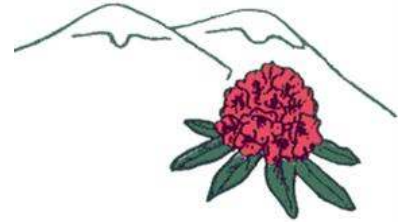


# THE RHODOVINE



THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH

MARS

RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 342

Qualicum Beach. BC

Volume 27, Issue 7

SEPTEMBER 2016

## 2016/2017 Executive

### President

Linda Derkach  
752-3545 [lindaderkach@shaw.ca](mailto:lindaderkach@shaw.ca)

### Vice-President

Glen Jamieson  
248-5593 [glenj02@yahoo.ca](mailto:glenj02@yahoo.ca)

### Treasurer

Ray Walker  
248-5138 [rrjiffy@shaw.ca](mailto:rrjiffy@shaw.ca)

### Secretary

Marilyn Dawson  
752-3694 [dawsom@shaw.ca](mailto:dawsom@shaw.ca)

### Past President

Tony Ansdell  
752-4475 [ansdella@shaw.ca](mailto:ansdella@shaw.ca)

### Directors

Ann DeBrincat  
724-5594 [darryl59ann@telus.net](mailto:darryl59ann@telus.net)

Kathy Loyer

738-0138 [kathyloyer@shaw.ca](mailto:kathyloyer@shaw.ca)

Sherry Thompson

586-5811 [sherrywt100@gmail.com](mailto:sherrywt100@gmail.com)

Bob Baird

248-3389 [bob.baird@shaw.ca](mailto:bob.baird@shaw.ca)

**Bursary** – Tony Ansdell

**Christmas Party**

**Dollar Table** - Cassy LaCouvee

**Newsletter Editor** - Linda Derkach

**Garden Tour** – Kathy Loyer

**Truss Show** –

**Greeter** – Guy Loyer

**Historian** - Cassy Lacouvee

**Library** – Donna deBoer

**Meeting Coordinator**- Tony Ansdell

**Membership** – Tony Ansdell

**Milner Gardens** - John England

**Plant Prizes** – Sherry Thompson

**Program Chair** – Glen Jamieson

**PR** - Marilyn Dawson

**Refreshments** – John de Boer

**Sunshine** – Judy Wood

**Welcome** – Joanne Hamilton

## This Month:

## Art & Susan Lightburn

## Six Weeks in Northeast India and Butan

### People, Places & Plants

Longtime members of MARS and the Nanaimo RS, Art and Susan will share stories of their travels to exotic places.



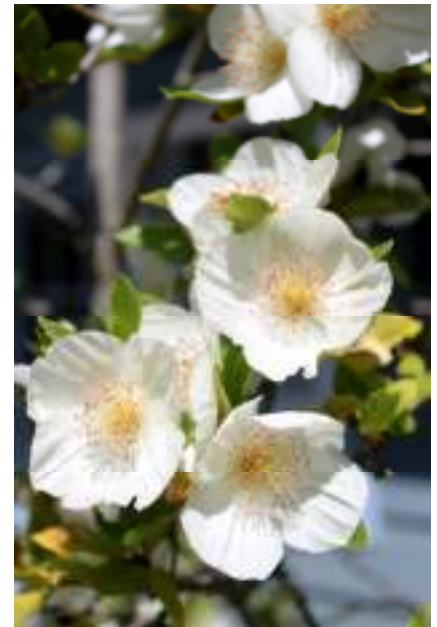
*Rhododendron 'Amadeus'* blooming in Doug Kitts garden on August 19, 2016. Photo: Doug Kitts

## MARS Meetings

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

### Next Meeting:

**Wednesday,  
September 14**



*Eucryphia nymmanensis* adorns the protected patio of John and Arlene England. More on this summer flowering beauty inside.

### Inside.....

Programs, Events..... Page 2  
Nepal News.....Page 3  
Stars of Summer..... Page 4  
Events .....Page 6

## Upcoming Programs...

### ❖ *October 12*

- **Mike Stewart**, President of the Rhododendron Species Foundation, past President of the ARS and a noted nurseryman from Sandy, Oregon

### ❖ *November 12*

- **Dennis Bottmiller** of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden will speak on Propagation

## Exciting Events...

### ❖ *Sept 30-October 2, 2016*

- **ARS Western Regional Conference, Newport, Ore**

### ❖ *April 27-30, 2017*

- **ARS Spring Convention in Eureka, California**

## **Welcome Back!**

*From your President...*

The end of summer brings with it new and exciting MARS programs and events, and familiar friends!

At our general meeting on Wednesday, September 14 your Executive will be discussing and proposing some important ideas.

### **2015 Legacy Fund**

Following the 2015 ARS Convention in Sidney, BC, the seven clubs in BC each received \$2,622.00 from the profits to put toward a rhododendron-related project. Your Executive is recommending that we donate this money to the Species Garden at Milner Garden. We will be seeking your approval to do this at our meeting.

### **Propagation Group**

Approximately 20 members have indicated an interest in participating in a propagation group. We will discuss how this group can get started.

### **ARS Fall Conference 2019**

At our May meeting, there was considerable interest for MARS to take the lead organizing this conference. We want to share with you how this project might get underway.

### **Rhododendron Show and Sale – April 2017**

As a way to enhance our plant sale, we are proposing that we have a used gardening book sale. Please save your unwanted books for April.

See you all on September 14 for the start of a brand new MARS year.

*Best Wishes, Linda Derkach*

# 2017 ARS Spring Convention

## **Rhododendrons in the Redwoods**

### Hosted by the Eureka, California Chapter

Mark your calendar now for **April 27-30, 2017** for the American Rhododendron Society's annual spring Convention. The Eureka Chapter will host the convention which will bring visitors to world famous Humboldt County, California from across the nation, Canada, and around the world.

