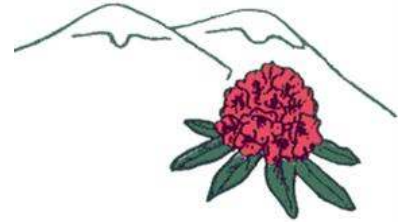


# THE RHODOVINE



THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH

MARS

RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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**Christmas Party**

**Dollar Table** - Cassy LaCouvee

**Newsletter Editor** - Linda Derkach

**Garden Tour** – Kathy Loyer

**Truss Show** – Ray Walker

**Greeter** – Guy Loyer

**Historian** - Cassy Lacouvee

**Library** – Donna deBoer

**Meeting Coordinator**- Tony Ansdell

**Membership** – Tony Ansdell

**Milner Gardens** - John England

**Program Chair** – Glen Jamieson

**PR** - Marilyn Dawson

**Refreshments Sunshine** – Maria

Bieberstein

## This Month:

# June Potluck Party and Auction

## to raise funds for the Nepal Earthquake Relief

at the home of Kathy and  
Guy Loyer

**Saturday, June 13 at 5:00 pm**

Please bring the usual – plates,  
cutlery, cups, beverage, chairs, a  
potluck dish to share and...  
if possible.....

### something to donate to the auction

We will be auctioning – among other  
goodies ...

- an exquisite **bonsai** - the gift of local bonsai master David Rowe,
- **Rhododendron 'Alexander Adie'** – a plant of historical significance donated by Joan Gibb of Dominion Brook Park in Saanich
- A **hand-crafted vase** by local artist Larry Aguilar.
- And other gems from our generous members!

**Bring your cheque book to help  
raise funds for Nepal – native  
home of many of the  
rhododendrons we enjoy in our  
gardens!**

## MARS Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the  
month at 7:30 pm  
Qualicum Beach  
Civic Centre

## Party this Month Saturday, June 13



### Fellow Martian

**Terry Richmond is a worthy  
recipient of the American  
Rhododendron Society Silver  
Medal**

*See page 2 for more....*

### Inside.....

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## *Our Terry Richmond Honoured with ARS Silver Medal*



Long-time MARS member **Terry Richmond** is congratulated by MARS Secretary Marilyn Dawson and President Linda Derkach on receiving the ARS Silver Medal for Volunteer Service, seen here at the MARS Garden Tour Pot Luck Party. Terry is one of only two MARS silver medalists, and one of very few in our District 1 of the ARS.

At the recent ARS Convention in Sidney, BC, Terry Richmond was surprised and delighted to be awarded the ARS Silver Medal for exceptional volunteer service to the society and its members. The presentation took place at the ARS Banquet Saturday, May 9, 2015 attended by approximately

450 ARS members. So what is it that merits such an award. Here is the wording on the certificate...

For more than 30 years you have been a stalwart devotee of the American Rhododendron Society, in particular District One. As a founding member of Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society and affiliate of many chapters, you have spent countless hours at workshops, truss shows and meetings in the interests of the genus. As a speaker, educator and author you have enthusiastically imparted information on the culture of rhododendrons. Your willingness to hold office, research, donate plants and work with colleagues from many chapters has contributed to the healthy growth of interest in rhododendrons.

In recognition of this outstanding contribution to the genus rhododendron, the American Rhododendron Society is proud to award the Silver Medal to Mr. Terry Richmond.

*Photo: Joanne Hamilton*

# And the winner is ...

Rhododendron Show and Sale Another Success.!



Spectators saw a different show this year from previous shows at the Parksville Curling Rink on April 25. Blame it on, or credit it to the weather. Our non-winter produced early blooms so the reds that usually dominate the show were not so prevalent. A whole new bevy of pinks and whites and yellows were the stars.



**Best in Show, Large Leaf** went to Maria Bieberstein for *Rhododendron* 'Noyo Chief'.

Joan Rich took **Best in Show, Small Leaf** for *R.* 'Biskra'.

