



The Rhodoteller

www.nirs.rhodos.ca

Happy Mothers Day



North Island Rhododendron Society

2014/2015 Executive

President

Jake Ellis 337-8516

Vice-President

Nadine Boudreau 339-0909

Secretary

Carolyn Chester 619-5864

Treasurer

Dave Godfrey 335-0717

Past President:

Paul Wurz 287-4301

Director: Ways & Means

Dick Bonney 339-7594

Director: Membership

Jill Gould 331-1859

Director: Revenue Table

Fran Thornton 339-3754

Director: Library

Ruth Fowler 890-9448

Director: at large

Garth Wedemire 941-5598

Newsletter

Noni Godfrey 335-0717

..... nonigod@shaw.ca

Social Committee/Sunshine Lady:

Claudia Ellis 337-8516

The club meets at 7:30 p.m the second Tuesday of each month (except May through August) United Church in Comox.

Coming Events

4th May 2015-Executive Meeting 2:00 pm

The executive meeting will be held at the home Ann Chevrier. 417 King Road, Comox. Directions: From the north end of Guthrie Rd turn south on Torrence Road, then left onto Casey, then left onto King Rd. Ann's house on the left side has a white picket fence across the front.

10th May 2015-Annual Garden Tour

12th May 2015-Annual General Meeting

Venue: This year's Annual General Meeting will be held at the home of Ron Cameron, 1060 Willoughby Road, Merville, BC. From Courtenay, follow the Old Island Highway 19A north to Merville and drive passed Coleman Rd. Turn right at Williams Beach Rd. (Second-hand & Military Store is on the left.) Turn right onto Hagen Rd. (2nd road on right) Next left is Willoughby Rd. Drive about 3/4 of way down and property is on the left.

Note: The garden will be open at 6:30 pm and the regular portion of the meeting following at 7:30 pm. Dress warmly as we will be outside and please bring a lawn chair.

Parking: Lots of room on both sides of the country road.

PRESIDENT'S View

...by Jake Ellis

It was a cool, gloomy, rainy afternoon when the President sat down to write his monthly column for the Rhodoteller. Well, to be honest, that's not entirely true. Oh it's certainly not warm and it is raining fairly hard, but to describe living anywhere in the Comox Valley right now as gloomy would be absurd. Everywhere I travel in the Valley is brightly lit with literally hundreds of beautiful rhododendrons in full bloom. No, they're not the only plants in bloom, but they are by far the most spectacular. Just thinking about it reminds me of why I joined this club in the first place and it's probably the number one reason why anyone joins. It's almost impossible to see rhododendrons in their full glory, especially in the numbers that are blooming right now, without wanting to know more about them.

All this blooming is almost like a signal - a beautiful reminder to the members of NIRS that it's time. Everything is just about to happen. We have just a few days to go before our annual plant sale at the K'omox Band Hall. With all the preliminary work by the members of our Board of Directors, especially the members of the Plant Sale Committee (Nadine and Margaret) the plans are set, the volunteers are in place and we're ready to go. In fact, by the time I finished this piece the plant sale has come and gone!

Although the numbers aren't in yet, it seemed amazingly successful. It never ceases to amaze me how the members of this club come together to put on a plant sale. Remarkable! The addition of the educational speakers was popular beyond the best of my hopes. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this event maybe one of the best ever.

And just over a week later the 2015 Convention at Sidney will begin. It's getting increasingly difficult to contain my excitement about attending my first convention. Not just my first ARS convention, but my first convention - ever! And to attend a conference with that list of speakers, rhododendron experts from all over the world, I'm having trouble just sleeping. Although this convention is largely being planned by the Victoria Chapter, volunteers from NIRS have played a significant role. Many thanks to Past President Paul Wurz for being our main man at the convention planning table.

And then we come home to our annual Mother's Day Garden Tour. Once again, with a great deal of planning by the Board of Directors, especially the members of the Tour Committee (Nadine and Margaret) the plans are set; the volunteers are in place and we're ready to go. Special thanks to those who have graciously opened their gardens for viewing.

And if that's not enough, we still have the AGM and the June Picnic coming up in short order. These events are still in the planning stages by the Board.

