



THE JUNE 2019 EDITION
RHODOTELLER

www.nirsrhodos.ca

**NORTH ISLAND
RHODODENDRON SOCIETY
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2018-2019**

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JUNE 2019

COMING EVENTS

4th June 2019 -- Executive meeting

This month's meeting will be held at the home of Dave and Noni Godfrey.

The meeting will start at **10 a.m.**

15th June 2019 -- Annual Picnic

This year's Annual Picnic will be held at the home of Robert Argall. Enjoy fun and games with all your rhodo friends and another opportunity to check out Robert's wonderful garden. (See the President's Report for details.)

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

PRESIDENT'S

NOTES

The month of June is perhaps the loveliest time of year in the garden. Most of the rhodos are finishing up their blooms. Deadheading is underway and we all have sticky fingers. However, we now get to enjoy the beautiful new leaf growth on the rhododendrons. Indumentum colours in grey give a show as lovely as any flower. New growth on some rhododendrons comes out in various shades of green, some with coppery tinges. The new growth of Elizabeth Lockhart is a burgundy red! The show continues!

These are my final "Notes" until September. I have enjoyed being President, and I hope you have all enjoyed reading my monthly rambles. I have enjoyed working with all fellow Executive and Committee members who have helped me and made my year so much fun!

The past years highlight for me was the visit of Ole Jonny Larsen and his wife Kari from Norway. Looking back, over the year's activities, Fran Thornton, Robert Argall and Antje Guertler received The Bronze Medal. Garth Wedemire and Sue Grant gave a talk and slide show on their trip to Wales. Judi Murakami gave a presentation on her tour to the gardens of Germany and the Bremen Conference. Computer troubles cut her presentation short, so we hope for a continuation next year. It is always so nice to have our own members contribute to the monthly Programs.

More thanks go to Garth & Dave for their continued input and upkeep of our website. It is so well done.

Our final club event of the year is the annual June picnic to be held on Saturday, June 15th at the garden of Robert Argall, 387 Wireless Rd. at 4pm. In addition to your potluck offerings, members are reminded to bring your own plate, cutlery, mug and preferred beverage. If you haven't signed up yet for your food contribution, or forgot what you signed up to bring, please email or contact Louise Casson who is filling in for Antje. This is a beautiful home and garden much loved by all. Thank you, Robert for hosting our party once again!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. I hope it rains as our gardens need it! I anticipate seeing our member's gardens for those special "Open Garden" tours.

To finish my Notes, I have waited seven years for my 'Festiva Maxima' peony to bloom. I bought it as a very small piece of tuber with one measly small eye in a plastic bag. She is gorgeous, fragrant and white, with a few flecks of red in the middle of the large flower.

See you at the picnic.

Maureen

R. 'Elizabeth Lockhart'



THE RHODO GARDEN



It is the time of year to deadhead the Rhodos!

Please plan to join the fun. We need lots of volunteers at the next work party which will be held on **Tuesday, June 11 at 7 pm**. Bring your buckets, tools and some goodies to share.

Hope to see lots of you there!

Maureen

NORTH ISLAND RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

May 14, 2019

Our AGM was held this year at the beautiful new home and garden of Nadine and Gerry Boudreau in Royston. Thank you, Nadine, for your hosting of this meeting. We all enjoyed seeing your new garden and pond. Your skills in Horticulture and Garden Design are impressive! It was a cool evening with rain threatening, so we all trooped into Nadine's very nice garage for the meeting.

Thank you, Diana Scott, for another stellar job of chairing the election portion of the AGM. Thanks to our past President Judi Murakami who helped find recruits to fill any vacant positions.

Leaving the Board are three members, Jake Ellis, Claudia Ellis and Wolfgang Hoefgen. Thanks to you all for fine contributions to our club.

