



APRIL 1994

# The Yak

A CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

FRASER SOUTH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY  
6835 232ND STREET  
LANGLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
V3A 6H4, CANADA

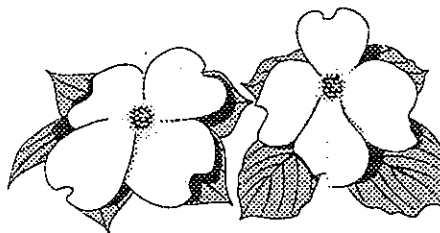
## Wednesday, April 20, 1994 Meeting 8:00 p.m.

St. Andrews Anglican Hall  
20955 Old Yale Road, Langley

### **GUEST SPEAKER: LYNN WATTS** **"THE INDUMENTED SPECIES"**

Lynn Watts will give a presentation on rhododendron species with indumented leaves. He will show slides from his own nursery and The Rhododendron Species Foundation Botanical Garden and some pictures will be from a trip to Yunnan Province in China.

Lynn was a high school principal and served in the U.S. Navy in World War II and the Korean War. He has been growing rhododendrons for 36 years and has his own nursery 'The Greenery' in Bellevue, Washington. In addition to rhododendron species and dwarf hybrids he sells Washington and British Columbia native plants developed from his seed and cutting collection.



With luck, he will bring some plants for sale at the meeting.

## March 16 Chapter Meeting

Alleyne Cook provided us with a spectacular slide presentation of large rhododendrons and companion plants. Photographs included large *arboreum* hybrids at Haworth Castle in Ireland and large specimens of *R. sutchuenense* and *R. macabeaunum* in Windsor Great Park. The advantages of deadheading were noted. In an interesting long-term experiment, Alleyne deadhead three 'Bowbells' and left two plants untouched. After 15 years, the two plants died and the three that were always deadheaded were still healthy.

Special thanks to Vern Finley who brought in lovely trusses of *R. sutchuenense*, *R. mucronulatum*, *R. erubescens* and some *strigillosum* crosses.☼

## New Members

We are pleased to welcome Elaine and Lorne Trickett of Abbotsford, Bobby and Judith Ogdon of Surrey, and David Moore of Powell River.☼

# Fraser South Tours

**Tour 1:** DAVID C. LAM ASIAN GARDENS  
SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1:00 P.M.

A guided tour for Fraser South members with Mike Trembath and Don Martyn sharing their knowledge of rhododendron species. Meet at the entrance to the Asian Gardens at UBC on Southwest Marine Drive at 1:00 p.m.

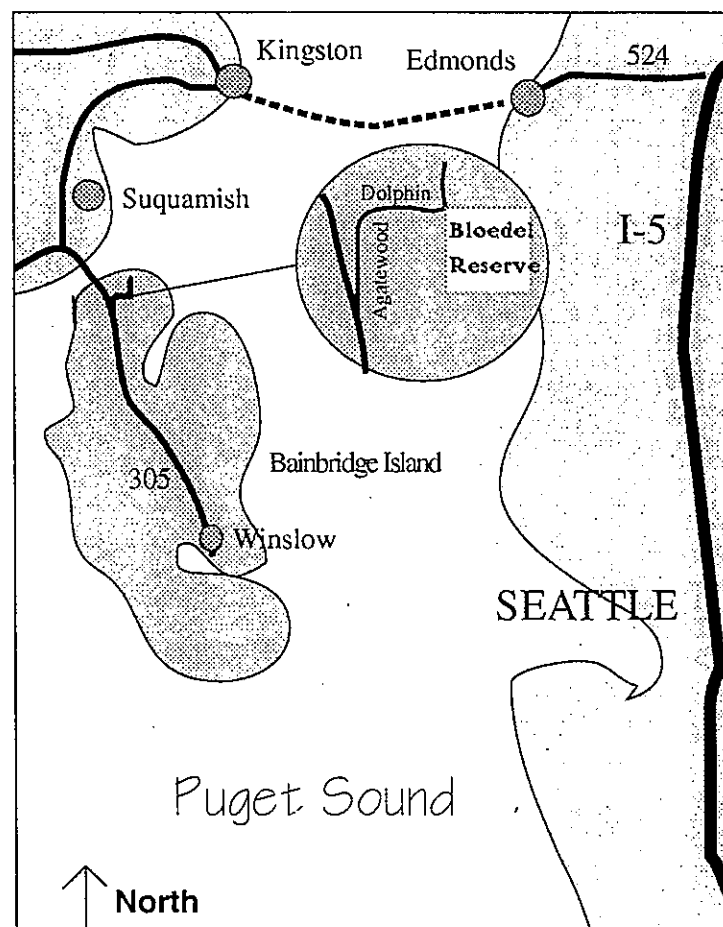
**Tour 2:** HAMMOND'S ACRES OF RHODODENDRONS AND BLOEDEL RESERVE,  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WASHINGTON  
SATURDAY, APRIL 23—ALL DAY