As you can see from all the activities I've described that the NIRS is an active, hands-on club which is totally dependent on our members to put their hands up when needed. But you already know that. We have never lacked for support for any event we've held. I would like to thank every member of this club who has responded when called upon to volunteer.

However, we need more! We have some key positions coming open at the end of this term. As I indicated at our last general meeting, our Treasurer Dave Godfrey and Noni Godfrey, the editor of our newsletter "The Rhodoteller", have indicated that they have decided to step down from those positions. Both have done an amazing job for our club. Noni received an ARS award a couple of years ago for her continuing excellence in producing our newsletter. And, if there was an award for the most fastidious Treasurer, I know Dave would win hands down. But recently they indicated to the Board that they would like to be relieved of those responsibilities. Wouldn't it be shameful if someone who has dedicated 10 years to a particular position in our club (like Noni) couldn't find someone to step-up and accept the challenge and let her take a break?

I happen to know that the NIRS is made of people with a multitude of skills (myself excluded). I know that every family within the NIRS has a budget far exceeding that of our club. Without taking anything away from Dave, who really has done a remarkable job, with a very short learning curve just about every member in this club could do the job of Treasurer. Maybe you won't be Dave, but I know there are members in our club who can handle this job and do it very well.

Now, the newsletter may seem more complex and it is. Noni has done such an exceptional job with all the graphics, the colour, the fonts. It has been, not only informative, but beautiful. But never forget that what we require from our newsletter is a means of delivering information to our membership. Any member with reasonable computer skills along with a little imagination and determination could produce this newsletter. Again, maybe you won't be Noni, and we're not expecting that. And you don't have to be alone. Perhaps this could be a team of two or three - make it a fun project. If we could find a member to volunteer to head the team, I would gladly become a team member. (My computer skills are fairly basic, I might add).

And before I forget, our two ladies in the kitchen (Claudia and Corinne) would like to take a break also. As I pointed out at our last couple of meetings, this is a very important job. Just think about having a meeting with no coffee, no tea, nobody arranging for goodies. Sounds pretty bleak, doesn't it? Again, this could be a team of two like Claudia and Corinne or how about two teams that alternate? How about a couple of guys taking it on? We need someone to take over this task prior to our September meeting, or our meetings will definitely not be the same.

In closing this column, I can tell you that being involved in the NIRS on the Board of Directors, as V.P. and now as your President has totally enhanced my experience of belonging to this club. As I thank you all one more time for making all of our events successful by volunteering, I would like to challenge you to take it up a notch and consider taking on one of the positions I've described above.

See you soon at the AGM....Jake

Welcome
SPRING

RAFFLE RHODOS

...by Jake Ellis

We will be having a raffle at our Annual General Meeting for the rhododendron 'Yaku Princess'.

A beautiful pinkish rhodo with tubular funnel-shaped flowers with wavy lobes, 2 1/2" across. A 3 ft rhodo which blooms in midseason and hardy to -26 C. Elliptic olive green leaves with dark orange-yellow indumentum. New growth has silver tomentum.

The larger picture of Yaku Princess was just taken at Dave and Noni's garden on 2nd May 2015 as it starts to open for its annual show! The smaller picture was sent to the Rhodoteller by Jake Ellis.



There was another wonderful turnout for our meeting on April 14th. Membership chair, **Jill Gould**, reported there were 60 members and one guest (**Sheila Tully**) in attendance to enjoy the colourful program presented by **Sue & Garth Wedemire**.

The business portions of the meetings in March and April are always busy with information about our upcoming fundraising events. **Nadine Boudreau** reported that the vendors are all ready to go for the sale on Sunday, April 26th and encouraged members to consider donations of any perennials to our NIRS companion plant table. Donations can be dropped off and helpers are welcome to arrive at the Komok's First Nations band hall on Comox (Dyke) Road beginning at 8:30 AM.

Bernie Guyader once again asked for names of trusses to be sent to him for preparing name tags for the Truss Display. "Provide a list of all your Rhodos regardless of whether or not you might bring in a truss", he said, "that way we will have them in our files for future years." It was also suggested that the easiest way to identify trusses brought to the show is to use a thin black felt marker to print the name on the underside of one of the leaves.