Jake is stepping down as Newsletter editor. We **STILL NEED** someone to fill this very important position in our club!!! Please someone, step up to fill this much needed role in our club. Claudia is also retiring from Ways and Means and we heartily welcome Aubrey Ferris to this position. Thanks Aubrey. Carolyn Chester has agreed to continue to be Secretary for another two years. We are all very grateful to her for her commitment to the club. Dave is stepping down as Treasurer and taking on the one-year remaining term as Vice President, as Jake is resigning from his role in that position. Thanks Dave!

Dave is leaving his position of Treasurer, having done a very fine job, and Noni will be taking over in this role. Thanks, Noni for this. Wolfgang will continue as head of the Propagation Group, a position he excels in fulfilling. Antje will continue in doing her fine job in her role as Social Committee head; while Judy Walker and Naomi Chester will continue on in their roles in heading up the Revenue Table. Thanks Judy and Naomi! Nadine will also continue doing her excellent job as our Membership chair.

Finally, I must give a special thanks to both Jake and Claudia for their long and outstanding contributions to the NIRS in both Committee and Executive positions. They will be missed at the Executive Meetings. They are happily ensconced in their new home in Campbell River.

Maureen

Our new slate of 2019-2020 Officers and Directors

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President: Maureen Denny

Vice President: Dave Godfrey

Secretary: Carolyn Chester

Treasurer: Noni Godfrey

DIRECTORS

Nadine Boudreau

Judy Walker

Aubrey Ferris

Antje Guertler

With this wonderful team in place our club is in good hands to thrive.

Thanks again to everyone.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

by Dave Godfrey

For those members interested in submitting "spring" photos of their garden, this is a reminder to forward them to Garth Wedemire at his email garthwedemire@gmail.com and please remembers to include "Spring Photos" in the subject line. As Garth says, "even though we would like the spring photos submitted by June 21st, any photos any time will be appreciated... rather than none at all!"

Also a reminder for NIRS members planning to attend the potluck picnic at Robert Argall's garden on Saturday, June 15th, please RSVP to Louise Casson by Saturday, June 8th, so that we have an idea of the numbers planning to attend and what you may be bringing as a contribution for the dinner.

As in previous years, the club will be providing a sliced ham to supplement the other delicious offerings. But we need to know how many to buy for. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there!

THE RHODO IN THE BANNER

R. 'ELIZABETH LOCKHART'



(Photo from Hirsutum)

It's no wonder that Maureen is thrilled with her Elizabeth Lockhart! Beautiful in flower and without, I love those elliptic leaves that reveal its *R. williamsianum* parentage. And as Maureen's photo shows those new leaves are gorgeous. This 4 ft rhodo is a sport of *R. 'Humming Bird'* which was selected by Mr. R.D. Lockhart in 1964. Looking for a small rhodo for your garden? This rhodo definitely deserves your consideration.

VOLUNTEER **STILL** NEEDED!!

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I have advised the NIRS Board of Directors that, as of end of June, I will be retiring from my position as editor of this newsletter. It really has been fun, but it's time for me to move over and allow someone else to take over the reins — time for someone else to bring fresh thinking to the production of this newsletter. After serving as V.P. and President of the NIRS, I can honestly say this job is just the best. I've enjoyed the challenges of pushing my limited computer knowledge to the max and having the opportunity to try my hand at writing — to put a bunch of words together to, hopefully, form an intelligent sentence. Editors come and editors go, but this newsletter — The Rhodoteller — is vital as a means of communicating with our members and must go on. But we need an editor.

The position of editor requires only a few hours per month spent in the comfort of your own home. Just gather information from other members of the Board of Directors and members of the club and put it together in a format of your design. The newsletter is produced once a month, except July and August. In the past, I produced the newsletter and also sent out assorted notices to the club members. But the new editor will be tasked solely with producing the newsletter.

Please everyone, don't look around and wait for somebody else to volunteer. This position is too important to leave it to someone else. If anything, I have shown that anyone with minimum computer skills and Grade 10 English can produce this newsletter.

Make an old man feel good — put your hand up and say, "I'll do it".

Good gardening and I'll see you at the picnic on June 15th.

JAKE