Car Pooling—call David Sellars at 535-0763 if you have space available or if you need a ride. Bring a packed lunch.

Departure Time: 8:00 a.m.

Estimated time of arrival at Hammonds: 9:30 a.m.

Estimated time of arrival at Bloedel Reserve: 1:00 p.m.



**Hammond's Acres of Rhododendrons**

25911 - 70th Avenue NE, Arlington  
Washington

Phone No. 206-435-9206. Phyto permits will not be available for plant purchases.

Directions: Turn off I5 at exit 212 (Stanwood). At bottom of hill, turn left at the STOP sign. Cross under the freeway and go four miles east to the next STOP sign. Turn right onto Hwy. 9 and head south one mile. Turn left at 254 Street (a gravel road) and go to a 'T' junction and turn left.

**Bloedel Reserve**

7571 NE Dolphin Drive, Bainbridge Island

We will leave Hammonds at about 10:45 a.m. and go south on I5, past Everett and take the turn-off to the Edmonds ferry terminal (Hwy. 524). The ferry will take us to Kingston and then we head south past Suquamish to Hwy. 305. Turning left we will cross the Agate Pass Bridge to Bainbridge Island. A left turn onto Agatewood leads to Dolphin Drive and The Bloedel Reserve (see map). Admission is U.S.\$4.00 per person. A tour guide will meet us at 1:00 p.m.

*(Tour details continued on page 4)*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# S P R I N G

**SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 1-4  
FRASER SOUTH SPRING  
PLANT SALE**

Clay's Nursery  
3666 - 224th Street, Langley

**BRADNER FLOWER SHOW  
APRIL 15, 16, 17**

6735 Bradner Road  
Mt. Lehman  
Display Garden open March 25  
to April 30

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 8:00  
CHAPTER MEETING**

Guest Speaker: Lynn Watts  
of The Greenery Bellevue  
will give a presentation and  
have plants for sale

**SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 10-4  
VANDUSEN GARDEN'S  
PLANT SALE**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30  
FRASER SOUTH'S  
WILLOWBROOK TRUSS SHOW  
AND PLANT SALE**

Willowbrook Mall, Langley

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 8:00  
CHAPTER MEETING**

Members Beer Bottle Truss  
Show and Appreciation Night  
Show your trusses; buy, sell or  
trade plants with other Fraser  
South members

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15  
CHAPTER PICNIC**

### TOURS

- 1 DAVID C. LAM ASIAN GARDENS  
SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1:00 P.M.**
- 2 HAMMOND'S ACRES OF RHODODENDRONS  
& BLOEDEL RESERVE, BAINBRIDGE  
ISLAND, WASHINGTON  
SATURDAY, APRIL 23 - ALL DAY**

Very few tours are allowed to the woodland gardens of the Bloedel Reserve of over 100 acres. Fraser South has been fortunate to obtain a reservation for a guided tour. On the way to Bainbridge Island we will stop at Dave Hammond's nursery and display garden near Arlington. Travel will be by car pool. Please contact David Sellars at 535-0763 if you need a ride or can provide space in your car. Arrangements will be finalised at the April Chapter meeting.