Margret Griffith-Cochrane reported that all the volunteer sitters are now lined-up except for a couple of afternoon spots. If anyone is available to help, or have their name on a reserve list in case of some unforeseen event, then please advise Margaret soonest. There are seven wonderful gardens in the Comox/Courtney area this year, so let's hope for a nice sunny day to make this fundraiser a success.

Paul Wurz advised that registration deadline for the ARS Convention is nearing and has already reached 350. Rooms in the Sidney area are now fully booked, but some bus tours had to be cancelled due to a lack of interest. There are about 20 NIRS members registered to attend and volunteers have been given their assignments. We hope to have a full report on the

Convention in our June newsletter.

President **Jake Ellis** reminded everyone that our Annual General Meeting is coming on Tuesday, May 12th. **Pauline Thompson** has agreed, once again, to chair the nominations and election, if any. Positions being vacated at the end of this term (June 30th) are Secretary, Treasurer, and two Director Positions (**Dick Bonney** and **Ruth Fowler**.) So the executive is seeking nominations to fill these positions. **Dick Bonney** will be leaving the chair of Ways & Means, as well as chairs **Noni Godfrey** - Newsletter Editor and **Claudia Ellis** - Social Convener. If any members would like to help with these or any other positions, please contact President **Jake Ellis** or Nominations Chair **Pauline Thompson** ASAP.

With the business portion of the evening wrapped up, it was time to open up the floor for our Show & Tell. At this time of year there is always an abundance of items to show off, and first up this time was **Bernie Guyader**. He rushed to the front claiming "I don't want to follow **Dick Boney** anymore!" which brought a laugh from the crowd.

This time, Bernie brought in sample of his orange rhodo 'Conroy', along with 'Teddy Bear' with its beautiful Indumentum; 'Sir Charles Lemon' - a large white truss that is lightly scented; a tiny example of 'Mary Fleming' and a cross between a 'Kalmia latiflora' and R. 'williamsianum' appropriately called 'No-suchianum', which is now classified as a *Kalmiadenron*, and of course one of Bernie's specialty bonsai - 'fragariflorum'.



Bernie's specialty bonsai 'fragariflorum'

Next up was **Don Law** who presented samples of his rhodos 'President Roosevelt', 'Penetum', 'Canadian Sunset', 'Malahat', 'Trewithen Orange' and R. *fulvum* with its colourful orange indumentum. **Paul Wurz** then showed us his scented 'Babylon', 'Grace Seabrook' which is almost identical to six other reds,

including 'Taurus', 'Peter Falk' and 'Etta Burrows'; plus a sample of the species R. *smithii* and 'Clayquot Warrior.'

Also squeezing ahead of Dick were **Summer Joy** who presented a red rhodo - who knows there are so many, some colourful Rosemary and an azalea. And **Garth Wedemire** brought in a sample of the species R. *primuliflorum* - first discovered in the late 1800's in the Yunnan province of China.

And finally it was **Dick Bonney's** turn and he showed us a red rhodo and a yellow... "oh I've forgotten by now"! Before we moved on to the refreshment break, President Jake invited **Louise Casson** to speak about our dear friend and long time club member, **Isabel Petch**. Louise recounted some of Isabel's early history on the west coast in Bamfield and her nursery days in Port Alberni. In retirement they settled in the Comox Valley and became actively involved in the Horticultural Society, as well as our club. Isabel was well liked by all who knew her and will be greatly missed.

Following the refreshment break, it was time for the draws for the rhodo raffle prizes and the lucky winners were: **Donna Young** (R. Popocatapetl) **Helen Stefiuk** (R. 'Rocket') and **Margaret Griffith-Cochrane** (the azalea 'Fraseri'.) For the evening's door prize, a garden book titled "How to Grow Practically Anything" **Garth Wedemire**, the winner. Congratulations to all our lucky winners.

Next it was time for our feature presentation by **Garth & Sue Wedemire**. Last October, the Wedemire's attended the 70th Anniversary Convention of the New Zealand Rhododendron Association. (Yes, that's right - the New Zealand Rhododendron society is older than the American Rhododendron Society!) Prior to the convention held in Dunedin, they took a 7 day garden tour around some spectacular gardens on both the North and South islands of New Zealand.

