North Island Rhododendron Society

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The club meets the second Tuesday of the month, except July and August, at the United Church on Comox Avenue, Comox 7:30 p.m.

COMING EVENTS:

4 October

Executive meeting will be held at the home of Diana and John Scott, 6432 Eagles Dr. Courtenay. Drive down Coleman Rd., turn left onto Left Rd., and Eagles is close to the end. Left on Eagles, their house is on the right hand side and has a push button gate.

11 October — Regular Monthly Meeting

Guest Speaker: Glen Jamieson, from the MARS Club in Qualicum Beach.
Topic:
Glen traveled to Yunnan, China with Steve Hootman and several other avid Rhododendron 'Plant Hunters'. He has kindly agreed to do a slide show and presentation of his adventures for our club. The presentation will be made in two parts and will be continued at our regular meeting on November 8.

MEMBER NOTES: *(by Dave Godfrey)*

GARDEN WORKBEE:

On Tuesday, Sept 6th, school was back and so were the Rhodo workers. Another successful work bee was held at the NIRS Garden in Courtenay. Expecting several hours of weed pulling and fall clean up, many helpers were pleasantly surprised when they arrived to find most of the weeds had been pulled by the City works crew the previous week.

Garden Director, Harry Wright, took the opportunity to invite the city's Horticulturalist Nadine Boudreau. For the continued support of the city's work crew, Harry presented Nadine with a special thank you card from the NIRS members.

Harry presents Nadine with a card of thanks

MEETINGS:

After the NIRS executive meeting Sept 6th, at the home of Paul and Lynn Wurz, Harry celebrated his birthday by blowing out the candles on a special cake. It had nothing to do with his age, but Harry did have some difficulty blowing out all the candles.

Lynn supplied the candles complete with a couple of trick ones that kept relighting. Those in attendance then helped Harry enjoy the cake.

At the General Meeting on September 13th, guest speaker Christine North gave an interesting overview and slide presentation on "Gardening in the English Manner."

Christine mentioned, as small and wet as England is in comparison to Canada, there are many parts of the country where Rhododendrons simply won't grow. The majority are found along the coastal regions. Many of her slides showed some of the transformations of gardens Christine has developed over the years.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Although many gardeners have heard of the genus "Rhododendron", it is interesting to note the origin of the name. Rhododendron is derived from the Greek: rhodo = rose and dendron = tree. So in actual fact, a rhododendron is a rose tree!

RHODOS AS LIME HATERS?

This item is from the California Chapter of the ARS, date unknown.

"Lime haters" is an epithet usually found in books and articles on the cultivation of rhodos and azaleas. The term is correct when applied to caustic compounds such as agricultural and masonry limes, when are absorbed quickly, but should not be construed to mean calcium. All plants require calcium. Because they are the end-products of a complete nutritional process, organic fertilizers such as bone meal, incorporate calcium which becomes available slowly.

Rhodos and azaleas often exist in a nutrition-poor soil in which their ability to take up calcium sustains them. In a mixed fertilizer they tend to take up the calcium first, with the exception of dolomite, from which they take the magnesium before the calcium.

Several writers have dealt with this phase of cultivation with the intent of showing the safe use of calcium. Judith Berrisford " Rhodos and Azaleas have too great an appetite for lime when they can get it and indulge themselves over-freely to the exclusion of other foods ... like all plants, rhodos need some calcium, but because they live in nature on acid soil with a low free-calcium content, they are adapted to take up all the available calcium". Peter Cox "A surfeit of one element may tie up others and make them (i.e.Iron) completely unavailable to plants, so unhealthy foliage with chlorosis may occur".

Mr. Cox further writes:" Calcium and Magnesium are associated widely in various dolomitic and serpentine-type limestones (hydrous magnesium silicate) and this accounts for some of the reported cases of rhodos on limestone. As they are tolerant of Magnesium, which is a related element, this gets assimilated into the plant instead of the Calcium".

After experimenting with various soils in England, some including masonry rubble and spent mushroom compost, one British gardener concluded "Calcium is not toxic to rhodos unless there is gross disturbance of the general nutrition, for instance, by raising the soil pH".

