



The Victoria Rhododendron Society

Newsletter

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

September 2015

e-mail: tkmcmillan@telus.net

Thirty-Fifth Year of Publication

web page – <http://victoriarhodo.ca>

Meeting: 7:30

Monday, September 14, 2015

**GARTH HOMER CENTRE, 811 DARWIN AVENUE,
VICTORIA, B. C.**

Carmen Varcoe, "Good Companion Plants for Rhodo Gardens"

Carmen Varcoe is active in a number of garden groups and is currently Chair of The University of Victoria Finnerty Garden's Advisory Board as well as past president of The Hardy Plant Group and an active member of the Victoria Rock & Alpine Society. As a "total plant geek", Carmen knows her plants and the talk will be very informative!

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**REFRESHMENTS for the next
meeting to be provided by:**

Peter Barriscale

Anita Bateman

Lynn Bissell

Roy and Lois Blackmore

Jacqueline Bradbury

Stephen and Marjorie Brice

Please let Betty Gordon
(bbgordon@shaw.ca or phone 250.479.0210)
know if you are coming with your wrapped
goodies/snacks.

Coffee and tea are supplied.

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

Summer Pot-Luck Luncheon

By Theresa McMillan

Sunday, June 28, was sunny and hot in the morning and
cloudy in the afternoon, making a good break for our
picnic in the beautiful garden at Tom and Ann
Widdowson's home on West Saanich Road.

When people arrived, there was a cold tasty punch for

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them prepared by Heather Dickman.

Roy Blackmore and Archie Brown barbequed the salmon, and on shaded tables a wonderful variety of pot-luck donations, salads, appetizers, fruits, desserts, and tea and coffee awaited us.

As usual, there were a great many plants, including rhododendrons and companion plants for the raffle. People were checking them out, and asking other gardeners about their characteristics (bloom colour, eventual size, hardiness and so on).

Norma Senn and Bill Gordon with help from Ian Duncan ran the raffle; lucky early winners had the most extensive choices.

Some members were hardly visible where they sat. They had chosen larger plants.

But we all left the Widdowson's with some more plants to fuss over—and water—during what turned out to be a continuing drought.

(Photos courtesy of Ann Duncan).



Bill Gordon and Norma Senn working on the plant raffle

*THANK
YOU!*



Norma Senn and Ian Duncan select raffle tickets in the
free plant raffle

*To the members
who contributed
such great plants to
the raffle
—the selection
was
wonderful!*



Burns and Karen Morrison select a plant while Lorraine
and Trygve Hoy and Archie Brown check over the re-
maining plants



Dean Goard reads a citation while Norma Senn, Ev and
Audrey Van Eerden and Caroline and Tony Marquardt
look on.

Celebrating Finnerty Gardens at 40 years

Several events have been organized to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Finnerty Gardens.

Note: you must register for these events as no tickets can be issued at the door.

Or please check out this website for more details: <https://www.uvcs.uvic.ca/science/courses/ASSC248> **Finnerty at Forty**

For tickets you may also phone 250-472-4747 or FAX 250-721-8771

- ♦ **Pursuing the Wild: The Sichuan Botanical Expedition -Part 2** by Kelly Dodson & Sue Milliken of Far Reaches Farm [September 17, 2015 \(7:00 PM - 8:30 PM\)](#) On Campus
- ♦ **Gardening with Colour** [September 26, 2015 \(1:30 PM - 3:00 PM\)](#) On Campus
- ♦ **History of Finnerty Gardens** [October 03, 2015 \(1:30 PM - 3:00 PM\)](#) On Campus
- ♦ **Rhododendron Propagation Workshop** [October 24, 2015 \(1:00 PM - 4:00 PM\)](#) On Campus



Rhododendron 'Belle Heller'

Membership Renewal Reminder

Please renew at a meeting or by mail

Mail to: The Victoria Rhododendron Society, P.O. Box 5562 Station B, Victoria, B.C., V8R 6S4

Newsletters available by email only

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City and Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please circle one of the following:

Regular (Full) Membership: \$30 ; Local Membership: \$25 ; Associate (with other ARS chapters) : \$10 ;
Commercial-Corporate: \$90; Sustaining: \$75; Sponsoring: \$150 ; Life, single: \$1,000 (Payable over 3 years);
Life, family: \$1,500 (Payable over 3 years).

Pay by: Cash ☐ Cheque ☐

Full membership includes membership in the VicRS and the American Rhododendron Society of which we are an affiliated Chapter. This brings the ARS quarterly journal with expert articles and colour photographs. Also included is the right to participate in the ARS annual conventions, and the ARS seed exchange and pollen bank. Members also receive the Newsletter of the VicRS.

Local Membership includes the newsletter and participation in local events, but does not include membership in the ARS.

Associate Membership enables members of other ARS Chapters to participate in the activities of the Victoria Chapter.

WHY BE A MEMBER of VRS (or VicRS)?

Meet others with like interests. Learn about Rhodos and more.

Have fun. Rhodo raffle at each meeting.

Guest speakers at each meeting.

Informative Monthly Newsletter and quarterly ARS Journal.

Garden tours. Annual June BBQ and Christmas Pot-luck Dinner.

Discounts at many garden shops and nurseries.

More info at: www.victoriarhodo.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS THIS FALL/WINTER

General Meeting September 14, 2015	Carmen Varcoe	Good Companion Plants for Rhodo Gardens
General Meeting October 5, 2015 (1st Mon.)	Linda Gilkeson	Pests & Diseases of Rhododendrons
October 16-18, 2015	ARS Fall Conference	Long Island, New York
General Meeting November 9, 2015	Members' Photography Night	
General Meeting December 14, 2015	Christmas Potluck Dinner 6:30 pm	



September bloom—R. “Black Sport” at HCP—mine at home is also blooming a bit—nice to have some fall colour! (Picture taken by Bill McMillan)