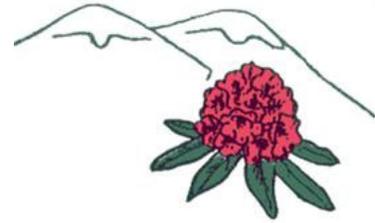


THE RHODOVINE



THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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Volume 20, Issue 8

October 2008

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Membership Ann Robertson

Milner Gardens John England

Oceanside Plant Barbara Kulla

Program Chair Art Lightburn

PR

Refreshments

Sunshine Maria Bieberstein

Truss Show Al Bieberstein

Ways & Means Susan Lightburn

Next meeting Wednesday 9th October

Speaker

Garth Wedemire is no stranger to many MARS members. A member of the Fraser Valley Rhododendron Chapter and District 1 webmaster, he has given several talks over the years to various clubs. This month his presentation is on Mike Bale's garden on Mt. Woodside near Harrison Hot Springs, called "A Plant Collector's Passion." The garden is called Lu Zhu.

(See photo on page 3)

Over the past four years he has visited this garden on 10 different occasions and taken about 1000 digital pictures from which he has created his presentation.

A retired teacher, Garth and his wife Avril live on a two-acre property in Maple Ridge where he pursues his hobbies, hiking, gardening and photography. A member of the RSF where he serves on the Photography Committee, he has made several trips to Nepal and China to see rhodos in their natural setting. He is also on the ARS Board of Directors as a director at large.

Trip to Borneo 2009
For Vireya enthusiasts
with our own MARS club member
Glen Jamieson
jamiesong@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

MARS Meetings

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre
2nd Wednesday of the month
7:30 pm

12th November Meeting Wednesday

MARS members Art and Susan Lightburn will present a program about their visit to Scotland and the Edinburgh Convention last spring.

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Membership

A reminder to those of you who still would like to renew your membership, that we need to get you registered earlier this year. Please bring your cheque made out to MARS for \$30, or money, to the meeting in October.

It can also be mailed
or delivered to

Ann Robertson
455 Schley Place
Qualicum Beach
BC V9K 2L5

Photographs by Susan
Lightburn

President's Message

Best wishes from Perth, Western Australia, we are having a wonderful experience of life down under. John (& Arlene).

Member's Corner



Welcome

New members Dougal and Shirley Meekison

October's prize

The special rhodo for the draw is Inkspot, one of those sought-after but hard to find plants. Described as pink to lavender, this hybrid comes from irroratum 'Spatter Paint' x Purple Splendour. Last month's special rhodo, a Ken Gibson hybrid, was won by Tony Ansdell.

Time to Pot Pot Pot,

Remember when you are cleaning up that we need all your extra shrubs trees and perennials for the oceanside Plant Sale in the Spring.

Phytophthora

A disease called Phytophthora that has become a large issue in England, and now in the West Coast of USA. Phytophthora affects a number of plants, including rhododendrons. The disease is being referred to as SODS(Sudden Oak Death Syndrome) in America, but it also greatly affects rhododendrons. The actions taken so far are limited to containment, but it has already reached BC.

Art Lightburn.

(More information to follow)

EVENTS

Milner Christmas Magic

Dec 5 – 7, 12 – 14, and 18 – 21,

at 5:00p.m. to 8:30 p.m. If you would like to hang lights, donate an item for the Silent Auction, or volunteer for the event, please call 250-752-8573 extension 226.

TEA ROOM NEWS

Tanya Lester will give Tea Leaf readings

Friday, October 3rd in
the Tea Room

11:00 am until about 3:30.

\$27.50 for 20 minute session

A light meal included

soup, herb & cheese scone with tea.

High Tea

Saturday, October 4th and Sunday, October 5th
for members and volunteers
sandwiches, scone with Devon Cream, sweets & tea
for 15.95.

Murder Mystery High Teas.

Reservations are required for all of the above and
Please phone Carol

250 752 8573 local 224 and leave a message or

carol.milnergardens@shaw.ca

<mailto:carol.milnergardens@shaw.ca>



Our Speaker Garth will talk about this Garden)

Zu Lhu Garden

General Meeting Minutes

7:30 pm. at Q.B. Civic Centre.

NEW MEMBERS Dougal and Shirley Meekison.
VISITED by associate member Paul Lawry from Nanaimo RS

MINUTES: The last general meeting was in May and minutes were published in the June Rhodovine. They were passed as read.

BUSINESS ARISING: John England announced that next year is MARS 20th anniversary and a special dinner is planned. He asked for suggestions from the membership as to time and place.

