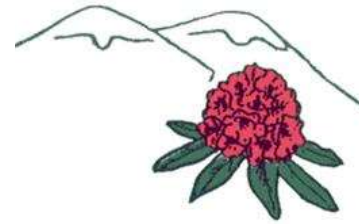


THE RHODOVINE



THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH
RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

MARS
P. O. Box 342
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V9K 1S8
www.marsrhodos.ca

Volume 30, Issue 1

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Christmas Party - Executive

Dollar Table – Barbara Kulla

Newsletter Editor - Linda Derkach

Garden Tour – Sherry Thompson

Truss Show – Kathy & Guy Loyer

Greeter – Guy Loyer

Library – Donna de Boer

Meeting Coordinator-Tony Ansdell

Membership – Tony Ansdell

Milner Gardens - John England

Plant Prizes – Sherry Thompson

Program Chair – Glen Jamieson

Propagation – Sherry Thompson

PR - Marilyn Dawson

Refreshments –

Goodies – Jane Walker

Species Garden – Tony Ansdell

Sunshine – Judy Wood

Webmaster – Diane Henders

Welcome – Joanne Hamilton

This Month:

Members'

Photography Night

President Glen Jamieson will guide us through an evening of unique and memorable photos taken by our fellow Marsians!

And if you haven't already done so, please email your own photos to Glen as per instructions on Page 2

MARS Website

Check out our updated and exciting renewed website at marsrhodos.ca

MARS Meetings

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

Next Meeting:

Wednesday,
January 9, 2019



Viburnum x bodnantense
'Dawn' is blooming now in the depths of winter to the delight of the hummingbirds who have become permanent BC residents.

Inside...

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Upcoming Programs

❖ Wednesday, January 9, 2019

- **MARS Members' Photo Night**

❖ Wednesday, February 13

- **Special Movie Presentation:
*The Gardener***
<https://vimeo.com/240237260>
Check it out – you will want to see this!

❖ Wednesday, March 13

- **Ole Jonny Larsen of Norway
*Plant Hunting: The Experience of an Amateur***

❖ Wednesday, April 10

- **Circle of Knowledge**

Membership Renewal

If you have not already renewed your membership in MARS, you can renew by going on line at marsrhodos.ca and clicking on the Membership page.

Or mail your cheque to:

**Membership, Mount Arrowsmith
Rhododendron Society
PO BOX 342
Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 1S8.**

MARS Photography Evening

January 9, 2019

Digital Entries only please

Deadline: January 1, 2019

Once again, we are featuring photos from our fellow Marsians for this evening of great photography. We encourage everyone to send up to 12 of their favourite photos as per the instructions below:

1. Email your digital photos to Glen Jamieson at: Glenj02@yahoo.ca with "MARS Photo night" in the subject line. Glen will prepare a PowerPoint presentation with all entries.

2. Email instructions

On the subject line, please enter the category the photo is intended for and the name of the rhododendron or plant or scene, if known. This is **not** a contest, and pictures you took that showcase your garden or plants, special photos that you took on garden tours or in someone else's garden, etc. are all welcome.

3. Categories

1. Single Rhododendron Truss
2. Whole Rhododendron Plant
3. Foliage Rhododendron
4. Companion Plant
5. Garden Scene
6. Creative/Artistic photos altered by technology

NOTE: Please enter only two photos per category. Deadline for submitting digital photos is January 1, 2019.

4. Participants are welcome to explain what their photos mean to them when they are presented...if they wish.

A Foggy Day at Larnach Castle Dunedin, New Zealand

Photos: Rose and Art Prufer

Rose and Art share these photos of the garden at Larnach Castle near Dunedin on the South Island.



Rhododendron Problems Explained

From Glen Jamieson

Why don't my rhododendrons have many blooms?

Rhododendrons form their flower buds during the summer. If they did not form, there will be no blooms the following spring. Here are some causes:

Not Enough Light

Although we commonly plant rhododendrons in the shade in North America in order to keep their feet cool, you've got to find a balance between shade and light. Not enough shade may overheat the plants, but not enough light and they will lack the ability to produce the energy they need for blooming.

