided. **Please bring your own bag lunch.**



## Fall into Gardening: Speaker Abstracts

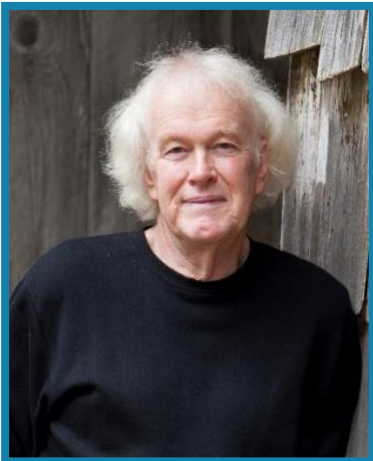


### **Douglas Justice presents “*Planting Trees for a Drier and Hotter Future*”**

There is increasing awareness among gardeners, if not the public at large, for the need to reconsider many of our planting choices. Numerous factors contribute to this change in perspective, but climate change, sustainability in horticultural practices and the biodiversity crisis are paramount among them. Douglas’s presentation will address tree selection in light of these issues.

Douglas had his initial exposure to horticulture in his parents' garden in Vancouver and at the family farm in Duncan. His passion for plants eventually led him into nursery work, then to degrees in horticulture and botany, which spurred him to pursue a career in teaching and public garden management. For the last two decades, Douglas’s job has been Associate Director, Horticulture & Collections at UBC Botanical Garden. He teaches in UBC's Landscape Architecture program and in the Botanical Garden's Horticulture Training Program and is currently working on a manual of Vancouver's cultivated woody plants.

### **Des Kennedy presents “*Weather or Not – a light-hearted romp through the triumphs and travails of the weather-beaten gardener*”**



Des Kennedy is a writer, an activist and seasoned back-to-the-lander. He and his partner Sandy have for the last 50 years lived a conserver lifestyle on Denman Island. Their gardens, hand-built house and surrounding woodlands are regularly featured on the Denman Island Home and Garden Tour.

A celebrated speaker, Des is the author of ten books, in both fiction and non-fiction. He has been three times nominated for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour. His latest book is a novel titled *Beautiful Communion* (Ronsdale Press).

### **Caroline Josselson presents “*Gardening with less water – learning from the Garry Oak Ecosystem*”**



Climate projections suggest that summers in our region will become increasingly warmer and drier, presenting challenges to gardeners. Can we look to our local flora, our region’s ancient history, and traditional ecological practices for solutions? The Garry oak ecosystem is a species-rich, drought- adapted plant community that originates in a warm dry period of British Columbia’s ancient past, 8,000 to 6,000 years ago. As the climate became cooler and moister about 6,000 years ago, the ecosystem was protected from encroaching conifers by Coast Salish Peoples who benefitted from the game and edible plants associated with it. The Garry oak



ecosystem can serve as a model for sustainable gardening in our area, one that honours our region's cultural history and its biodiversity. *"I will speak to my experience of gardening with Garry oak ecosystem-associated plants in my small front yard in Nanaimo, and suggest resources for information, seeds, and plants."*

Born and raised in the southwest of Sweden, Caroline's life-long interest in plants and plant propagation originates from her grandmothers, who were keen gardeners, house plant keepers and observers of nature. At the Swedish University of Agriculture, Caroline pursued an undergraduate degree in Horticulture and Biology. For her doctorate at the University of Washington she studied gene deregulation stemming from hybridization in the plant model system *Arabidopsis*. Caroline joined the Biology Department at Vancouver Island University in 2009. There she teaches plant biology courses, as well as courses in genetics and biochemistry. In 2020, together with students from VIU's Eco Club, Caroline initiated a Garry oak ecosystem restoration project on the VIU campus.

### **Bonnie Zand presents "Gardening for bees: supporting BC's diverse native bees"**



When most people think of bees, they think of honey bees. But did you know that there are more than 450 different bee species in BC? They are incredibly diverse in size, appearance and lifestyle, and are vitally important for pollination of both food crops and wild plants.

Learn to observe and appreciate some of these less well-known pollinators, find out what challenges they are facing, and learn what you can do within your own gardens to support native bees!

Bonnie Zand is the owner of Bonnie's Bugs IPM, a private consulting company working with farmers to manage insect pests on Vancouver Island. She is currently running the Vancouver Island Pests, Pollinators and Beneficials Project. Bonnie holds a BSc in biology from UVic, is a board member of the Native Bee Society of BC and is part of the recovery implementation group for the endangered Taylor's checkerspot butterfly.