For many seeing the Redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) is high on the must see 'bucket list', as is the rugged North Coast of California with its *Rhododendron macrophyllum* and Stagecoach Hill the home of the Smith/Mossman expedition *Rhododendron occidentale* azaleas.

The Red Lion will be our host hotel with a great rate of \$99 per night per room for the duration of the convention with that rate being extended for visitors coming before or staying after the convention. <http://www.redlion.com/eureka> The rate will include airport shuttle and breakfast. In addition to the hotel's restaurant there are many restaurants within easy walking distance.

The new Sequoia Conference Center, three blocks from the Red Lion Hotel, will be our meeting and banquet venue. Visitors can walk to the conference center or drive as there is plenty of off-street parking.

The Convention Committee is working on getting world-class speakers and having tours to highlight the natural beauty of Eureka and Humboldt County as well as public gardens, private gardens and nurseries.

We hope to welcome all of our Rhodo friends to our piece of heaven.

For more information, call or email June Walsh, 707-443-0604 or [RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net](mailto:RhodyHostel@suddenlink.net) or on the Web at <http://EurekaRhody.org/>.

## **MARS Makes a Difference in Nepal**

*Our donation to the Earthquake Relief has been received...*

*Note: In 2015 Martians raised almost \$1,000 at auction for the benefit of our friends in Nepal to assist with rebuilding following the devastating earthquake. Nepal is home to many rhododendron species and has welcomed many members of the ARS over the years to view rhododendrons in their native setting.*

*Below is a message from Mingma Sherpa following receipt of our donation:*

*"I will be using the donation for the earthquake victims. I will be building the school for the remote areas children where there is lack of Education. Still some more few funds are on collection because the others are also helping and when enough donation for school building is here then I am starting to build school for all the children.*

*I will send the school building picture when I finish the project.after funds collection.*

*Thank you very much for your kind help.  
Mingma"*

***Well done, fellow Martians!!***

# ***For the Love of Rhododendrons...and Other Good Friends***

***34<sup>th</sup> Western Regional  
Rhododendron Conference***

**Best Western Agate Beach Inn  
Newport, Oregon**

**September 30 to October 2, 2016**

***Featuring Rhododendrons and  
Gardens Around the World and "How  
To and More" Clinics***

**For more information and how to Register  
call 541-686-1540 or [www.2016wrrc.com](http://www.2016wrrc.com)**



Thanks to the Milner Gardens propagation team, many gardens in our area are graced with *Eucryphia x nymansensis* 'Nymansay'. This shy woodlander is evergreen, enjoys protection from wind and hot afternoon sun, and then shows off masses of lovely white flowers much beloved of bees. This beauty thrives in a large pot in the England garden.

## ***Stars of Summer***

*Words and photos: Linda Derkach*

By the time June comes to an end, most of our rhododendrons are done. New growth is leafing out and buds are starting to swell. This can be a quiet time in the garden....or the stars of the summer garden have a chance to shine.



*Datisca cannabina* is an unusual perennial. At five feet tall and dripping with tiny yellow flowers, this lanky summer bloomer is grateful for support from a nearby rhododendron.

Page 4





This *Acacia retinodes* (Silver Wattle or Swamp Wattle) was propagated by John England and grows in a pot high above the dark green leaves of his rhododendrons. Masses of tiny yellow flowers appear in mid-summer. In winter, this plant is moved to a cool greenhouse.



Heleniums are reliable summer perennials that need no TLC. These heleniums meander among rhododendrons and other shrubs, and have few if any diseases or bugs.



Evergreen *Kalmia latifolia* 'Elf' is great for the small garden. Blooming soon after rhododendrons are finished, they are great companions enjoying the same cultural requirements.



Great ground covers among rhododendrons are geraniums and Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*). These long-blooming and care free perennials appear every spring and never fail to deliver glorious blooms.

# Azalea Reblooming...



Photo: Gus Thompson

On September 1, this 'Autumn Sundance' azalea graced the garden of Sherry and Gus Thompson. Vibrant blooms and reddish winter foliage are featured on this dwarf azalea.

# Talented MARSians...



This painting by long-time MARSian Pat Jefferson was the favourite of Val Rhodes and Dan Schwarz's granddaughter at the Lighthouse Garden and Art Tour in May. (Pat Jefferson Photo)



Alpine Gardeners  
of Central Vancouver Island



Welcome  
**Mike Kintgen from the Denver Botanic Gardens**  
to speak on the  
**Great Rock Gardens of Europe**



**Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
1 - 3 pm  
(doors open 12:30)  
**Qualicum Beach Civic Centre**  
747 Jones, QB  
**\$10 at door includes entry in plant prize draw and coffee / tea & goodies.**

This will be a tour of the public rock gardens Mike has visited in Northern Europe over the years, a bit about the cities they are in, the history and what part of the collections really stood out for him - the talk mainly covers Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, France.


Mike is Curator of the Alpine Collections at Denver Botanic Gardens, and an active member of the North American Rock Garden Society.



Defail Valerie: 250-594-4422 or [Wakelovevalerie@gmail.com](mailto:Wakelovevalerie@gmail.com)

**John Deniseger**

**presents:**



*Eaglecrest Garden Club meets on Wednesday, September 21st, 2016*  
Qualicum Beach Civic Centre  
7:00 pm.  
All welcome, Non-members: \$3.  
Contact person: Susan 594-7468

**"Why I Garden"**

a look at gardening from a different perspective.

John is a retired biologist, avid gardener, outdoor enthusiast and long time member and past president of the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society.