

FVRS Newsletter



**A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN
RHODODENDRON SOCIETY**

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MARCH

MAILING ADDRESS
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YOUR EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Garth Wedemire
VICE PRESIDENT	Janell Wallace
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DIRECTOR	Jody Makela
DIRECTOR	Rose Schultz
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PHONING COMMITTEE	Deanne Wilhelmsen, Mary Ried, Rose Grabenhorst
WHONNOCK LAKE GARDEN COM.	Scot Henny

WE MEET ON THE FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30 PM
IN ST. ANDREWS HERITAGE CHURCH
22279 – 116TH AVENUE (OFF HANEY BY-PASS) MAPLE RIDGE

FROM THE PRESIDENT

These early days in March have been sunny and bright and the rhododendrons have started to bloom. Rhododendron 'Olive' has been in flower now for a couple of weeks and has even survived a few light frosts. 'Tessa Rosa' with its cheerful pink flowers is in bloom now. Some of you may grow its sister seedling – 'Tessa Bianca', an early blooming plant with frilly white flowers. The species *R. dauricum* is also blooming in our garden – we have a couple of different clones which are tall and open growing with purple flowers. *Iris reticulata* and the species *crocus* are in flower as well as narcissus 'tete á tete'. *Anemone blanda* opens its delightful blue or purple flowers in the warm sunshine but closes them quickly when shaded from direct sunlight.

I am off to Nepal tomorrow - Thursday, March 11th. I am writing this message the night before I leave. I am hoping for good weather and lots of opportunities for pictures of *R. arboretum* and the tall mountains near the cities of Kathmandu and Pokara. I will be returning in early April. Your guest speaker for the upcoming March meeting is well known to most of us. Les Clay will be speaking to our club on the topic of "My Favourite Rhododendrons".

On Saturday, March 6th quite a few of our members met at the Rhododendron Garden at Whonnock Lake Park for a walk-about. We discussed the development of the remainder of the area allocated to the rhodo garden and made plans for our first workday of the year. Scot Henney has volunteered to be the chairman of the Whonnock Lake Rhododendron Garden Committee and several of those attending volunteered to be members of the committee.

Final arrangements for our spring show and sale at Whonnock Lake Park continue for the Show and Sale Committee headed by Janell Wallace and Rose Schultz. Please volunteer to assist them in whatever way you can and help to make this show our best show yet.

We hope that you can attend the March monthly meeting! Please bring in any rhododendrons in flower and any other interesting items from your garden for our **'Show and Tell'** segment of the monthly program.

Here are three web sites which have great pictures:

Downs' Rhododendrons: www.downsrhododendrons.com

(click on Photograph Index)

Société Bretonne du Rhododendron: perso.wanadoo.fr/s.b.r./indexgb.htm

(click on Pictures – the pictures are changed often on this site)

Baumschule Neumann: www.rhodoneumann-baumschulen.de

(click on "Rhododendron" and then click on "Yakusimanum" for some nice 'yak' hybrids)

RHODO OF THE MONTH

(*Excerpt from the Greer Guide – Third Edition)

'TAURUS' ('Jean Marie de Montague' *x strigillosum*). 6', -5°F, 4-5/4/4.

'Taurus' is a magnificent shrub; it is vigorous and full in shape. Deep green, pointed leaves are held for 3 years. In winter, deep red buds adorn the branches. Globular trusses are made up of glowing red, campanulate flowers with black speckling on the upper petal. It is the same parentage as 'Grace Seabrook' but not a sister seedling. (Mossman 1972) S.P.A. 1990 N.W.

Although the plant in my garden is only about 4 years old, it still puts on a fabulous show.
Art P.

THIS MONTHS MEETING

MONDAY March 22nd 2004

This months meeting will feature a presentation by Les Clay, a long-time friend and supporter of our chapter, who will be giving a talk on 'My Favourite Rhododendrons'. Those of you who have heard Les speak in the past will know that he is an interesting and amusing speaker.

Garth Wedemire will be on an expedition to Nepal.

Lilli Ann Hemminger, one of our perennial award winners, will be giving a demonstration on preparing trusses for judging and showing.

Members are encouraged to bring interesting or unusual plant items from their gardens. Also, if you have a mystery plant or rhodo, bring a sample along and, as they say, "you never know". Someone might just know what it is and solve the mystery for you.

As always, we will conclude our meeting with a social time, coffee, tea and GOODIES!

We also encourage members to bring plant material for the 'Dollar Table'. This is a great opportunity to share excess plants with your friends and help the club financially.

Janell has asked me to keep reminding you that it is not too early to start potting up plants for our annual Whonnock Lake Plant Sale on April 25th.

Items of interest

FROM THE WHONNOCK LAKE RHODODENDRON GARDEN COMMITTEE:

The preliminary meeting on March 6th identified many different kinds of work to be done in the garden. In the existing garden, the jobs include removing a few dead shrubs, moving some plants to more suitable places, light to medium pruning, identifying rhododendrons in bloom and recording the locations of known plants on sketch maps.

In the newly cleared areas, we would like members to walk over the site and mark on plans provided, where new paths should be and what are the areas of different levels of shade or sun. Later on, we shall be able to then choose plants suitable for the different locations.

Some members could look at the levels of the ground in the new area and explore the subsoil with a view to re-grading or soil improvement if required and what new materials might need to be imported.