Bonnie is also the BC instructor for the Master Melittologist program. In her spare time, she likes to look for interesting native bees and other insects, raise mason bees, garden with native plants and instill a love of insects in her five-year-old daughter.

**Do Try to Attend this**

**EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL EVENT!**

**OCTOBER 23, 2022 10am – 3pm**

**To Register : <http://nanaimorhodos.ca/>**



# *Rhododendron ririei*

By Alan Campbell

*Rhododendron ririei* – named for  
Reverend B. Ririe

There is a good chance that I will receive some feedback when I say that in some instances there can be a silver lining around the thunder heads of climate change. The struggle to grow *less hardy* plants in a given growing zone is one such instance.

In our *past* Stonefold garden, some thirty miles North of Victoria, half a zone cooler and normally two weeks behind in bloom time, gave evidence of shifting climate. In recent years milder than normal Winter and Spring temperatures allowed some plants to flower for the first time. One such plant was *Rhododendron ririei*.

According to the *Encyclopedia of Rhododendron Species*, authored by the father and son team of Peter and Kenneth Cox, *Rhododendron ririei* was first introduced in 1910 by the British plant hunter Ernest Henry 'Chinese' Wilson. Placed within the Subgenus Hymenantes, Section Ponticum and Subsection Argyrophylla, a Subsection which spreads widely from Tibet through China to Taiwan, *R. ririei* keeps itself and seedlings strictly to the single Chinese Province of Sichuan. This mountainous local gives promise to a hardy plant though its penchant for being one of the earliest elepidotes (without scales) to bloom, sees the flower buds and new growth damaged by frosts in those gardens with fickle weather conditions.

*Rhododendron ririei* is reported to have some variability in leaf, flower and growth habit. Our plant was an upright grower to about 7 ft. high by 3 ft. wide. The leaves grew to 1½ inches wide and 5 inches long, smooth green (glabrous) on top with a thin white indumentum showing below. The flowers on our plant opened February first and lasted until the end of the month. Our excitement was dampened somewhat with the unveiling of a rather muddy, light lilac purple corolla rather than the reddish purple described in other recordings. A rather loose truss of 6 flowers with 5 lobes, 2 inches long in a campanulate shape, with a very small calyx the same colour as the flower. This *R. ririei* redeemed itself when one looked up into the flowers overhead. Deep in the throat can now be seen deep, dark, black-purple nectar pouches. The contrast is matchless.

Perhaps the question now arises. . . "why grow a plant whose flower buds rarely reach full florescence?" The answer is two-fold; firstly, as with most rhododendron growers with the 'affliction', we didn't have *R. ririei* in our collection, and secondly, we had the desire to push the flowering time in our garden.

*Rhododendron ririei* showed its best for us thanks to local climate fluctuation. Now that we garden at Cowichan Bay, with its ocean influence, I ponder the possibility of planting *Rhododendron rhabdotum* outside.