Lime-tolerant species include ciliatum, sanguineum ssp., didymum, hippophaeoides, hirsutum, scyphocalyx, williamsianum and mackinoi.

Ed. Note: In our area, it would be difficult to find soil that is not quite acidic, so we really do not have to worry about all this. However, I planted a little R. hirsutum about 15 years ago, with several oyster shells around it. It has struggled along ever since, and this year, for the first time, it not only looked healthy, but it had flowers.

Deadline for November Newsletter is Oct 14

SNIPPETS FROM SAYWARD

(by Rose-Marie Silkens)

As I write this month's contribution to our newsletter, a classic howler of a northwesterly is threatening limbs and life of the many trees I treasure. Sayward is windy, and since I first began planting trees on this acreage, I have planted the wind-tolerant arbutus (*A. menziesii*, the Pacific madrone). Victoria is windy too, and when I lived there it seemed no site was too exposed for this beautiful tree. However, there the environmental parallel jerks to a halt. Arbutus do not like anything else in Sayward.

Most NIRS members can enjoy the arbutus growing in their gardens or even as volunteers in uncultivated areas. Certainly the further south one travels on the Island, the more arbutus pop up along roadsides. When my brother and I were still students, he had a potted tree (called 'Arbie') dug from a Victoria development being razed by bulldozers. Arbie died. I didn't know it at the time, but he was a harbinger of my romance with his kind.

Arbutus prefer, of course, more sun and less rain than I can offer. As they grow happily on rock and gravel, they don't care at all that I have generously-augmented alluvial loam. For years I have checked where arbutus appear north of Georgia Strait, and in fact there are a few spots. A rocky islet off the southeast coast of Hardwicke Island, at the entrance to Wellbore Channel, is absolutely covered with them. A large specimen on Hardwicke was planted there about 25 years ago, and it is thriving. There are even several trees in Sayward gardens planted on rocky slopes. There are no naturally-occurring specimens north of the Campbell River area on Vancouver Island.

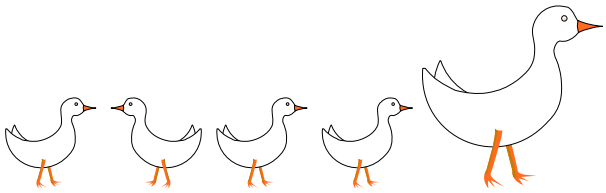
I have lost track of how many arbutus I have planted and watched perish, all almost instantly. I have even resorted to the hocus-pocus method of orienting them exactly as they grew, that for the few that were dug from friends' acreages in the south. Most were purchased plants in pots, so root disturbance was minimal. I have even tried planting them without removing the pots, just slashing them carefully. My brother has grown several from seed, and those survived in their pots for several years, dying just a few months after I planted them outdoors. There are five more outside now, growing in one-gallon pots (if the wind hasn't blown them away). My plan is to plant them on Hardwicke, but of course I will try at least one here….

My garden's inability to support arbutus has made me put considerable effort into acquiring other trees, and shrubs, with interesting bark. *Acer griseum* is the classic, and the handsome, vigorous tree growing near my front door is a daily delight year-round. *Prunus serrula*, the Tibetan cherry, is the most spectacular, with very bright mahogany bark that peels and shreds continuously. Birches are of course a natural choice, though many of mine have their white trunks marred by the rather large clan of resident sapsuckers who love them. My prettiest birch, a still-young *Betula jacquemontii* started by Les Clay, is fortunately not on their list of food sources.

Acer pensylvanicum, snakebark maple, is another favourite. Mine is still young but is beginning to show bright red bark, which in time will be striped with white. Yellowwood (*Cladrastis lutea*) is less dramatic, but its bark is distinctive in being very smooth.

Many shrubs have interesting bark as well. I like oak-leaved hydrangea (*H. quercifolia*) and the ninebarks (*physocarpus*), including our native *P. capitatus*. Then, always pushing my luck, I have a few plants of the marginally hardy *Arbutus unedo*. They look a little bleak after a Sayward winter, and grow more slowly than those in Campbell River and south, but they do offer some consolation for the lack of the magnificent native arbutus tree in my garden.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:



Membership renewals are required as soon as possible!

