

PARS News

Coming Events

22-Sept-09 **First General Meeting**

Les Clay, Giff Robb. Slide presentation and discussion on various methods of rhodo propagation.

7:30pm at Cranley Hall, 2141 Cranley Drive

26-Sept-09 **Propagation workshop at Les Clay's Nursery**

Hands on rhodo propagation and take home your very own little babies.

Followed by buying trip to one of best wholesale nurseries in the valley.

Chance to buy rhodos (mainly hybrids), Japanese maples, companion plants at discount prices.

15 acres and over 800 plant varieties to choose from. Colleen Bojezuk will host.

Followed by a tour of Aldergrove Nursery

(see attached map for directions)

9:00am-4:00pm

27-Oct-09 **General Meeting**

Steve Hootman: Steve is the self-styled Indiana Jones of rhodo exploration in the Himalayas. He will regale us with tales of his derring-do and fill us in on what remains to be done in the ongoing search for new species.

7:30pm at Cranley Hall, 2141 Cranley Drive

24-Nov-09 **General Meeting**

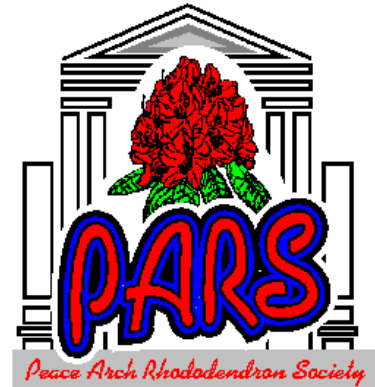
Xmas party. Silent auction, lots of delectable munchies, and slide show of last season's events.

7:30pm at Cranley Hall, 2141 Cranley Drive

08-Dec-09 **Van Dusen Gardens and light show.**

The club pays the entrance fee for members.

Pre-light show dinner is optional and at members' expense.



www.PeaceArchRhodo.ca

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President's Report

Dear PARS Club Members,

Welcome back to another year of PARS activities. This year we started early. As you know we were unable to have our picnic at 'The Glades' in June and Jim & Elfriede DeWolfe graciously offered their garden. A special 'Thank You' to the DeWolfes for making this event possible. Thanks to Robin Fischer for taking care of the planning & provisions of the party as a good time was had by all, despite the rain.

This year the executive has whole heartedly endorsed an idea by Chris Hodgson (vice-president and program director). This idea allows our club to spend more time doing activities rather than time spent at meetings in the hall. We intend to couple a speaker's presentation with a follow up visit/field trip.

I've been on the PARS executive for the last 10 years and have come to the conclusion that getting people to commit to a year long position is difficult and as a club we miss out on a lot of available talent because our commitment expectation is for too long.

To use an analogy, I see our club being like a Viking long boat with a small crew and every single seat has an oar. Everyone is expected to row. I am proposing that we will run with a lean executive and ask our individual members to take on small one time projects; tooney table, Christmas party etc. If we propose a project or event and cannot get the support that is required to make it successful then the event will not go forward.

It is my intention, first and foremost, that PARS should be fun for every member, including the executive.

We all owe a big "Thank You" to our outgoing executive officers:

Ken Parker – president; Richard Bryson – treasurer; Sandra Bryson – past president,
Michael Richards – newsletter editor; Ann Burian & May Jenkins – directors.

The Executive has approved holding this year's membership cost at \$30.00 despite an increase from ARS.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting on September 22nd.

Chuck Floyd
PARS President



PARS FIELD TRIP, SEPT. 26, 2009

PROPAGATION WORKSHOP WITH *LES CLAY* AND *GIFF ROBB* AND GRAND TOUR OF ALDERGROVE NURSERY WITH *COLLEEN BOJEZUK*

Dear PARS members,

On Saturday, September 26, we have almost a full day field trip planned in the Langley-Aldergrove area. Members can travel individually or arrange among themselves to car pool.

The event starts at 9:00 am sharp at the Les Clay Nursery, 3674 224 St, Langley (please refer to accompanying map).

Les and Giff Robb will be working with us in groups to propagate our own rhodies both from seed and from cuttings. The leaders will already have given us a dry run demo of these and other techniques at the regular PARS meeting on the previous Tuesday, September 22, so we will more-or-less know the drill. They will also have advised us as to the best method of cutting and preserving cuttings, so we'll arrive on Saturday with a good selection of fresh cuttings of our favourite rhodies to share and swap.