Garth began by explaining the locations of the various features of New Zealand. Using screen shots taken from Google Earth, this put many of the geographic areas into perspective.



The first day of the tour was spent in the Auckland City area, where they visited Ayrlies Garden, Torara Waters (a subtropical garden) and Eden Gardens with its many perennials, Vireyas, camellias and native New Zealand plants. On day 2, they flew to New Plymouth on the

North Island where they bus toured to several private gardens. They also toured Pukeiti, a 360 ha rainforest property renowned for its rhododendron collection and the famous Tupare Gardens with all its beautiful landscape.

By day 5, they flew back to Queenstown on the South Island where they continued to enjoy beautiful mountain views and associated lake vistas. On day 6, they took a boat ride to the head of Milford Sound, a fiord in the south west of the South Island within Fiordland National Park. The scenery was truly spectacular while the weather and company was fantastic.

Overwhelmed with all they had seen and visited, the tour ended back at Dunedin on the 7th day, just in time for the convention to begin. This drew a close to the fabulous presentation and President Jake thanked Garth & Sue for sharing their wonderful trip with us. Thus ended the meeting.

As announced by our garden director Wolfgang Hoefgen, a work party was held on Thursday morning, April 16th at the CV Rhodo Garden. A good turnout of members helped not only move 2 yards of mulch to top up the last of the gardens, but also to start refreshing the gravel pathways with gravel provided by the city. As the month wound down and with the Mother's Day Garden Tour just around the corner, a second small work party was held at the CVRG to finish spreading the last of the gravel on the final pathway. (See a separate report in this newsletter.)



Refreshing the gravel pathways with new gravel

On Sunday, April 26th, it was all hands on deck for our annual Rhodo Sale and Truss Show. Many members arrived by 8:30 AM to help with setting up of the tables for the vendors and the trusses brought in for the display. All was in place and the doors opened on time

at 10 AM. With the usual crush of eager buyers, many of the plants were off the shelves and at the checkouts by 10:45.

This year, for the first time, educational workshops were held in 20 minute sessions beginning at 11 AM. Presenters **Judy Walker**, **Garth Wedemire** and **Fran Thornton** helped educate as many as 30 customers on the do's and don'ts of growing Rhododendrons and other garden plants. By all reports, these sessions were very well received and will likely become a part of future sale events.

When the day was over and the monies counted, the sale was another financial success; thanks to the organizers (Nadine, Margaret and Jake) and the many members who came out to help. The winner of our rhodo draw for 'Percy Wiseman' was **Pat Jones** (new to Courtenay from Ontario) and when told of her win, she was thrilled. As she said, "This was the first prize I have ever won!" and she added only her 3rd rhodo to her collection.

For the People's Choice favourites for the truss display, 'Augustinii' was voted #1 with 10 ballots; while 3 others came in second with 7 votes each: 'Honey Butter', 'Seaview Sunset' and 'Viennese Waltz'. (Photos of the day's event can be found on our website.)

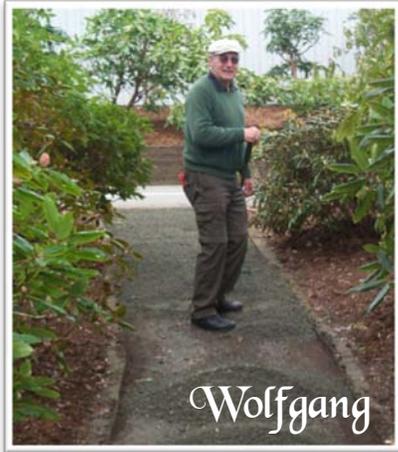
Members kindly open their gardens to other club members during the spring and summer season. So far we have enjoyed the beauty of **Robert Argall's** park-like garden, and recently **Ann Chevrier** opened her garden for members to admire and enjoy. Coming on Sunday May 3rd, **Paul & Lynn Wurz** will be opening their Hidden Acres garden in Campbell River from 10 until noon. Then following lunch in the afternoon (2 until 4 PM) **Barb & Brian Staton** will also have their garden open. These open gardens are always appreciated and we look forward to other offerings throughout the summer months.