All individual memberships, (which can include husband and wives) are $35.00 Canadian.

All Associate memberships are $10.00 Canadian.

All cheques should be made out to N.I.R.S. and either brought to the next meeting or mailed to Dave Crucq at:

N.I.R.S.
c/o Dave Crucq
2301 Seabank Rd.
Courtenay, B.C.
V9J 1Y2

FROM THE CONTAINER INTO THE GROUND

When the rains come this fall, we will be working around the garden again, and planting the rhodos we have in pots.

The following information seems very sensible to me. It was originally written by Dr. Philip Waldman, and printed in the New York Chapter Newsletter sometime in 1985.

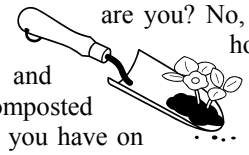
"Rhodos and azaleas have been growing happily for thousands of years, generally under woodland conditions. Modern nurseries now grow these plants in full sun, in containers utilizing soil less mixes with heavy applications of water and fertilizer.

In the transition from the nurseryman's container to the home-owner's garden, special after planting care is absolutely necessary until these plants become established in their new surroundings.

"The key ingredient in a container grown plant's growth and survival is simply water, not some miracle treatment. A containerized plant's water requirements are much greater than an established plant's, rather similar to a house plant."

If you plant a new rhodo in among established plants, and water them all equally, the new one will not get the required amount of water. Water does not move from finer soil particles to the coarse container mix. Careful individual watering will be necessary for the new plant.

Of course you are not going to just plunk your new plant into a hole, are you? No, you must first dig a shallow hole about 18" or more across, and add lots of bark mulch, composted leaves or cow manure, whatever you have on hand. If roots have grown round and round in the pot, they must be cut or shaken out so they can be spread out in the new planting material.



Rhodo books written for different climates than ours recommend no watering after August. Here, our soil stays very dry until October or November, and we often have no frost until January. So - it is necessary to soak your hole full of compost mix very thoroughly, also sit the new rhodo in a bucket of water for an hour or so (add a little 20-20-20 to this). Then you can plant the little treasure.

Some people recommend a handful of bone meal in the bottom of the hole, others consider it a waste. Just remember rhodo and azalea roots don't usually delve very deeply into the soil, so don't waste peat moss and fertilizer a foot down.

Rhodos need water, but they also must have sharp drainage. They will not survive in poorly drained soil, or in clay.

After you place your rhodo in its new home, give it a good soaking, and 3" of mulch. If the rain is regular by that time, and all the garden soil well soaked, the plant should be safe until spring. Remember regular watering is crucial for the first two years and after 5 years in the ground, many plants will survive most dry spells with very little extra water.

GARDEN HINTS

KEEPING PLANTS IN POTS SAFE FOR THE WINTER.

Kath Collier, writing in the Portland Rhodo News several years ago, gave some useful tips for protecting plants in containers for the winter months.

Cold nights and warm days are a cause for concern... Many plants that are hardy in soil might not make it through the winter in pots. Exposed pots dry out quickly during the warm, blustery days, but lack the protection to survive a frosty night. Wind can blow the pots around.

Here are a few tips:

Temporarily plant the entire container in the ground for the winter. Remember to remove it in spring.

Keep the plants out of the wind and secure them by double-planting the container in a heavier pot, or put rocks in the bottom of the bigger container, or all around it.

Remember to keep the containers and surrounding area well watered if the weather stays dry.

Cover containers or bring them into a protected area if the weather turns cold suddenly. Landscape cloth is good - air and water can penetrate. Snow makes an excellent blanket, and so do leaves packed around the plant or packed into a cardboard box which is then upturned over the pot. In the past few winters this might be unnecessary - tucking the pots into a sheltered corner of the house might be enough.

