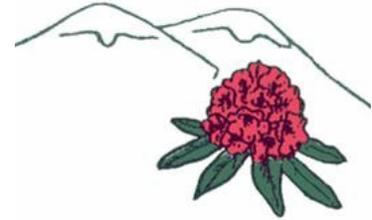


# THE RHODOVINE



## THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

MARS  
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**Historian** Cassy Lacouvee

**Library** Arlene Johnston

**Meeting Coord** Art Lightburn

**Membership** Ann Robertson

**Milner Gardens** John England

**Oceanside Plant** Barbara Kulla

**Photographs** Susan Lightburn

**Program Chair** Ann DeBrincat

**PR** Marilyn Dawson

**Refreshments** Anne Gutsche

**Sunshine** Maria Bieberstein

**Truss Show** Al Bieberstein

**Ways & Means** Susan Lightburn

### Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

**Speaker**  
Harry Wright

He will be presenting "Four Seasons at Haida Gold Gardens". Apart from running Haida Gold Gardens, Harry has been involved with the ARS for a number of years, receiving the Silver Medal this last May at the Everett, Washington, convention. Propagating, hybridizing, speaking and writing keep him busy as does selling rhodos at various chapter shows. He is now the past president of the North Island Rhododendron Society (of which he was one of the founding members). He also got a fellow by the name of Everett Jefferson and some other founding members to start up a chapter called "MARS". Wonder what they're doing today?



20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary At  
Milner Gardens  
Terry, Pat, Everett, and Skip

### MARS Meetings

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

Next Meeting  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
October

Speaker to be announced



Garden Ornament  
at Barbara's June Party

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## President's message

By my count, we are now starting our 21st season of MARS. How many local citizens, outside club members, know about this fact? Not enough! So, I think that September should be the month to 'advertise the club' and get other like-minded people, and there must still be quite a number out there who would be interested in knowing about MARS and our role in the community as the local Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Our mandate is to promote the genus Rhododendron and to educate the locals about the growing and maintenance of said genus.

We enjoyed a 4% increase in our membership during 2008/2009, bucking the North American trend for clubs of all kinds. So, let's continue with our success and try to gain 5% membership in this new season, 2009/2010! Your new Executive started this season with a meeting on 1 Sep. Ann De Brincat is your new Vice President and together with new Director Don Brigden and serving Directors Val Rhodes and Dan Swartz give our Port Alberni members their largest representation in recent times.

Please support your executive throughout the year, they work hard for MARS on your behalf.

John England

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Congratulations

It was a memorable Dinner from all aspects and we did ourselves proud! Thanks to all who participated, condolences to those who missed it; next significant event of this nature will probably be our 25<sup>th</sup>: make a note. For those who missed the affair, here is the message from the President of the ARS that was delivered to us by our District Director, Ron Knight, at the dinner.

**“To the Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society:**

**The American Rhododendron Society would like to say thank you for supporting our society. As the new president, I would like to congratulate The Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society on its 20th anniversary. Travel distance makes it difficult to be with your celebration. However, Ron Knight, your district director, I'm sure will represent me and the American Rhododendron Society, in wishing you CONGRATULATIONS. Keep up the excellent work.”**

**Sincerely, Ted Stecki  
President ARS**



**Barbara's Garden Colour**

## Members Corner

### 2010 May Garden Tour

Members of the garden tour committee are Linda Derkach (Chairwoman) Art Lightburn, Barbara Kulla, Marilyn Dawson and Tony Ansdell .

Associate Chair is needed to join the committee now, learn the ropes, and take over should the Chair be away during Spring prior to the Garden Tour in 2010. We need suggestions to bring on new members in order to spread out the work. Current members are very willing to support and mentor new members.

Tour will probably be located from Pym Road east in Parksville.



Colour in Barbara's Garden-June 2009 Party

### Canada's Climatic Zone Charts

Gardeners might be interested in participating in this exercise...The 'feds' are trying to redraw Canada's climatic zone charts using direct input from the public.