In closing, just a reminder that our May meeting is our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, May 12th at the home and garden of **Ron Cameron** in Merville. There won't be a Revenue Table at this meeting, so no need to bring along any donations. There will be the usual refreshments and a raffle for a rhododendron. So, in addition to bringing a lawn chair (and maybe a blanket if it is cool), please be sure to bring along some change to purchase a ticket or two; plus wear your NIRS name badge for an extra chance to win. We hope to see you there!



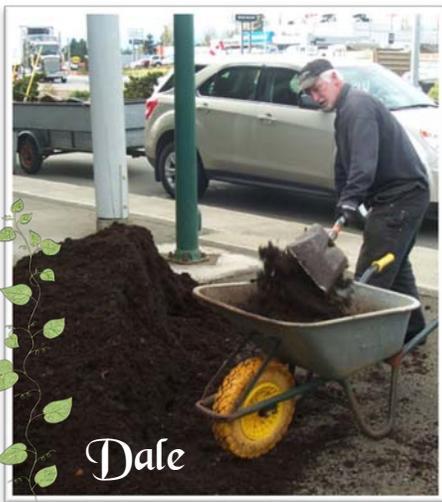
Rhodogarden News

...by Wolfgang Hoefgen



The April Work party was held with sunshine, beautiful flowers and nice company. Even the gravel seemed to go fairly easy with many hands to lighten the load. Maybe our muscles were telling us

differently the next day. Once again 14 people came out to help to make the job much easier.



We managed to finish spreading mulch on the last bed and started on the gravel for two walkways. The walkways had to be scraped down a few inches on the high sides to remove the

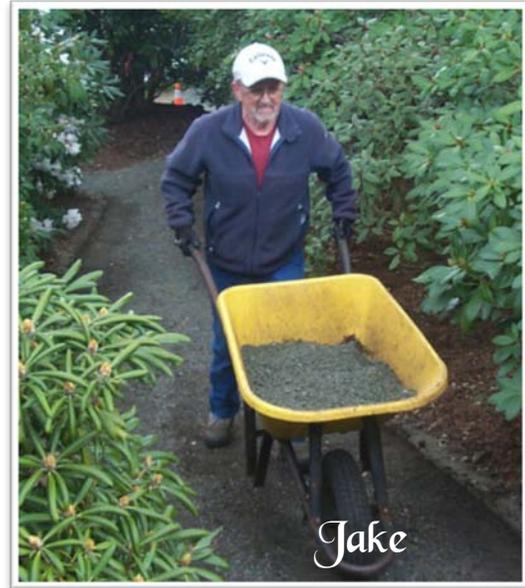
weeds, before spreading the gravel.

The pathways that are completed look quite smart now. There was lots of compliments and interest from people walking by.

We finished a successful morning with a cup of coffee, assorted goodies and nice conversation.

Our next scheduled work party is May 14th at 9am. We have had a small informal work party on the 30th of April to finish off the last pathway to have the garden totally completed for our Annual Mothers Day Garden Tour. Thanks to Dave, Dale and Jim who helped me to complete the work.

Thanks again to everybody that helped out at both these work parties.



Garden Supply Discount Offers:

Once again a reminder that NIRS membership brings discounts at many garden nurseries and retailers. Those businesses providing discounts for 2014-2015 include:

- Arrowsmith Nursery in Qualicum*
- Art Knapp's Plantland, Courtenay*
- Bees and Blooms Nursery in Courtenay*
- Black Creek Farm & Feed Supply*
- Campbell River Garden Center (not seeds or bulbs)*
- Growing Concern in Black Creek (seasonal opening)*
- Hidden Acres Nursery, Campbell River*
- North Courtenay Landscape Supplies*
- Paradise Plants, Courtenay*
- River Meadows Farms, Courtenay*
- Shar-Kare - both Courtenay and Campbell River*

If any member wishes to have other businesses considered for discounts to our members please bring them to the attention of our Ways & Means chair, Dick Bonney. Discounts can help save the price of your membership.



WELCOME FRIENDS COMOX VALLEY RHODODENDRON GARDEN

(Reprinted from the NIRS Newsletter May 2006
by Harry Wright. Hard to believe it's 19 years now!)