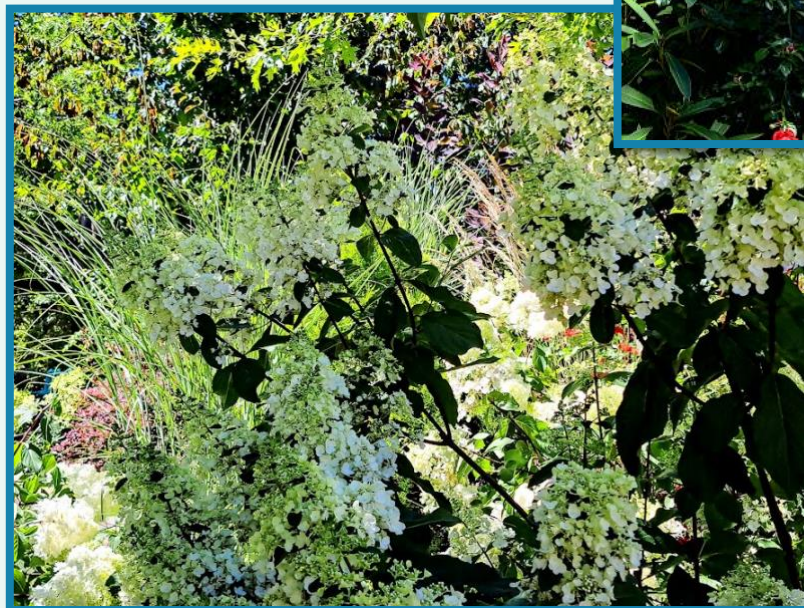
# SUMMER GARDEN TOUR

## Candice Feeney's Garden

A Special Treat. . .  
Most Garden Tours Take Place in Spring



Candice has selected a wide variety of special trees and shrubs for her garden. At this time of the year, the stars are her many hydrangeas – white, lacy and too brilliant for photos in the mid-day sun but stunning in the setting.







A vast collection of lilies and roses add splashes of cheerful colour, as does a bright red bridge over a dry stream bed.

Candice envisioned a four season garden when she and John began to develop the garden only five years ago. Each season will offer special colour themes and focal areas of delight.

**Hopefully, guests will be invited to tour each season!**





## 2021 – 2022

### Calendar of Events

Contact CVRS:

[cowichanvalleyrhododendron@gmail.com](mailto:cowichanvalleyrhododendron@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, September 7, 2022 7:30 pm**

**CVRS September Meeting**

**Welcome Back and Presentation – Allen Murray: *Putting Down Roots***

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022 7:30pm**

**North Island Rhododendron Society**

Lois and Roy Blackmore: *Jim Barlup's Hybrids* (Comox United Church Hall)

**Wednesday, September 14, 2022 7:30pm**

**Mt. Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society**

Glen Jamieson: *Iceland: Land of Fire and Ice* (Qualicum Beach Civic Center)

**Milner Gardens and Woodland Events:**

**Fall openings through October 2nd:** Thursday thru Sunday from 11am to 4:30 with viewing until 5pm. **Fall plant sale:** September 17th and 18th. **October openings:** Friday and Saturdays from 11am to 3:00 with viewing until 3:30. Check the Milner website for details: Milner Garden Events

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## NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY EVENTS

**2022:**

**ARS Fall Eastern Regional Conference, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Dates to be determined.**

**2023:**

**ARS Fall Western Regional Conference, Florence, Oregon. Dates to be determined.**

**2023:**

**ARS Annual Convention, Atlanta, Georgia. Joint ARS/ASA meeting. Dates to be determined.**

## USEFUL LINKS

Cowichan Rhododendron Society:

[cowichanrhodos.ca/](http://cowichanrhodos.ca/)

Victoria Rhododendron Society:

[victoriarhodo.ca/index.html](http://victoriarhodo.ca/index.html)

Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society:

[marsrhodos.ca/](http://marsrhodos.ca/)

North Island Rhododendron Society:

[nirsrhodos.ca/ws/](http://nirsrhodos.ca/ws/)

The American Rhododendron Society:

[rhododendron.org/](http://rhododendron.org/)

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society:

[nanaimorhodos.ca](http://nanaimorhodos.ca)

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden:

[rhodygarden.org](http://rhodygarden.org)

Nanoose Garden Club:

[nanoosegardenclub.ca/](http://nanoosegardenclub.ca/)

Linda Gilkeson:

[lindaquilkeson.ca/](http://lindaquilkeson.ca/)

Vancouver Island Rock and Garden Society:

[virags.com](http://virags.com)

Linda Chalker-Scott:

<https://puyallup.wsu.edu/lcs/>

Steve Henning:

[rhodyman.net](http://rhodyman.net)

Rhododendron, Camellia, Magnolia

<https://www.rhodogroup-rhs.org/>



**Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society**

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

<http://cowichanrhodos.ca>

### 2022-2023 Executive

President: Barrie Agar  
Vice-President: Dorothy Kennedy  
Treasurer: Diane Allen  
Secretary: Mary Pike  
Director-at-Large: Wendy Willson  
Director-at-Large: Candice Feeney  
Director-at-Large: Sandy Campbell  
Director-at-Large: Ali Morris  
Membership Chairperson: David Annis

### Convenors

Sunshine: Vacant  
Tea: Judeen Hendrickson  
Raffle: Hilda Gerrits  
Program Planning: The Executive Team  
Fundraising: The Executive Team  
CVRS Garden Tours: Candice Feeney  
CVRS Bus Tours: TBA  
Library: Verna Buhler  
Newsletter: Verna Buhler