- 3 MIKE BALE & SILVER CREEK GARDENS  
SUNDAY, MAY 1**

- 4 FRASER SOUTH MEMBERS' GARDENS**  
A new tour concept for Fraser South. Every Thursday evening from April 21 to May 19, 7:00 p.m. to dusk, one of our members' gardens will be open for drop-in visitors. Our gardens vary from some only recently started to collections of established plants. The objective will be to provide members with the opportunity to discuss successes and future plans, and to exchange information and ideas.

- 5 SKAGIT VALLEY - R. MACROPHYLLUM**  
A tour to the Skagit Valley to view one of our native species in its natural habitat will be organized in June.

## Tours continued

### Tour 3: MIKE BALE'S & SILVER CREEK

GARDENS, SUNDAY, MAY 1

Meet at Mike Bale's at 10:00 a.m.—Cross the Rosedale Bridge to Agassiz and turn west on Hwy. 7 towards Harrison Mills. Mike's property is on a ridge on the right of Hwy. 7 where the road leaves the fields and rises up a hill. If you pass the look-out on your left you've gone too far.

At 1:00 p.m., we will meet at John Andersons. Turn right (north) off Hwy. 7 on Wren Street (just west of Mission town centre) and follow Wren and Tyler to John Anderson's home (with a green shed) on the corner of Olson and Clay. From there we will proceed to the 10-acre Silver Creek Garden.

### Tour 4: FRASER SOUTH MEMBERS' GARDENS THURSDAYS, 7:00 P.M. TO DUSK

April 21: Doc and Vern Finley  
10476 - 125B Street, Surrey

April 28: Don and Louise Martyn  
42035 Yarrow Central, Yarrow

May 5: David and Wendy Sellars  
16877 - 30A Avenue, South Surrey

May 12: Arnim and Mary Roeske  
19459 - 5th Avenue, South Surrey

May 19: Lillian Emerson  
6835 - 232nd Street, Langley

### Bus Tour to Gardens in the Valley Saturday, May 14

Visit McKee Garden, Abbotsford, Minter Garden, Mike Bale's Garden, Agassiz, Silver Creek, Mission, and Ted and Ken Ladd's Garden

Fraser South members are invited to join the Vancouver chapter on this tour. The bus will pick up members at 104th and King George Highway at 9:00 a.m. Cost is \$27.50 which includes admission fee to Minter Gardens. If you are interested call Joan Bengough at 596-1788 (during the day) or 596-8740 (evenings) before April 20—first come, first served.\*

## Membership List

The membership list mailed out in March had some errors in telephone numbers and postal codes. Please check your copy and let Wendy Sellars know if there are changes required. A new list will be issued in May.\*



by Indumentum

Harold Greer considers *R. pachysanthum* to be the *R. yakushmanum* of the future possessing as it does all the best features of both *R. yakushmanum* and *R. pseudochrysanthum*. So have you ever wondered what comes after *R. pachysanthum*? Well I am pleased to report 'The Next One' has been found. In the newsletter of the Columbia South Chapter there is an article on a recent expedition to the gorge of the Irrawady River on the border of China and Burma. A new species was found on small rock ledges hundreds of metres above the turbulent stream. The only access was by rappelling down the rock face to a belay provided by gnarled specimens of *Davidia involucrata*. The plant has exquisite foliage, a full-domed shape and is a perfect garden plant as it does not grow larger than 1 m high. It seems to have evolved this self-pruning attribute to avoid toppling off its tiny rock ledge in its natural habitat. It is available in a variety of forms, with huge, perfect trusses of red, white, blue or yellow depending on your garden colour requirements and always flowers regularly a day after the end of March. It has been named *R. apriliscavillari* after the time and circumstance of its discovery. As always, with a desirable plant, it can only be found at obscure, out-of-the-way nurseries adorned with a piece of red tape meaning its already been sold to somebody else.