

The Victoria Rhododendron Society

Newsletter



Box 5562 Postal Station B, Victoria BC Canada V8R 6S4

September 2013

Thirty-Third Year of Publication

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web page – <http://victoriarhodo.ca>

MEETING 7:30

MONDAY, September 9, 2013

GARTH HOMER CENTRE, 813 DARWIN STREET, VICTORIA, B. C.

Panel Discussion on growing perfect rhododendrons

Join expert local rhododendron growers for a panel discussion about how to grow rhododendrons to perfection. This question and answer meeting will cover all sorts of topics like planting site preparation, pruning, fertilizing, container growing and possible problems. As well, each of the panel members will share information about their favourite hybrids and species. The public is invited to join us for this interactive evening: at Garth Homer Society.

REFRESHMENTS

Please let Betty Gordon know at 250-479-0210 if you are coming to the meeting and bringing goodies.

Ken and Madeleine Webb, Sue Grant and Garth Widemire, Ellen Wellborn, Don and Joyce Whittle, Ann and Tom Widdowson. and Bob and Jo Wright.

Please wrap your cookies or snacks.

Coffee and tea are supplied.

Assistance in setting out the food, and helping Betty in the kitchen cleanup is really appreciated.

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People's Choice--May 2013 results **By Theresa McMillan**

The Show and Sale at the Westshore Mall in Langford on May 25, 2013 was not as well attended the at Tillicum Mall on April 27. However, there were still 79 ballots filled out, in comparison to 85 at Tillicum. Although the new form asked for the name of the Exhibitor, the voters seldom filled it out. Next year, we'll try another type of form!

Kuisianum, a species evergreen azalea, was the People's Choice at the May show. In that group, Ken and Madeleine Webb's

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Kuisianum truss got the most points. It was the leader and the overall People's Choice.



R. "Lem's Monarch" was the second favorite rhododendron. A truss from Marjorie Brice got the most points in the group.



R. "Lem's Monarch"

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R. "Warlock"

R. "Warlock", a fine dark hybrid, was the third most popular rhododendron. Of that group, the Massas' plant got the most votes.

In May, there were 88 plants chosen as favorites.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the Show, at Westshore Mall, May 25



Liz Murray placing her entry just right....



Bob Wright and others judging a small rhododendron



Sue Lightburn holds up a winning truss, while other judges, Art, Terry, Jo and Alan, look on.



Carolyn and Dean and her prize



Arrivals, with chairs, food and plants

OUR SUMMER POT-LUCK PICNIC, June 23

The picnic day at the Massa's near Sooke was cloudy, but mild.

Members brought in many, many plants for the raffle, and the usual tasty variety of food to go with the barbequed salmon. Being West Coasters, and familiar with often unsettled June weather, people were wearing jackets, waterproof or otherwise. There were even umbrellas. But when the rain finally came many people took shelter in the roofed area where the picnic had been set out.

After the raffle, most of us toured Moe and Johanna's extensive garden, with its exotic plants, water features, and creative figurines.

Many thanks to the Massas and to the other volunteers who made this picnic such a success.



Getting settled



The chefs, Archie, and Calvin, getting smoked by the barbequing salmon....



So difficult to choose.....

Bill and Norma working on the
raffle of donated plants.



The Massas' new water feature, a waterfall from their cliff

Propagation Group Field Trip—All Welcome!



The VicRS Propagation Group is planning a field trip to Erica Nursery near Maple Ridge on Wednesday, October 23, 2013. We plan to catch the 9 am ferry from Swartz Bay and return later in the evening. Erica Nursery propagates the rhodos that we sell at our plant sales and they host many of Jim Barlups hybrids that the Blackmores have provided them. We may include another nursery or rhodo garden while we are on the mainland.

We would like to car pool so if you are interested in participating, please email Calvin at waterlily@shaw.ca or Ken at kenwebb@live.ca to get on our car pool list. We will assemble at the Webb's house at 8 am to organize the rides.

SPECIAL ADDITION!

From the Rhododendron Species Garden Botanical Garden near Tacoma, on October 19th during International Day ... Noted photographer, Lesli Cohan, will hold a photography class to help photographers of all levels capture the beauty of the RSBG in its glorious fall colors. Students will learn to see more by looking at the way light, shadow, color and shape play into the photographic vision. Workshop time will be spent outdoors in the Garden looking for special subjects, and the instructor will be there to give pointers and suggest ways to help you work with your camera and lenses to get a good result.