MAKING HYPERTUFA PLANT CONTAINERS

A fun job to do in October is making Hypertufa pots. You need to get several friends together, and collect some containers for forms. Plastic dish pans and various-sized plastic mixing bowls are excellent; two stiff cardboard boxes, one inside the other, or have hubby make a wooden box form (ask Bernie or Mary for details). Even a pile of damp sand with a plastic pot under it works well. You can make homes for tiny alpines using a mound of hypertufa with a large potato partly enclosed, which can be dug out when the material is dry. Most important – use some 10-30 or other oil to grease surfaces thoroughly before each use.

The tufa mixture, by volume, is as follows:

1 part Portland cement

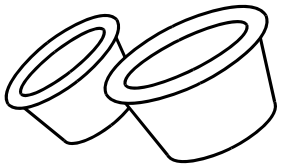
1 part perlite (or sand, but it is much heavier)

1 part fine peat moss (rub out all the lumps)

A handful of fiber mesh, a polypropylene product, or cut up and unravel some poly rope, or (for box shape or large bowls) a piece of ½″ hardware cloth or chicken wire.

It is wise to use a face mask when working with perlite. Stir all ingredients together in a wheelbarrow, and for every 4 parts of mix use 1 part water. Ice cream buckets are a useful measuring container. Stir water in slowly until the mix is the consistency of very dry cottage cheese.

Pack and tamp the mixture about 2" thick, into or onto your form, cover with a damp cloth if weather is hot and dry, and keep them in a shady place. After about 24 hours the inner box (if used) can be removed; leave for another 24 hours before removing the outer box, and leave for another 4-5 days before proceeding further. Rinse wheelbarrow and tools to prevent cement from sticking permanently.



Now a wire brush can be used to give a rough texture. Use a coarse rasp to take the edges off any corners, and burn off any bits of poly mesh that show. Drill drainage holes in the bottom with a 3/4" masonry bit. Pieces of oil-wiped broomstick can be set in the bottom instead, when first setting up the boxes.

Because of lime in the cement, it is wise to soak or let the rain wash lime out before planting any ericaceous plants like heathers or rhodos. Probably the best bet is to place your pots in a protected corner or garage for the winter, and plant them up in spring.

When you plant up your container, cover the holes in the bottom with a bit of mesh, and use a free-draining gravelly mix of soil. Small rock plants, hens & chicks, and heathers do well in these pots. Just remember they are heavy, and large ones will have to stay in the same place for years. Linda Easton and Harry Wright have some lovely pots which were planted up some years ago and are doing well.

Because we have not had a winter with 0°F temperatures for years now, I cannot say what might happen to these pots, but mine have withstood the past 10 years.

SAWDUST IN THE GARDEN

The B.C. Council of Garden Clubs included this useful information in their Fall 1994 Bulletin.

Sawdust has a good side and a bad side. With a little knowledge of how it behaves, you can mix up a potion that will turn this inexpensive source of organic matter into a garden ally.

Sawdust is an excellent soil-builder, capable of making heavy, clay earth loose and fluffy, and increasing the moisture-holding capability of sandy soils. Sawdust also makes excellent mulch for fruit trees, berries and many vegetables.

However, some sawdust decomposes very slowly, often taking a year or two to break down. Pine and alder are faster. Sawdust is great for increasing soil's friability, but does little to increase fertility, because it lacks a number of important nutrients. A ton of sawdust contains only about 1# of phosphorus, 2# of potash, 3# of lime and 2# of nitrogen. Most of these shortcomings can be overlooked, but the paltry bit of nitrogen can cause problems, especially if the sawdust is fresh. The fungi and bacteria that break down the material need lots of nitrogen. If they can't get enough from the sawdust, they turn to the surrounding soil, which can cause neighboring plants to suffer.

That is why fresh sawdust should never be worked into garden soil less than 6 months before planting time, unless supplemented by a rich source of nitrogen such as blood meal, grass clippings, manure or compost.

The safest method is to compost the sawdust. Dump it in an unused corner, water and turn it every month. Eventually the material will break down into soft dark brown humus. You can speed the process by adding chicken manure and water on a regular basis.

Various types of wood vary in their acidity. Cypress, pine, spruce and white oak vary from very to quite acid, while birch and maple are slightly acid. Red Cedar and black walnut sawdust contain toxic substances, so it is best to avoid them. Yellow cedar is safe.