Other winners were:

## **Blue Collection:**

1. *R.* 'Blaney's Blue', Joanne Hamilton
2. *R.* 'Inkspot', Glen Jamieson
3. *R. augustinii* 'Hobbie', Don Bridgen

## **Foliage, large leaf:**

1. none
2. *R.* 'Grace Seabrook', Ann DeBrincat
3. *R. sutchuenense*, Ann De Brincat

## **Foliage, small leaf:**

1. *R.* 'Goldflimmer', Maria Bieberstein
2. *R.* 'Insigne', Lorne Hepting
3. *R.* 'Noyo Chief', Maria Bieberstein

## **Pink:**

1. *R.* 'Viennese Waltz', Doug Kitts
2. *R.* 'Loderi King George', Judy Millicheap
3. *R.* 'Biskra', Joan Rich

## **Red:**

1. *R.* 'Noyo Chief', Al Bieberstein
2. *R.* 'Scarlet Wonder', Marilyn Dawson
3. *R.* 'Fred Robbins', Lorne Hepting

## **White:**

1. *R.* 'Sir Charles Lemon', Lorne Hepting
2. *R.* 'Loderi King George', Al Bieberstein
3. *R.* 'Yeti', Doug Kitts

## **Yellow:**

1. *R.* 'Starbright Champagne', Joan Rich
2. *R.* 'Horizon Monarch', Marilyn Dawson
3. *R.* 'Phyllis Korn', Joan Rich

## **Tender:**

1. none
2. *R.* 'Hansa Bay', Glen Jamieson
3. *R.* 'Countess of Haddington' Glen Jamieson

## **MARS Celebrates 25 Years**

### **Species small leaf:**

1. *R. luteum*, Joan Rich
2. *R. augustinii*, Glen Jamieson
3. *R. morii*, Don Bridgen

### **Spray:**

1. *R. 'Blaney's Blue'*, Al Bieberstein
2. *R. campylogynum*, Joan Rich
3. *R. concinnum*, Linda Derkach

### **Lax Truss:**

1. *R. 'Maureen'*, Maria Bieberstein
2. *R. 'Maureen'*, Lorne Hepting
3. *R. 'Sea Shells'*, Lorne Hepting

### **Hammerhead:**

1. *R. 'Yeti'*, Doug Kitts

There were no entries for the Novice or Species, large leaf categories.



Photo: Ray Walker

Secretary Marilyn Dawson and President Linda Derkach cut the cake marking an astonishing 25 years of bringing the Rhododendron Show and Sale to Qualicum Beach, Parksville and surrounding areas.

Not surprisingly, there was nothing left to take home...except the ribbons and awards!

Congratulations to MARS members who have volunteered for so many years to bring choice, rare plants from specialist growers for our beautiful gardens.

*Many thanks to Kirsten Juergensen of the Alpine Gardeners of Central Vancouver Island for allowing us to use her photos of the plant sale.*

***And now...continuing our whirlwind of spring activities...***



Judges Chris Southwick and John Deniseger confer over a difficult decision...no doubt!



Great plants for sale!!

*Mother's Day Weekend Garden  
Tour Another MARS  
Outstanding Success*

Once again, the hard work paid off when the MARS 2015 Garden Tour made 12 beautiful and varied gardens available to the public just for this special weekend.

Huge thanks go to the garden owners who worked very hard to have their gardens looking so wonderful - we know how much work this is and we appreciate it tremendously. And another big thanks to our volunteers - from the Garden Tour committee members and Chair, Kathy Loyer - to our garden sitters and sign guys!! It is definitely an amazing group effort!! Here is a compilation of just a few of the wonderful plants and scenes that visitors enjoyed over two wonderful days of the tour.



An amazing, low maintenance roadside garden with rhododendrons, evergreens and interesting rocks!



Shady narrow side gardens can be beautiful too!



*Seaside rhododendrons and azaleas  
at Columbia Beach*

*Photos: Joanne Hamilton*



A large acreage has sweeping views and interesting features.

*Photo: Joanne Hamilton*



This tender vireya rhododendron is grown by Glen Jamieson



*Rhododendron 'Chapeau' at the Jamieson garden*



These raised vegetable beds take advantage of the sunny south side on Mariner Way in Parksville – lots of veggies are being produced here!



*Rhododendron 'Rimshot' at the Jamieson garden – a real beauty!*



And on the seaside, a beautiful xeriscape, low maintenance garden that enhances the spectacular sea view.



This unknown healthy specimen was a gift from a neighbour to the garden owner many years ago – a hybrid seedling perhaps of *Rhododendron elliottii*.



*Rhododendron 'Coral Mist'* can sometimes be fussy – but here in the England garden it is a stunning beauty!



Leaves are very important – and few so attractive as *Rhododendron pachysanthum* seen here in the England garden.



No MARS event is complete without a potluck party to celebrate the other very important aspect of our association – friendship!! MARS members and garden owners enjoyed a delicious dinner surrounded by the exquisite beauty of the garden of Al and Maria Bieberstein.

