

RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

A Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society
P.O. Box 3040 Langley, B.C. V3A 4R3

NEWSLETTER

WED. February 19, 1992 at 8:00 P.M.

ROGER PINETTE, OF PONDS BEAUTIFUL, WILL BE TALKING TO US ON THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND PLANTINGS FOR GARDEN PONDS. SEE ON PAGE 2 FOR PARTICULARS ON COURSE BY MR. PINNETTE.

FRASER SOUTH AUCTION TO FOLLOW MEETING -

SEE AND HEED PAGE 2 FROM LARRY & CHARLOTTE

MARCH 18: Mr. Clint Smith will be with us again to bring us up to date with the rhodo world, AND bringing us some of his choice plants for our plant sale.

MARCH 22: Sunday - VRS Plant Sale at Clay's Nursery - 1.00-4.00 p.m.

APRIL 11: VRS Early Show at the David Lam Centre, UBC - now here's your chance to get in there with your trusses.

APRIL 15: Ken Gibson of Tofino to talk on "Powdery Mildew" with our own Norma Senn coming on with some other related plant diseases.

APRIL 25: (SAT). Proposed trip to Island - Provisionally arranged by Harold Johnson and Bill Dale. 47 Passenger bus to meet Ferry - Gardens: Weesjes, Dougan's Malahat Garden, Smith and Dale Gardens. Day trip - Cost of Bus approx. \$13/\$15 per person with full bus load. We will be catching the 7.00 a.m. ferry to Victoria - Harold reports that we have 20 seats booked at this date, so come along now - it was a lot of fun last year. Phone or see Harold at the February meeting.

MAY 2 - SAT. Diane has our Truss Show and Sale set for this date at Willowbrook Mall. We are to get a jump start on this and ask those who may have rhodos for sale to advise Diane Scott or Pat Glennie. Volunteers will be needed to help set up and be in attendance during the day. No doubt Diane will have a schedule made up for us at the April meeting.

MAY 3 - SUN. Garden tour being arranged for this date - we will be visiting a garden in the forenoon, with probably a short stop at the Crabb Garden for tea and coffee (pack your sandwich), and on to the Dahls' garden, (here you can see not only rhodos but a variety of perennials and alpine plants, and then we will end up at the Finleys' Nursery where you can buy any plants you may have admired, but we must promise to arrive there by 4.30 p.m.

MEETING: ST. ANDREWS ANGLICAN HALL, 20955 OLD YALE RD., LANGLEY

FROM THE EXECUTIVE:

MEMBERSHIP: Chris Ballyn pointed out that member Mr. Barton when paying his membership added an extra \$20.00 donation - Mr. Barton is the gentleman who gave the Chapter some treasured material for our Library recently, so it was decided that this donation would go towards providing another cabinet to hold Pat's growing library, and if we haven't already done so, our most grateful thanks to Mr. Barton.

MEMBERSHIP LIST: An up to date Membership List is enclosed. We ask that you please check this for any errors or omissions, and if so, please advise Chris Ballyn.

LIBRARY: Pat has now received some back numbers of Journals along with RHS Annual Magazines. There are extra copies available for members. As there are only 2 of each, should we have more than 2 enquiring, names will go into a hat.

KITCHEN: Melba reports that there is a lack of volunteers for our coffee snack, so would you please see Melba for the months to come, and we will remind you via the Newsletter - in the meantime donations for February would be appreciated by all.

B.C. COUNCIL OF GARDEN CLUBS: Chris Klapwijk and Sue Finley have been appointed delegates to the annual conference in May.

A.R.S. FUNDING: It was decided to forward our donation to the ARS Endowment Fund at this time, and a cheque for \$300.00 has been forwarded, being 10% of our bank balance at the end of the year - somewhere, somehow it seems as though some of the Eastern Chapters have chosen this 10% figure, and your Executive threw out a light challenge to the District 1 Chapters to do the same. It is hoped that the February Auction will recoup this amount for us.

INSURANCE: Liability insurance for our Chapter has been renewed based on a future membership of 80.