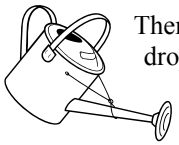
Sawdust also makes excellent mulch. It conserves moisture, inhibits weeds, and helps cool the soil in summer.

Wood chips take longer to decompose. Very fine sawdust produced when wood is sanded tends to pack and exclude air from the soil, just like dry unmixed peat moss. Ground bark is more porous than sawdust and breaks down more quickly. When composted with poultry manure, ground bark makes and excellent potting mix.

Since bark chips and sawdust don't break down easily and take a long time to compost, they make good garden paths.

MIXING SMALL BATCHES OF CHEMICALS

(Information from Fine Gardening #88, taken from book "Joy of Cooking".



There are 60 drops in a teaspoon. 180 drops in a tablespoon.

So to make 1 cup of pesticide or fertilizer, if instructions call for 1 tsp. per gallon, use 4 drops for 1-8 oz cup. Use a clear spray bottle, mark water level for 1 cup, and write on the label the name of the chemical and number of drops for 1 cupful of mixture.

Buy several eye-droppers, one for herbicides, one for insecticides, one for fertilizer. Mark with name of chemical, remember to rinse after use, and store in marked plastic bags.

Ed. Note: Sorry, I still use Imperial or American measures, not metric. I have not been able to translate this information to metric, but it is still useful when caring for houseplants. We do all still use teaspoons and tablespoons, don't we?

FERNS FROM SPORES

This material from Horticulture magazine, May 1997.

Ferns are easy to grow if you follow a few rules. First, fill a pot with a peat/sand or peat/perlite mix, pour boiling water over it, and cover with glass until it cools. Then sprinkle fern spores over the surface, replace the glass, and leave the pot in a warm, shaded spot.

Within a few weeks you will notice a green film of germinating spores. When the little plants are about 1/2" high, prick them out into a peaty compost.

You can obtain fern spores from seed exchanges and fern societies, or collect them yourself in the fall, while walking in the woods or a shady garden. Turn fern leaves over and you will see clusters of little brown spots, called sori. Tap a frond and if the spores are ripe the fine particles will drop onto your hand. Remove a portion of leaf and place it in an envelope. In a warm dry place you will soon have many little fern spores.

The most important key to propagating ferns is to be sure there are no algae, fungi or moss growing in the same pot. Rinse all pots and plastic trays in a 10% bleach solution. You can use a commercial soil less medium, and after putting some in a pot, pour boiling water over, then allow the medium to cool to room temperature.

Tap the contents of the envelope into a clean, creased sheet of paper, remove the frond and extraneous matter before gently tapping the spores over the pot. Add a label with the fern name and date, and cover with a tight-fitting plastic dome or a sheet of glass, wiped with bleach, or place the pot in a clean plastic bag. Place the pots under grow lights hung 6" above the pots, and set the lights for 16 hours a day. Or set them on a windowsill with light but no sunshine, for the winter.

Within a month or two of sowing, you should see some little green heart-shaped "prothalli" appearing on the surface of the pots. Any time in the next year, a little fern plant will grow out of each prothallus. Don't let the pots ever dry out, and don't let the sun shine on them.

When the baby ferns are about 1" high, you can transplant them to little pots filled with soil less medium and cover again with plastic or glass for a time. Give them a little weak fertilizer, and gradually, over several weeks, remove the plastic covers. They will need a year in gradually larger pots, depending on rate of growth.

SILVERY BLUE DWARF CONIFERS TO BRIGHTEN THE WINTER AND SPRING GARDEN

This material from a 1995 copy of Amateur Gardening

To make a striking centerpiece for your white crocus, pink hyacinths or tulips, try a Juniperus squamata `Blue Star', which grows to only 18", and whose dark blue winter foliage turns to a brilliant silvery blue in summer.

Picea pungens `Glauca Sprostrata' has a more open habit and spreads to 5 ft. across with bright, silvery foliage all year round. What a lovely background for dwarf pink or white rhodos such as R. moupinense or R. pemakoense, Arctic Tern or Maricee.