*Photos: Linda Derkach*

## Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society

### General Meeting

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

Monday, May 4, 2015 at 7:30 pm

### Minutes

An estimated crowd of about 90 people filled the Civic Centre to hear visiting plant hunters, Ken Cox of Scotland and Hartwig Schepker of Bremen, Germany talk about the joys and perils of plant hunting in general and in northeast India in particular. The turnout included a good showing of visitors from Nanaimo and North Island Rhododendron chapters. Ken started the evening with an appeal for monetary help for the unfortunate in earthquake-torn Nepal, then moved on to discuss the search for new rhododendrons, the reasons for plant hunting and how they plan for such events.

Hartwig presented a vivid account of one particular trip to Arunachal Pradesh, with tales of washed out roads, shaky bridges, landslides and unruly guides. When he was finished, the romance of plant hunting for most in the audience had worn off, but the entire evening was warmly received.

Cox is the grandson of Ewan Cox and son of Peter; he and his father wrote The Encyclopedia of Rhododendron Species and some members were able to get their copies autographed at the break. Both Ken and Hartwig were invited speakers to the ARS 2015 Convention in Sidney later in the week, and spent the weekend in Qualicum Beach as guests of Glen and Dorothy Jamieson. After a tour of Milner Gardens and Woodland, they spent a day being tourists in Tofino before attending the convention.

**BUSINESS:** 1. A short business meeting followed the long evening presentation, which included the election of some of the directors. Others have a year to go in their terms. Elected were: Linda Derkach as President for a second term and Glen Jamieson as Vice President. John England introduced the new executive, which looks very similar to the old executive: President, Linda Derkach; Vice President, Glen Jamieson; Treasurer Ray Walker; Secretary, Marilyn Dawson. Directors are: Don Bridgen, Ann DeBrincat, Tony Ansdell, and Kathy Loyer.

2. MARS welcomed new members, Jack and Alice Holt; Una LeDrew and David Ratcliffe and one Associate member, Earl Daneluk from the Nanaimo RS.

3. Linda thanked Anne Gutsche, who is retiring from coffee duties and asked for volunteers for the job in the

fall, ideally a committee of two or three people to spell each other off.

4. The Windup Pot Luck is set for Saturday, June 13 at the home of Guy and Kathy Loyer, 871 View Rd, Qualicum Beach. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.



present

**Krista Kaptein, of the  
Strathcona Wilderness Institute**  
to speak on  
**"Beyond Paradise"**  
Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015,  
1-3 p.m. (doors open 12:30),  
East Hall, Qualicum Beach Civic Centre,  
747 Jones, Q.B.  
\$5 at door includes coffee/tea, prize draw

Paradise Meadows in Strathcona Provincial Park is a unique area of subalpine forest & meadow with rare & unusual flora. The presentation will go beyond Paradise Meadows, through the forests, to the lakes, meadows & alpine of the broader Paradise Plateau area. Krista will also mention a bit of Strathcona Park history and some background on Strathcona Wilderness Institute Society, who operate the two visitor centres in Strathcona Park and organize nature walks & hikes in the Park.



Krista has coordinated the Programs & Exhibitions at the Strathcona Park Wilderness Centre, operated by Strathcona Wilderness Institute Society (SWIS) at Paradise Meadows, since 2010. She took on the expanded Coordinator role of Fundraising & Outreach for SWIS in 2013. An active member of the Greater District Mountaineering Club and Central Valley Nature, she has been living and photographing in Strathcona Park for more than 20 years.

More info? Volume of 250-596-4423, [ekristakaptein@gmail.com](mailto:ekristakaptein@gmail.com)



Mill Bay Garden Club's  
68<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Community Flower  
& Garden Show**  
**"Roots, Shoots & Fruits"**  
Celebrating "International Year of Soils"  
(as declared by the United Nations General Assembly)

**Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> 2015**  
**9am to 2pm**  
**Cobble Hill Hall**  
3550 Watson Ave, Cobble Hill

*Exhibits accepted Friday June 12th 2015, Noon 'til 7pm*

**Inside:** Flower & Vegetable Show, Silent Auction,  
Lake Bay Hill Ladies Auxiliary Show-Buy-Tell  
**Outside:** Plant Sale, Gardening Workshops, Commercial Plant  
Vendors, Garden Accessories, Master Gardeners

Admission: \$2.00  
Children free

- Show programmes available at: Buckerfield's, Direct Winery, Valley Vines to Wine, Unity Food and Country Centre
- A donation from the Show proceeds will be made to the CMS Food Bank
- For more information visit: [www.millbaygardenclub.com](http://www.millbaygardenclub.com)