Too Much Fertilizer

Feed your rhododendrons all you like in the spring, but by late summer, you need to cut back on both fertilizer and water to give the plant just enough stress to encourage blooming. Always watch the amount of nitrogen you're giving your plant if it seems to be growing lots of new leaves without producing any flowers – it's a sure sign you need to back off the feeding. The presence of phosphorus like bone meal can help to offset this.

Age of Plant

If your rhododendron has never bloomed before, it may simply be too young. Every variety and species is a little different in this regard.

Bloom Pattern

Again the species of your rhododendron matters. Some species simply don't bloom every year or will bloom heavily one year and need another to rest before doing it again. If your rhododendron produced lots of seed last season, that can also have an influence on blooms. Remove any spent blooms you find before they can become seed pods to ensure that the plant's energy is mostly available for flower bud production rather than for seeds.

Qualicum Beach Garden Club

QB Civic Centre

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

Doors open: 7:00 pm

Speaker: 7:30

Speaker: Laurene Ebbett on

The Gardens of Wales,

Ireland and the Lake District

More information...

<https://qualicumbeachgardenclub.wordpress.com/about-us/meetings/>

Everyone welcome, non-members \$3.00



Rhododendron 'Nova Zembla' blooming at the Hachman Nursery near Bremen, Germany during the ARS 2018 Spring Convention. Hardy and vigorous, 'Nova Zembla' has lovely foliage in addition to these showy scarlet flowers.

MARS Christmas Party: Great Fun and Good Deeds

Marilyn Dawson

No one could possibly have missed the location of the MARS Christmas Party. Ray and Jane Walker had enough lights from ground to rooftop to illuminate half of San Pareil. Well, maybe not quite enough. Ray planned to take advantage of the Home Depot sale to add to his collection for another year.

The home on San Malo Crescent was decidedly festive and that spirit seemed to affect all 45 attendees. The turkey dinner arrived on time from Qualicum Foods (turkey vouchers provided by members), the appies, veggies and desserts spilled over the countertop and no one could complain of going hungry. In fact, there was enough turkey left over to sell in small packets for sandwiches the next day.

Ministries. As well, foodstuffs and warm clothing were also collected for the needy.

A very satisfying evening! Huge thanks to hosts Ray and Jane, voucher donors Dee Lott, Art and Rose Prufer, Karen Bennett and Kel Roberts and of course David Landry.



Art Prufer was the lucky winner of that jolly old elf - Santa himself!



Entertainment was provided by David Landry who acted as auctioneer for the donated items. It was a loonie auction, make a bid then throw a loonie in the pot. There was a learning curve that was followed with a lot of merriment. All funds collected were divided among SOS, Salvation Army and Manna



2019 Winter & Spring Events and Activities

| Date & Time | Event | Location |
|--|--|------------------------------|
| Tuesday, January 8 7:30 pm | QB Garden Club: Laurene Ebbett on <i>Gardens of Wales, Ireland and the Lake District</i> . | QB Civic Centre |
| Wednesday, January 9 7:30 pm | MARS – Members’ Photo Night | QB Civic Centre |
| Saturday, February 2 | Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday | QB Civic Centre |
| Wednesday, February 13 7:30 pm | MARS – Special Movie Presentation of <i>The Gardener</i> | QB Civic Centre |
| Wednesday, March 13 7:30 pm | MARS – Ole Jonny Larsen of Norway on <i>Plant Hunting: The Experience of an Amateur</i> | QB Civic Centre |
| Saturday, April 20 10 am to 2 pm | MARS Rhododendron Show and Sale | Parksville Curling Club |
| Saturday, May 11 Sunday, May 12 10 to 4 each day | MARS Mother’s Day Weekend Garden Tour | Qualicum Beach Parksville |
| May 15 to 18 | American Rhododendron Society Spring Convention | Philadelphia |
| Tuesday, June 18 | MARS Bus Tour | Victoria |