How about an Abies lasiocarpa `Arizonica Compacta', a slow-growing form of the corkbark Fir which grows to 3-4 ft. in height and spreads to 18". This shrub is conical in shape, with leaves blue on top and white underside.

Another little conical beauty is Picea glauca `Alberta Globe', which takes many years to grow to 3-4 ft. It comprises a dense pyramid of bluish-green foliage. The new shoots are a bright silver in summer.

Look for Chamaecyparis pisifera `Boulevard' to give a faster growing dense column of soft steel blue which will grow to 5 ft. in just a few years. I turned mine into an 8 ft. "Pom Pom Tree" or "Cloud Tree" a few years ago to make a handsome dot plant.

If you want a little squashed Christmas tree shape, try a Picea pungens `Globosa', which will grow to about 2 ft. high and wide. It is a lovely blue in spring and summer, slightly greener in fall and winter.

For something a bit taller (to 8 ft), Picea pungens `Hoopsii' will be a good choice. It has very light silvery blue foliage and a pleasing pyramid shape.

Another taller plant, but not much more than 24" wide, is Picea pungens `Iseli Fastigiate'. It has bluish-green needles which change to a brighter shade in summer.

Juniperus chinensis 'Blaauw' will grow to about 3 ft. in height, but the arching branches will make a blue-grey mound.

There are many others to choose from , but if you want plants to stay dwarf, be sure to read the labels, ask the nurseryman, check descriptions in books or catalogues. Try to avoid the disappointment of having to chop down a 35 ft. giant 10 years after planting a tiny plant in a small garden.

Another point to remember is that most of the dwarfs are expensive, because it takes longer to grow them to saleable size. Of course you can take cuttings from a friend's garden. This way you can be sure to get the height and spread you are looking for. The cuttings will take time to grow into planting-out size, but are usually easy to root.

Any or all of these little shrubs will look lovely in your rhodo garden, giving a striking contrast in leaf color and shape, during and after the rhodo flowering season.

Note: There are two nurseries in the area that have a good supply of interesting evergreen trees and shrubs - Mystic Woods, just down the road from Paul Wurz' rhodo garden, in Campbell River, and Stone Tree Nursery, a short distance down the road from Lake Trail School, in Courtenay.

WHY DO LEAVES CHANGE COLOUR IN FALL?

This information taken from Penelope Hobhouse's book "Flower Gardens", Little, Brown & Co. 1991.

Anthocyanins and anthoxanthins are the main pigments in leaves. Anthocyanins, which are affected by soil acidity, give reddish tints to flowers and leaves, while anthoxanthins produce a range of yellow, from pale to dark. These pigments are water-soluble. When both sets of pigments are present, colours range through browns to blues.

Plastid pigments are found in the wall lining of plant cells, and they do not dissolve. Greenness in leaves and stems is provided by chlorophyll, the most important plastid. Chlorophyll is essential for photosynthesis.

Although usually masked by chlorophyll, soluble pigments are also present in leaf cells. In some plants these pigments override the green, to give leaves of bronze, purple or pink.

These colours last the whole season in deciduous plants, though they often become darker later in the summer. Then the chlorophyll starts to break down, producing droplets of cartenoid pigments which turn leaves yellow. As nights get colder, sugars build up in plant tissues, and this activates the anthocyanins and anthoxanins in the sap, causing leaves to turn red or golden.

In areas of high acidity, autumn colours are more startling than in alkaline areas. Early sharp frosts produce brighter colours, whereas a long gradual decline in temperature often causes leaf textures to deteriorate before the sugars build up.

Note: Talk of cooler nights and frost reminds me that it is time to get your bird feeders out, filled with the birds' favorite foods - black oil sunflower seeds, and cracked corn or chick scratch. Sept. 12 the first jay came to the feeder, and a towhee and a junco were seen in the garden.

In colder weather, jays and flickers eagerly eat a mix of cracked corn and fat saved from cooking, and from Paul Wurz, who has a supply of animal fats in fall. The pine siskins seems to have "gone off" thistle seeds, and "my" birds don't eat millet, just scatter it around. Water is also essential in winter - clean water in a dish or pond, for birds to bathe in and drink.