<http://www.planthardiness.gc.ca/>

### Alternate District Director

I have been informed by our Dist, Director that our Alt. Director, Ron McMaster has resigned, this position. I have been asked by Ron Knight to find some one that would be interested in this position. Director and Alternate Director position alternates from Mainland to Island, so we need someone from the Island, to finish Ron McMaster's term. Ron Knight's term is complete after the National Convention, May, 2010. So who ever the new Alternate is would move on to Director at that time. Normal term for each position is 3 years. I would ask Island Presidents to contact their membership ASAP and inform them that this position is available.

Harry Wright Nominating Chair



Colour in Barbara's garden

**EVENTS****The Ultimate  
Rhododendron Conference****April 9 – 11, 2010**At the University of BC Botanical  
Garden

Featuring: The perfect environment for learning about rhododendrons: the classrooms and grounds of Canada's premier rhododendron garden. Six 90-minute educational sessions with slide presentations, practical advice, laboratory experiences, and field work. Your choice of two learning levels taught by professional teachers: Novice (with Ron Knight) or Veteran (with Douglas Justice)

Tours of 3 world-class gardens:  
 UBC Botanical Garden  
[www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.ubcbotanicalgarden.org)  
 VanDusen Botanical Garden  
[www.vancouver.ca/Parks/parks/vandusen/web/site/index.htm](http://www.vancouver.ca/Parks/parks/vandusen/web/site/index.htm)  
 Nitobe Memorial Japanese Garden  
[www.nitobe.org](http://www.nitobe.org) Accommodations at the West Coast Suites Hotel on UBC campus ([www.ubcconferences.com](http://www.ubcconferences.com)) or the nearby Coast Vancouver Airport Hotel ([www.coasthotels.com/hotels/canada/bc/vancouver/coast\\_vanairport/overview](http://www.coasthotels.com/hotels/canada/bc/vancouver/coast_vanairport/overview)) Free time in evenings to enjoy beautiful Vancouver, site of the 2010 Olympics. Easy and affordable registration (limited to 100 gardeners). See your club president or the District 1 website ([www.rhodos.ca](http://www.rhodos.ca)) for costs, daily schedule, session topics, registration details, maps, accommodation & meals.

Register and reserve your hotel now!

**Greetings from the Australian  
Rhododendron Society**

In 2010 we will be celebrating 50 years as a society and 50 years of our famous national rhododendron garden in Olinda, Victoria, Australia. We welcome rhododendron & garden enthusiasts from around the world to our Golden Jubilee Conference in October 2010. Speakers, garden visits, tourist attractions, excellent food & wine.  
 enquiries to: [marcia\\_begg\\_mnbegg@gmail.com](mailto:marcia_begg_mnbegg@gmail.com)



Colour in Barbara's Garden

Barbara showing her Rhodos to Terry  
Don and Linda



Joan showing her Rhodo Stamp purchased at the June Party Auction.

### Editors Corner

**Four parties this summer!** # One after the truss show, # two after the Garden Tour, # three June end of the year and August 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We are going to get a reputation as Party People. The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary party was a resounding success with a great attendance of 69 present and past members. Milner Gardens is a most attractive venue with the mountains, tall trees and cool breezes. We had dinner in the garden, prepared by one of our members who works at Milner and her team of extremely capable volunteers. It was a sumptuous feast of roast beef, salads and much more, finishing with Pavlova for dessert. Yum .

We owe a vote of thanks to all those who made this evening possible and there were many. Kay, Marilyn and I hunted for records of past members names. Tony had to go to the BC Liquor board (or some designated body of authority) to take lessons and get a license to allow us to have wine with our meal. A special thanks to our president John who pulled it all together and organized all the last minute details that always crop up . Thanks to all of you who I forgot to mention and those who joined MARS in our celebration. Ann



Terry, Tony and Hank



Terry, Ann, Ron, Art, Mary.



Auctioneer Doug at the June Party.



**John, Bert, Arlene and Jim are too busy munching on the appies to give us a smile**



**Kay and Martha catching up on the news**



**Jim surveying the whole gang.**



**Ruth and Joyce enjoying the Party**



**The Happy Gang>>>>>**

**That's all I can squeeze in for now.**

**See you Next Wednesday**