It seems like a long time ago, and in fact 10 years has passed since the agreement was signed for establishment of the Comox Valley Rhododendron Garden on 11th April 1996. This was when the North Island Rhododendron Society joined with the City of Courtenay, in the "Partners in Parks" program, which allowed our club to commence work on the garden. The City agreed to supply materials, while the club would supply Rhodo's and labour. This agreement has continued to work well, and the City of Courtenay has been an excellent partner in the project.

At first, the city had offered several different sites, but the one chosen has turned out to be the best. There is a lot to be said for its location. The garden has ideal growing conditions, and certainly has good exposure to the public, since the popular Air Park walkway runs adjacent to it.

On April 16, 1996, the first work party of Bernie Guyader, Dick Bonney, Bob Lofthouse & Harry Wright began the job of spreading topsoil.

The garden consists of five beds, containing 126 varieties of species and hybrid Rhododendrons. Built in stages, the first bed was completed April 1996 and the second in September 1996. The third and fourth beds were completed the following year, again in April and September. Finally the last bed, adjacent to the Information Centre, was completed in September 1998.

Some of the plants have been purchased with club funds, but a lot were donated by NIRS members. Many, many hours have been spent, weeding, mulching and dead

heading. Over the years, the number of members attending the work parties has increased. This has made these outings more of a social gathering, and much more enjoyable to attend.

At 4 pm, May 20, 1997, twenty people gathered to witness then Mayor Ron Webber of the City of Courtenay cut the ribbon to officially open the garden. In doing so, the Mayor informed the Society how pleased they were with our project; one which many citizens continue to enjoy each day.

Ah, Spring...



This picture taken 9 years ago, when the garden was 10 years old.



This picture taken 1 year ago, when the garden was 18 years old.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the North Island Rhododendron Society will be held on Tuesday, 12th May 2015 at Ron Cameron's garden 1060 Willoughby Rd. in Merville. Come at 6:30 PM for a self directed garden tour, meeting starts at 7:30. Bring a lawn chair!

Business to come before the meeting will include the Annual Financial Report, Reports from Committees, and the Election of Directors and Officers for 2015/16.

There are four two-year board terms ending in May. Members wishing to put names forward for nomination are to contact the President or Nominations Chair.

Following the AGM, the elected Board will select a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer from among the elected Directors and will assign roles to Committee Chairs.

Tidbits...

Get your ARS Journal on line. ✿

Instructions:

1. Access the ARS Office website: www.arsoffice.org
2. Click on the link that now reads "Members: Winter 2015 Journal Issue Published"
3. If you already have a username and password, click on "login". If you do not have a username and password, click on "Register Now" and follow instructions for obtaining them.

(to register, one has to know their membership number which is found on the address label of the Journal or in our North Island Rhododendron Society Yearbook)

Alpine Gardeners of Central Vancouver Island

Giant Plant Sale
Saturday 9th May 2015
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

886 Primrose St. in Hermitage Park, Qualicum Beach
Alpines, Annuals, Perennials, Vegetables, Shrubs,
Gardening Bits and Bobs and more.



Rhododendron Bloom at Milner Gardens

April 25th through May 10th
Open daily 10:00am to 5:00pm, last entry 4:30pm
Tea Room open 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Enjoy your walk through the woodland garden while the Rhododendrons put on their best display, then relax in the Tea Room

Mile of Flowers Plant-In

May 26. 5:00 to 7:30pm.

Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay.

Volunteers for the Courtenay Annual Mile of Flowers Plant-In. A local community beautification event, a tradition since 1967!

By the time planting is done, around 40,000 flowers will have been planted in just a couple of hours. Meet and plant anywhere along Cliffe Avenue between 8th and 21st street.

Bring gloves and digging/planting tool.

Free BBQ at Standard Park following planting (Cliffe Ave & 14th St.)

6:30 - 7:30 pm. Courtesy of Courtenay Rotary and The City of Courtenay. For more information go to

www.courtenay.ca



Art & Bloom Festival.

Kitty Coleman Woodland Gardens
6193 Whitaker Road, Courtenay.

May 16 to 18. 10am to 5pm

(Saturday & Sunday) 10am to 4pm (Monday).

3,000 rhododendrons & spring flowers

in full bloom as well as presentations of original works by painters, potters, sculptors, glass blowers, original stained glass designers, garden art & other unique art forms.