WESTERN REGION CONFERENCE:

Harry and Gwen Wright, along with Bernie and Gloria Guyader, attended the 25th Annual Western Regional Rhododendron Conference in Newport, Oregon from Sept 9 to 11th, the place where it all began. The year 2005 marks the 60th anniversary of the ARS, which was incorporated in Portland, Oregon on January 27th, 1945.

Harry reports: “The Western Regional Conference at Newport, Oregon was well attended with 248 Delegates, 27 from District 1, with four of the 27 being NIRS members the Guyaders and the Wrights. The weather was terrific and the location was on the beach.

Lectures not only covered Rhodos, but also included clematis, hydrangeas, and evergreens, growing from seed and grafting… something for everyone.

A great plant sale, but of course the Customs scared us off. Not to worry, September 06 is the time of the next Western Regional Conference and it is closer to home at Harrison Hot Springs. See you there!”

Gloria and Gwen enjoy an afternoon stroll on Newport Beach, Oregon.

Following the conference, Harry and Gwen paid a visit to Harry's brother and family in Blue Lake, California; while Bernie and Gloria carried on for a tasting tour of the California wine country. By all reports, a good time was had by all!

PROVEN PERFORMERS:

At the request of the ARS, a committee was formed to decide which rhododendrons were considered "Proven Performers" for our area.

On Wednesday, Sept. 21st, Pauline and Dick Bonney met with Paul Wurz and Harry Wright to take on the task. (Leads one to wonder how many pots of coffee were consumed during this onerous task?)

The following list of rhododendrons have been recommended by the North Island Rhododendron Society as being excellent plants that grow in our area.

These rhododendrons should perform well for the average gardener without special care and attention.

ELEPIDOTES

Anah Kruschke
Auriculatum
Blue Boy
Bureauvii
Canadian Sunset
Etta Burrows
Gomer Waterer
Hallelujah
Horizon Monarch
Hotei
Jean Marie
Ken Janeck
Lem's Monarch
Loderi King George
Mrs Furnival
Nancy Evans
Naselle
Percy Wiseman
Scitillation
Sir Charles Lemon
Susan
Taurus
Temple Bells

LEPIDOTES:

Biskra
Blaney's Blue
Campylogynum
Cilipense
Cilipense
Dora Amateis
Ginny Gee
Keleticum
Oreotrephes
Patty Bee
PJM

DECIDUOUS AZALEAS:

Balzac
Gibralter
Irene Koster
Klondyke
Luteum (Golden Comet)
Occidentale
Oxydol
Schlippenbachii

RECIPE REQUESTS:

A couple of quick cake recipes offered to Mary by a friend, Muriel, who lives in Sheboygan, Wisconsin

ANGELIC ANGEL FOOD CAKE

1 Angel food 'one step' cake mix

16 oz. crushed pineapple with juice

1-3 oz. pkg instant pudding mix (any flavor)

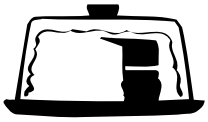
1 tsp. vanilla

In a bowl, combine pineapple, juice and vanilla. Add cake mix and 1/2 of the pudding mix. Carefully FOLD this together - do not beat. Pour into an UNGREASED 9 x 13 pan, and bake @ 350F for 30-35 min. until nice and brown.

FROSTING

Use the rest of the pudding mix with 1 cup milk and some Kool whip, and frost the cake when cold.

Note: This frosting is best if the cake is to be eaten up shortly, as it does not hold up too well. Any other frosting is fine, but the cake is very good without any frosting at all!



PIG PICKER'S CAKE (Why this name? Who knows?)

1 cake mix (your choice)

4 whole eggs

1/2 cup oil

16 oz. Mandarin orange slices with juice

Heat oven to 350F. Grease and flour a 9 x 13 pan. Mix all ingredients in a bowl and beat per instructions on cake mix box. Bake 35-40 min. or until cake tests done.

FROSTING

With electric beaters, combine 1 - 19 oz. can crushed pineapple, with juice, 1 box Vanilla instant pudding mix and 1-9 oz. container of Kool whip. Frost cake when it is cold, and chill in frig until serving time.