There is work for everyone who is interested and we hope as many of you as possible will turn out to our planned work bee on Saturday, March 27th

Regards
Scot Henney
Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Well, folks, if you have not renewed your annual membership, you will only be receiving this newsletter by e- mail until you do. As you may (or not) know, at the AGM in November, a by-law change was enacted to merge 'Friends of the Chapter' and full ARS Membership into one. If you were a 'Friend of the Chapter, and renewed your membership by December 31, 2002, your annual dues will remain at the \$20.00 level. Full ARS Membership will now be \$35.00. Any membership renewed **on or after January 1, 2004** by either a 'Friend of the Chapter' or a full ARS Member must be renewed at the \$35.00 level. All members of our chapter will therefore be full ARS members with full voting privileges. Please contact Jill Futros if you have any questions or concerns about your membership.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH MEETING	March 22	St. Andrews Heritage Church
WHONNOCK LAKE WORK BEE	March 27	Whonnock Lake Park
EXECUTIVE MEETING	April 5	John Gardner Residence
ANNUAL PLANT SALE & TRUSS SHOW *	April 25	Whonnock Lake Centre
APRIL MEETING	April 26	St. Andrews Heritage Church

* NOW IS THE TIME TO BE POTTING UP PLANTS FOR THE PLANT SALE.

* SEE PAGE 5 AND 6 FOR SHOW RULES AND CATEGORIES.

THE RECIPE FILE

LANCASTERSHIRE CHEESE & ONION PIE

8 OZS. GRATED MEDIUM CHEDDAR CHEESE **
3 ONIONS - ROUGHLY CHOPPED *
1 EGG – BEATEN
SALT AND PEPPER TO TASTE
PIE CRUST FOR 9 INCH DOUBLE CRUST PIE

BLANCHE CHOPPED ONIONS IN BOILING WATER FOR 5 MINUTES THEN DRAIN WELL.
MIX BLANCHED ONIONS AND GRATED CHEESE AND MIX IN BEATEN EGG TO BIND.
SEASON WITH SALT AND PEPPER. FILL UNBAKED PIE SHELL, COVER WITH PASTRY TOP AND BAKE IN
425 DEGREE OVEN FOR 30 – 40 MINUTES.

OR

MAKE INDIVIDUAL TARTS OR PASTIES.

THIS IS EXCELLENT SERVED EITHER HOT OR COLD.
FOR A MEAL, SERVE HOT WITH MASHED POTATOES AND PEAS OR BEANS OR SERVE COLD WITH SALAD
AND CHIPS.

FREEZES WELL.

* DO NOT USE FOOD PROCESSOR TO CHOP ONIONS.

** QUANTITY OF ONIONS AND/OR CHEESE, AND STRENGTH OF CHEESE USED MAY BE VARIED TO
TASTE AND/OR AVAILABILITY.

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi folks, I am always on the look out for interesting "SHORT" articles for the newsletter.
If you have any thoughts or ideas, please don't hesitate to call me or email me. Your
favourite recipe or garden tip would also be appreciated.

Thanks
The Editor

Fraser Valley Rhododendron Society 2004 Annual Truss Show Classes

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre, Whonnock, BC
Date: Sunday, April 25, 2004
Time: 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Exhibits: Entries are to be at the centre early Sunday morning (doors open at 8:00 am).
No entry for the competitive show will be accepted after 9:00 am.

General Show Rules

1. Entries will be accepted from members, non-members, hobbyists or commercial growers.
2. Only judges, clerks and those on official duty may be present in the display area during judging.
3. Only one specimen of a species or named hybrid or unnamed hybrid can be entered in a given class.
4. Novice exhibitors may enter a specimen in the **"Novice Category"** as well as all general classes.
(A novice is an exhibitor who has not received a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbon at a previously judged competitive rhododendron show).
5. Judges have the right **not to award** a 1st place (or any other awards) in a given class if they deem no exhibit is of sufficient merit.
6. Total scores for the "Highest Aggregate Award" are based on the following points for ribbons awarded:

1 st place	5 points
2 nd place	3 points
3 rd place	2 points
Honourable Mention	1 point

Trophies Awarded

1. Grand Aggregate - Highest total score for Divisions 1, 2, and 3.
2. Novice Aggregate - Highest total score for Division 4.
3. Best Truss in Show - Best truss in Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4.

General Show Classes

Division 1 – Species Rhododendrons and Azaleas

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Class 1 Small Lavender/Mauve/Purple | Class 4 Large Pink/White |
| Class 2 Small All other colours of flowers | Class 5 Large Lavender/Mauve/Purple |
| Class 3 Large Red/Yellow/Orange | |

Division 2 – Red Lax Hybrid Rhododendrons

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Class 1 Pink/Rose Lax | Class 11 Lavender/Mauve/Purple small |
| Class 2 Yellow/Apricot Lax | Class 12 Red |
| Class 3 Lavender/Mauve/Purple Lax | Class 13 Light Pink |
| Class 4 Red Small | Class 14 Pink/Rose |
| Class 5 Light Pink Small | Class 15 Cream |
| Class 6 Pink/Rose Small | Class 16 White |
| Class 7 Cream Small | Class 17 Yellow/Apricot |
| Class 8 White Small | Class 18 Lavender/ Mauve/Purple |
| Class 9 Yellow/Apricot Small | Class 19 Blotched (main feature) |

Division 3 – Hybrid Azaleas

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Class 1 Evergreen – Red | Class 4 Evergreen - Purple |
| Class 2 Evergreen - White | Class 5 Deciduous |
| Class 3 Evergreen - Pink | |

Division 4 – Novice Exhibitors

- Class 1 Rhododendron - Lax or smaller truss
- Class 2 Rhododendron - Regular or larger trusses
- Class 3 Azaleas – Evergreen or Deciduous

Division 5 – Non-Competitive

Non-Competitive exhibitors shall be limited to a display of twelve entries.