

# PARS News

## Coming Events

- Apr 22     **General Meeting** ([Google Earth map](#))  
7:30 pm     Cranley Hall, 2141 Cranley Dr, Surrey  
Speaker: Graham Laine  
Topic: Darts Hill
- Apr 23-24     Tour of MARS gardens and Tofino
- May 21     MARS tour of PARS members gardens  
and pot-luck supper at Fischers'
- Jun 08     **Annual Picnic** TBA
- Sep 23     **General Meeting** ([Google Earth map](#))  
Speaker: TBA  
Topic: TBA



[www.PeaceArchRhodo.ca](http://www.PeaceArchRhodo.ca)

- 1 Coming Events
- 1 President's Message
- 2 Book Review
- 3 PARS Vancouver Island Tour
- 3 Fearing's Farm Invitation
- 5 Contacts

### President's Message – Ken Parker

Well, the plant sale is over and I am sure that many of us have been busy planting the purchases that we made. In many cases we are involved in a giant game of musical chairs with the new plants replacing older and less desired material and then the challenge of finding a suitable spot for the removed plant all part of the fun, particularly in smaller gardens. The past few days have proved to be quite good for this exercise what with the bit of sunshine and the drop of rain.

Seeing the membership turnout and the social activity at the plant sale I would judge the show a success, congratulations to Giff for his efforts in putting this event together.

One area where we have not had the success that we desperately need is in finding a new Secretary. We need to find one, so if you have any ideas or know of somebody that may be encouraged to take the job please let me know.



In this newsletter you will find more information on the visit to us by our hosts from the island. Like us they will overnight here and do tours of member's gardens. All of our members are encouraged to participate in this event even if you were not able to go to the island

*From the librarian: Please keep in mind that we ask that all books be returned before the June/08 picnic to allow for the annual inventory of the library to be completed*

## **Book Reviews – Margaret Hodgson**

### **Book Reviews** Margaret Hodgson

***Rhododendron Portraits*** by D.M. van Gelderen, J.R.P. van Hoey Smith

424 pages, approx. 386 plates colour photos (1144 colour photographs in total), with good descriptions of all the various cultivars. *Rhododendron Index*. Copyright 1992 Timber Press, Portland Oregon, published in cooperation with the Royal Boskoop Horticultural Society. ISBN 0-88192-1947.

**D.M. van Gelderen** is a professional nurseryman, active in the Royal Boskoop Horticultural Society and especially involved in the Trials. A leading grower of rhododendrons, conifers, maples, and other woody plants, he is a frequent contributor to *Dendroflora*.

**J.R.P. van Hoey Smith**, Director of the Trompenburg Arboretum in Rotterdam, is a leading collector of rhododendrons and conifers. He is active in the International Dendrology Society and travels widely to photograph trees and plants in their native habitats.

D.M. van Gelderen and J.R.P. van Hoey Smith are two of the world's foremost authorities on *Rhododendrons*, and in *Rhododendron Portraits*, they have compiled a most lavish and comprehensive photographic survey of the elepidote rhododendrons, illustrated throughout in full colour. The large-flowered, evergreen species and hybrids are grouped according to a system that emphasizes the natural relationship between the many fine hybrids and their parents.

The introduction provides an overview of the genus, including the history of *Rhododendron* classification and hybridizing. The following reference pages provide more detailed information about the plants documented in the 1144 colour photographs, including notes on distribution, botanical characteristics, and species of particular interest to gardeners, nursery professionals, and landscape designers. The generously sized plant portraits were selected from more than 3000 taken by the authors since 1960.

The authors travelled far afield to photograph the most spectacular *Rhododendron* specimens, including many hybrids, as well as the many beautiful cultivars grown in parks and nurseries of Europe, the United Kingdom, and North America. All cultivars are documented.

Production of this first edition coincided with the 1992 Floriade World Flower Show in The Netherlands.

Example of book information:

### **Explanation of Captions**

Format:

'**Plant name**'. Grower/introducer, year of introduction, year of registration. Female parent X male parent. Awards. Height in metres or centimetres, months in bloom (in Roman numerals), hardiness zone.

Rhododendrons are classified according to the following zones:

Zone AA – Extremely winter hardy – colder parts of Canada

Zone A - Very winter hardy

Zone B - Hardy most of midwest USA and Canada – most parts of Canada

- Zone C - Hardy coastal areas, Oregon, Washington, Vancouver
- Zone D - Hardy only in California
- Zone E - Hardy only in protected gardens, California where rainfall adequate
- Zone F - Not in this volume – tropical and subtropical

## PARS Garden Tour – Vancouver Island

15 members of our club will be traveling to Qualicum & Tofino next week to visit the gardens of Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society members. Our first day will include a visit to gardens in the Qualicum area, and on the second day we will travel to Tofino to visit the very special garden of Ken & Dot Gibson. Needless to say, we are all very much looking forward to the trip – and our thanks to Robin Fischer for organizing this event.

The second half of this exchange trip will occur in May, at which time PARS will host members from Mount Arrowsmith.

On **Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>** our guests will enjoy an afternoon tour of three members' gardens – Evelyn Morton, Pat Glennie and Joan & Terry McGiveron. The garden tours will be followed by a pot-luck supper at Robin & Jack Fischer's home. On Thursday morning we plan a garden tour and lunch at the Glades, after which our guests will be returning home.

Please mark these dates on your calendar and plan to join these special events. Further details on times etc. will be forthcoming in early May.

### Fearing's Farm - Open Garden

We would like to invite all our rhodo society friends to visit our garden which will be open Saturday and Sunday April 19 and 20 from 12:00-4:00. We are located at 5376 Ross Road on the west side of Abbotsford. That is north of the freeway between the 264th Street and Mt. Lehman exits. If you need directions please phone us at 604 857 4136.

Our garden is still relatively new and so very much a work in progress. It emphasizes rhododendron and azalea species, many of which we have grown from seed. However there should be quite a number of the more mature plants in bloom.

### Harold and Ginny Fearing



Plant Sale Photos



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