Sign-up for Introduction to Flower Photography class, October 19, 10:15 am to 12:15 pm
Cost \$40

Instructor – Lesli Cohan, Photographer & Owner of Images Through The Door Photography

Class size limited, must pre-register on-line or at 253-838-4646 Ext. 140

ARS WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE, Newport, Oregon, Sept 27-29, 2013

(Details from the American Rhododendron Society Journal, Summer, 2013)

This is a “Vacation Conference” where your family can enjoy the beautiful Oregon coast, and you can enjoy the Rhododendron Conference. The program has some of the best speakers in the world.

The host hotel is Agate Beach Inn, just upgraded to a Best Western Plus Hotel. It is an ocean view hotel, and has outstanding food, including seafood.

For more details, call 800-548-0111 or visit the Website at www.2013wrrc.com for pictures and information.

**FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL— RSBG NEAR TACOMA, IN
WASHINGTON STATE Oct 19-26**

The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden is holding its weeklong Fall Foliage Festival & Plant Sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 19 to Saturday, October 26, 2013, at 2525 S. 336th St., Federal Way, on the Weyerhaeuser campus, located where I-5 and Hwy 18 meet. Regular admission is waived for this special week-long celebration of fall – where you can enjoy a dazzling display of rich autumn colors.

The festival features fall color tours, speakers, demonstrations and excellent deals on outstanding species rhododendrons, companion plants and ferns. With every \$50 purchase of plants customers will be rewarded with one free “Garden Pass” admission.

In addition to the daily plant sale, enjoy the special focus days throughout the Festival:

Saturday, Oct. 19th – International Plant Day & Sale, explore a planet of plants protected through the conservation work of the RSBG. Phytosanitary inspector on-site for our international customers.

Sunday, Oct. 20th – Wag Fest, the ONLY day dogs are welcomed into the Garden. Enjoy displays, activities, and at 1 pm the FIDO Drill Team will perform followed by a 1K *Howl-o-ween* Dog Walk.

Friday, Oct. 25th – Bonsai Day, at 2 pm Dave De Groot presents “Bonsai Grove Planting” – Dave will demonstrate designing and planting a miniature grove of *Chamaecyparis* trees. One extremely lucky audience member will take home the new bonsai!

Saturday, Oct. 26th – Fern Day, discover what a “stumpery” is all about! Pat Riehl will speak at 1 pm on “Creating your own Fern Stumpery” followed by a tour “Explore the Victorian Fern Stumpery.”

Visitors will also enjoy the 5,000 square-foot Rutherford Conservatory showcasing tropical vireya rhododendrons and companion plants, all set amid towering boulders, a waterfall, bridge and stream.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2013	Event	Place	Fee
Mon, Sept 16 7:30 p	Propagation Meeting	TBD	
Sat, Oct 19 10:15-12:15	<u>Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden</u> (RSBG) Fall Foliage Festival Introduction to Flower Photography by Lesli Cohan <u>Register</u> https://rhodygarden.org/cms/events/9442/introduction-to-flower-photography/ or call 253-838-4646 x140	2525 S. 336 th St, Federal Way, WA	\$40 US
Sat, Oct 19 11:00-3:00	Flower Photography and <u>Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden</u> Fall Foliage Festival/ <u>International Plant Sale</u>	2525 S. 336 th St, Federal Way, WA	Free Admission
Sat, Oct 19 Sat, Oct 26 10:00-4:00	<u>Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden</u> Fall Foliage Festival – also includes Wag Fest, Bonsai Day and Fern Day 	2525 S. 336 th St, Federal Way, WA	Free Admission
Mon, Oct 21 7:30 p	Propagation Meeting	TBD	
Wed, Oct 23 8:00-evening	Propagation Group Field Trip Register by emailing Calvin - waterlily@shaw.ca OR Ken - kenwebb@live.ca Assemble at the Webb's house at 8 am to car pool/ organize the rides	14021 Rippington Rd Pitt Meadows, BC **may include another nursery or rhodo garden while on the mainland	