CORRESPONDENCE: B.C. Council of Gardens October Bulletin, ARS Rhodo of the Year poster, CD Rom on rhododendrons

REFRESHMENTS: Marilyn Dawson

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tony Ansdell's reported total expenses for August were \$139.05, including District Meeting Expenses to Vancouver. MARS has received an ARS grant of \$1500 for a species propagation facility and, after bank expenses were deducted, 1468.50 was deposited in the Grant Fund in its own ING account. He has also opened a "Gaming Account" in case MARS received funds from the application to BC 150. As well, he has paid for the storage locker for two months, reserved the Parkville Curling Club for the 2009 Truss Show on April 18 and booked Rotary Hall for our annual Christmas party on Dec. 10. In booking space at the Civic Centre, he said the February meeting will have to be held on Thursday Feb. 12 because Wednesday is not available.

WAYS AND MEANS: Susan Lightburn listed the raffle prizes: Rhododendrons Lem's Best Orange, Fantastica and Ginny Gee. The door prize was a Ken Gibson cross.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. John England stressed there were several vacancies that needed to be filled: Refreshments, Library, Bursary, Program Chair, Publicity and Membership. By the meeting's end, four spots had been filled; Anne Gutsche, refreshments, Glen Jamieson, bursary, Arlene Johnstone, library and Marilyn Dawson, publicity. Still needed are program and membership chairs.

2. John England reminded membership of MARS' special dates: Truss Show April 18, Oceanside sale at Coombs April 25 and 26, Garden Tour, May 9 and 10. The Christmas Part is Dec. 10.

3. Milner's annual fall sale is Sept. 27 and 28, although members can buy on Sept. 26 from 5-7 pm.

4. The ARS convention will be held in Everett, Washington next April and MARS will contribute \$400 to one first-time attendee.

5. John England asked for a volunteer to identify local nurseries that carry species for ARS District One. Marilyn Dawson agreed to do it.

6. Terry Richmond has placed his research on soil structure and organic fertilizer in the library for members to enjoy.

7. ARS Rhodos of the Year for 2011 have been announced: for the northwest they are: Lem's Cameo, elepidote; Bob's Blue, lepidote; luteum, deciduous azalea; Rosebud, evergreen azalea.

GUEST SPEAKER was Bill McMillan of Victoria whose long association with rhododendrons made him an ideal candidate for covering the basics of hybrids and species.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 9:20 pm

John England, President

Marilyn Dawson, Secretary



President John and Secretary Marilyn working out the details.

Nanaimo Rhododendron Society gave us this information to share with MARS members.

“Hello, my name is Tom Carter. I am a Vancouver Island mountaineer and an organizer of treks to Nepal. In the spring of 2009, From March 16 to April 11, I am leading a sixteen day rhododendron trek. This trek explores the rhododendron forests that clothe the shoulders of the Himalaya. The cloud forest rhodos of Nepal's Annapurna Range can grow in the heat and rains of the monsoon, to thirty meters tall! In Spring sun we will walk under enormous canopies of pink and rose and scarlet. From every hilltop an endless sea of red flows down into terraced farmland and up to the snow peaks towering above. Pathways are carpeted with petals. Village girls glow with blossoms in their jet black hair. To walk this land below Annapurna, the goddess of plenty, is to be blessed with renewal, joy and delight. Although requiring fitness, this sixteen day trek has short walking days with only two above 3000m. The focus is on relaxed enjoyment of this magnificent setting. After two days exploring Katmandu's medieval bazaars and temples our trek begins by winding through steamy lowland rice paddies. Hiking up the Modhi Khola River we arrive in Rhodoland. Following the blossoms up the valley we suddenly emerge into the Annapurna Sanctuary. Surrounded by ice peaks soaring to 8000m., this is one of the Himalaya's most spectacular vistas. Back down in the blossoms the villages of Ghandrung, Tadapani and Ghorepani are garlanded by the most enchanted forests of all. From Poon Hill, the sunrise on the Annapurnas and the sea of rhododendrons below is stunning! Almost impossibly beautiful! In one day we descend from the rhodo forests to the subtropics. We return to the delights of Kathmandu, one of which is a party with our Nepali crew. They have carried, cooked and cared for us all this way. Totally charmed, it is hard to say goodbye. Nima Sherpa and I invite you to join us on a culturally rich and truly magical journey in extraordinary landscapes. For more information about this trek and trekking in general, please visit my website:

[HTTP://www.moonmountainadventures.com](http://www.moonmountainadventures.com)



Our president John England with speaker Bill Mcmillan



Ann Robertson signing in members