FOR BEGINNERS IN THE RHODO WORLD

Here are some good hints to follow if you are buying a rhodo for the first time. I found them in a copy of "The Yak", Sept. 2001. These ten considerations are really useful and sensible and I wish I had had the information when I started buying rhodos.

1. Consider tolerance to sun, heat, cold, wind, drought and bugs.
2. Size - when you buy it and when it is fully grown.
3. Colour of flowers in bud and when fully opened, streaks or spots, ruffled edges. Leaf colour - when newly out and later in the season.
4. Is the plant a species or a hybrid, small or large?
5. Confirmation - a Yak is nice and rounded and full of pink flowers, whereas *lutescens* looks like a scraggly willow with individual flowers up and down the stalks.
6. Time of bloom, spread of blooms, nicely coloured new growth.

7. Leaves - may show indumentum, size may vary from very tiny to 24" in length and 6" in width.
8. Fragrance - most often in pale coloured flowers, may be delicate to quite strong, even foliage can be aromatic.
9. Bugs eat some leaves and never touch others.
10. Frequency and reliability of bloom - some bloom every year, others every other year, and many large-leaved plants don't bloom until they are 10-15 years of age.

Don't let this list give you a hopeless feeling. There are many ways to find out before you buy, and before you decide just what you want. Neighboring gardens are good teachers, also books and magazines, or join a rhodo club. Tour gardens and garden shows are others. Read labels on plants (the ones that say "Pink" or "Red" are not much help). Get the proper name of the plant so you can look it up in a book. Carefully observe the Zone number. Most nurseries do not sell plants they know will not survive in their area, but be more careful if you look at plants further down Island or in Seattle. They are probably one or two zones warmer.



Gluten Free Thimble Cookies

(Sue Grant)

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1 C butter, softened | 1/2 C granulated sugar |
| 4 egg yolks | 1 tsp. vanilla extract |
| 1 C brown rice flour | |
| 1 C tapioca starch or flour (they are actually the same thing) | |

1 tsp xanthan gum Jam or jelly
 Cream butter and sugar well. Add egg yolks and vanilla and beat until light and fluffy. Sift together flour, tapioca starch and xanthan gum. Stir in the flour mixture and chill until firm enough to handle.

With floured hands, roll in 1 inch balls. Put 1 1/2 inches apart on cookie sheets.

Using a lightly floured thimble make an indentation in center of each cookie and fill with jam.

Bake in preheated oven at 325°F about 25 minutes. Cool on rack. Makes 4 dozen.

Note: I have found the combination of brown rice flour, tapioca flour, and xanthan gum to be the best gluten free flour mixture for cakes and cookies.



Name The Newsletter Contest

A bit of nostalgia...Remember the "Name the Newsletter Contest" in 2006...Listed are the entrant names. A vote was held and the winner was announced at the NIRS Annual General Meeting on 9th May 2006 at the Bonney's. The winner, submitted by Adela Smith was, of course "The Rhodoteller".

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| Glacier Press..... | Rhodo Court |
| Courtenay Jester | Rhodo Reader |
| Rhodophyllum..... | Rhodo Record |
| Printophyllum..... | Rhodomementaries |
| The Rhodoteller | The Rhodofiles |
| North Island Rhodo Files | What's Up |
| Chapter Chatter | The North Islander |
| North Island Rhodo Society News and Views | |

Whoever makes a garden
 Has oh so many friends:
 The glory of the morning,
 The dew when daylight ends,
 And rain and wind and sunshine
 And dew and fertile sod,
 For he who makes a garden
 Works hand in hand with God.

~ Author Unknown



May Goodies

Judi Murakami - Summer Joy
 Corinne Innes - Ruth Fowler
 Linda Billings - Aji Fliss

Until Next Month
 Noni



North Island Rhododendron
Society



**20TH ANNUAL
"MOTHER'S DAY
GARDEN TOUR"**

SUNDAY – 10th May 2015

10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

**Enjoy a tour of seven great gardens
in the Comox Valley**

Plus a chance to win a Rhododendron!

Tickets only \$10 each...

Available at Art Knapp's Plantland, Anderton Nursery

Home & Garden Gate in Courtenay

Blue Heron Books in Comox

Don't miss your chance to see these beautiful gardens!