Both Les and Giff have a selection of seeds for us to work with. Please remember to bring with you all the normal potting tools and as many plastic pots as you plan to plant. I've allowed 2-3 hours for this work, just in case we really get into it.

We'll then break for a quick lunch at the Station House Bar and Grill in Aldergrove (3122 Station Street, aka 272 St., just north of Fraser Highway) before continuing about 1 pm to Aldergrove Nursery just down the Fraser Highway on the south side (28080 Fraser Hwy). Colleen Bojezuk has visited our club many times to talk about, show and sell plants of fall and winter appeal. So it's about time we visited her on her home turf to see the full extent of her nursery's offerings.

Colleen says September is the best time to visit as the nursery is bulked out with plants for their wholesale buyers. The nursery has 15 acres and over 800 plant varieties, so be prepared to spend about three hours if you want to see it all. Rhodos (mainly hybrids) and Japanese maples are a specialty. And Colleen promises special (not quite wholesale) prices. So make out your lists now, and come prepared. Both events are "rain or shine". Hope to see you at Les' place!

Chris Hodgson

Book Review – Margaret Hodgson

The Encyclopedia of Rhododendron Species by Peter A. Cox and Kenneth N.E. Cox
416 pages, 1510 colour photos, 2 maps, and 2 line drawings. Glossary, Bibliography and Index.
Hardbound, Copyright 1997, Published in Great Britain by Glendoick Publishing, Glendoick Gardens
Ltd., Glencarse, and Perth, Scotland
ISBN 0-9530533 OX (hardcover)

Peter A. Cox is widely recognized internationally as one of the leading authorities on the genus *Rhododendron*. After achieving the Scottish Diploma of Horticulture, Peter spent a year at Notcutt's Nursery in Suffolk before establishing the nursery at Glendoick in 1954 in conjunction with his father Euan. Peter has searched for rhododendrons in many parts of the world including N.E. Turkey, W. and E. North America, N.E. India, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet and S.W. China where he has been numerous times. He has written several books and many articles on rhododendrons. He gardens both at Glendoick and at Baravalla in Argyll which between them have one of the world's most complete collections of temperate species rhododendrons. Although the raiser of many rhododendron hybrids and the grower of many more, Peter maintains that species will always be his first love.

For his achievements in horticulture, Peter Cox has been awarded the Victoria Medal of Honour, the Gold Medal of the American Rhododendron Society, The Nurseryman and Garden Centre Lifetime achievement award, awards from the Institute of Horticulture and Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society. In June 2005 he was awarded an honorary doctorate of Science from St Andrews University.

Kenneth N.E. Cox showed a remarkable ability to learn plant names by the age of two: he was able to name all the illustrations in his plant book and he used to impress Mr. Davidian, the rhododendron expert, by pointing out indumentum on rhododendron leaves.

Kenneth was not particularly interested in rhododendrons until he spent 6 months in America working for Ted Van Veen and Harold Greer when he was 17. He found to his dismay that the Americans expected him to be a rhododendron expert. Luckily he had time to absorb the Cox rhododendron books and by the time he returned to Glendoick he had begun research on the book which would become *The Encyclopaedia of Rhododendron Hybrids*.

Kenneth has carved out his particular niche in the world of plant-hunting in leading 9 expeditions to South and South-East Tibet and Arunachal Pradesh, India, 1995-to the present. He graduated in 1986 at the University of Birmingham, England with a BA in General Arts and a diploma in commerce.

Kenneth Cox is an experienced lecturer on rhododendrons, horticulture and exploration and has toured America and New Zealand, as well as speaking in the U.K. and Europe. Recently talks have been given at literary festivals, botanical gardens, specialist societies as well as The Royal Scottish Geographical Society and Royal Society for Asiatic Affairs. Kenneth is managing director of the family firm Glendoick Gardens Ltd in Scotland. Kenneth is keen on modern languages, speaking several. He is married with two sons and in his spare time plays several musical instruments.