CANADIAN GARDENING: The Feb/March issue of this Magazine contains a 6 page article on Ken & Dot Gibson's Tofino Garden with a wonderful 2 page aerial photo of their garden in full bloom, also tips on growing, etc. There will be a few copies available at the Hostess table - \$3.95 each.

The Canadian Geranium & Pelargonium Society have advised that their "A Potpourri of Pelargonium Pleasures" is available at a cost of \$9.95 including postage. This consists of a collection of recipes etc. using scented Pelargoniums, also tips on propagation, and many more items. We will have application forms available at the "Hostess Table".

PONDS BEAUTIFUL: Mr. Pinette has a course commencing February 17, from 7.30 to 9:30 p.,m. on Feb. 24, March 2, 9, 16 and 23 entitled "The Lure of Aqua-Gardening". This will take place at Brookwood Nursery on 205th, Langley. Again we hope to have application forms at the Hostess Table, or see Colleen Rodgers.

JANUARY MTG: Mary Reid delighted us with some of her slides of plants growing in the wild - spectacular scenery - hope to see more of this; also more members coming forward with their slides - just as we know we must have some interesting gardens we have still to see! We do have promises from Chris Ballyn and Don Martyn for next year - so it is a step in the right direction!

1992 EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEES:

President: Les Clay (530-5188)	Membership: Chris Ballyn
Vice-President: Chris Klapwijk (888-0920)	Library: Pat Dahl (534-5200)
Treasurer: Larry Chase (576-9782)	Programs: E. Johnson & Les Clay
Secretary: Colleen Rodgers (594-6380)	Publicity: Diane Scott (533-4378)
Directors: Harold Johnson (581-5253)	Hospitality: Mrs. Phil Anderson, Dorothy Griffin and Pat Glennie
Christopher Ballyn (857-0253)	Bulletin: D. & E. Crabb (534-4884)
Don Martyn (823-4853)	

GREIGS OF ROYSTON: Ted and Mary Greig first had the Alpine Nursery of the Buchanan Simpsons at Cowichan Lake prior to starting their Royston Nursery (south of Courtenay) in 1936. According to Alleyne Cook, The Royston Nursery catalogue published in 1954 "remains the only commonsense one ever published in North America". Mary Greig spent hours studying and advising on the groupings of the species. The outcome of this furthering of species interest and knowledge was the creation of the Species Foundation. Although noted for their species work, they have a few well known hybrids to their credit, including George Watling, Last Rose, Royal Anne and Royston Red. Their exceptional talent for growing the wild collected seed and propagating only the best forms earned them the ARS Gold Medal in 1965/66. Ted Greig died 1966, and the entire nursery was sold in 1966 to the City of Vancouver and planted mainly in Stanley Park. In 1989 the Stanley Park collection was dedicated as "The Ted and Mary Greig Rhododendron Garden" by John Bond of Windsor Great Park at which Mary Greig was present. Mary passed away at the age of 93 in June of 1990. It is for the protection of this Garden that a Task Force has been set up by District #1. (Excerpts from ARS Journal article by Alleyne Cook - Vol.45/91).

COMPOSTING: Harold has obtained two brochures produced by The Greater Vancouver Recycling Department on composting - "Here's The Dirt", a Guide to Home Composting, and "Guide to Worm Composting". We will produce these in a future Newsletter, but in the meantime have had copies made which will be available at the Hostess Table at our February Meeting. Both contain real valuable information, and give Charts showing just what you can and cannot use, as well as a list of possible problems. The "Worm Composting" brochure explains what you need, how to do it, what happens, harvesting, etc.

WELCOME HOME to Lillian Emerson, Mrs. Vern Finley and Dr. Mike Trembath - who joined a group from the Victoria Chapter on a tour of New Zealand. (P.S. - Mike - Can we call on you for one of your refreshing articles on this trip - also room for another colour of the "Oldies").

The next Executive Meeting will be held at the Clay residence on Tuesday, February 25th at 7:30 p.m.