The Encyclopedia of Rhododendron Species was written because the authors became more and more aware of the need for a fully comprehensive, well-illustrated volume on rhododendron species in cultivation which could act as a tool for identification of each species. The Introductory chapter describes the parameters that the authors used when deciding what system would produce a definitive and "final" classification of rhododendrons, if that is indeed possible. The remaining chapters of the book produced a

very well-organized body of information ranging from Subgenus Azaleastrum to Subgenus Tsutsusi over eight chapters, followed by a Glossary, Bibliography and a good Index. The detailed photographs show not only information about flowers, but also much information of upper and lower leaf surfaces which is helpful. Plant descriptions are also very detailed.

PARS April 7, 2009 Executive Meeting Minutes

Held at Bryson Home
2185-179th St., Surrey, BC at 7.30pm

Participants:

President	Ken Parker
Vice President	Chuck Floyd
Treasurer	Richard Bryson
Past-President	Sandra Bryson

Directors	Michael Richards Anna Burian
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Tours Manager	Chris Hodgson
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Absent	Margaret Hodgson – Secretary May Jenkins – Director
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AGENDA– Meeting was called to order by the President at 7.35pm

A. Minutes

Michael Richards moved to adopt the March 10th minutes as corrected. Seconded by Chuck Floyd – carried by all members of the Board.

Correction – “spending our money on newer updated editions” under Librarian’s report.

B. Officers’ Reports

President – Ken Parker

The plant sale was very well supported by members of the club.

Treasurer – Richard Bryson

Total deposits from the plant sale - \$7,116.00

Tag count - \$7,092.50

Gross income to club - \$2150.00

Expenses – \$718.00

Net income to club - \$1433.00

Donations – during 2008 and year to date 2009, no donations have been made by club. \$1000.00 has been budgeted for both years.

Review of financial records – Peter Knoepfel has offered to review records. RB will pass over Treasury items to Ken Parker in September and records will then be forwarded to Peter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Newsletter/Website – Michael Richards. Chris Hodgson has recommended a web hosting service which looks promising. Cost is \$4.95 per month plus \$15.00 set-up fee and \$29.95 to transfer web address. Michael Richard motioned that club sign up for this service. Initial payment is required for 18 months. Seconded by CF. Motion carried.

Membership – Sandra Bryson. 3 full memberships and 1 associate renewal were received last month.

Tours – Chris Hodgson. Comments from those present about Rhododendron Species Tour – minimum number of members (12) attended. Seating on bus was cramped. Concern re: lack of tour guide at RSF since trip was planned well in advance and numerous discussions taking place with RSF staff. Time taken from tour activities looking for place to have lunch etc.

Fearing Farm tour April 18th. Car-pool from SS Park & Ride. Meet at Fearing's Farm at 9.00am. Visit to Bradner flower show to follow. Visit to Anna Burian's mother's garden after lunch.

May tours – Wingswept Gardens and Free Spirit Nursery in Langley, followed by a pot-luck lunch at the home of Chris & Margaret Hodgson.

Sept.4th – Afternoon wine & cheese at the Glades

Plant Sale – Anna Burian. Additional sellers will be required next year.

OLD BUSINESS

Further discussion was held re: purchase of digital projector. Anna Burian motioned that club purchase digital projector and speakers at price not to exceed \$600.00. Seconded by Michael Richards. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Parker suggested that club subsidize cost of future trips.

Round table discussion was held re: club making significant donation to the Glades. RB volunteered to work on a proposal to present to members.

Meeting adjourned at 9.35pm

Respectfully submitted
Sandra Bryson

Peace Arch Rhododendron Society Executive 2009-2010

President	Chuck Floyd	604-541-2884	President@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
Vice President	Chris Hodgson	604-541-2382	VP@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
Past President	Kenneth Parker	604-542-0152	PastPresident@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
Treasurer	Margaret Hodgson	604-541-2382	Treasurer@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
Secretary	Gail Floyd	604-541-2884	Secretary@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
Directors:	Michael Richards	604-542-0929	Director3@PeaceArchRhodo.ca

Committee chairpersons

Membership Admin.	Sandra Bryson	604-541-2494	Membership@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
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Sunshine	Joan Bengough	604-531-4680	
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Trips & Tours	Chris Hodgson	604-541-2382	Tours@PeaceArchRhodo.ca
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Meeting site logistics			
Publicity			
Plant Sale			
Social			

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