

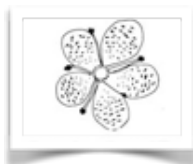


Hello,

Following our long snowy winter feel we are all waiting for the first flush of spring. The sap is rising and early spring bulbs are starting to emerge. A drift of snowdrops so uplifting along with the woodland birds are beginning to sing and some rays of sun on our backs.. spring is on its way.

This months newsletter contains:-

- **Agenda:- for Monday February 27th 1:pm** (doors open at 12:30p.m.) **Shelly Road Hall Parksville . Rhododendron Workshop:- Mike Miller.** He will be demonstrating on how to sow seeds, how to take, strike, pot up cuttings and answer questions etc. A nice follow follow on from last months meeting by Bernie Guyader's presentation dwarf/small rhododendrons for the rock garden **Library, Plant Draw and Refreshments** will be available in which to partake.
- Follow up information from Bernie's Talk in Jan. A list of Dwarf/Small Rhododendrons for the Rock Garden (Acknowledgement Valerie Melanson).
- **AGCVI Board 2017**
- **Programme 2017**
- **Refreshments**
- **Website: Members Garden Spotlight and Information** (Acknowledgement to Teri Hyde)
- **Notices: Eaglecrest Garden Club Meeting & Qualicum Beach Club Meeting.**





January Meeting Followup:

Well Bernie's talk & images really opened my eyes to the wonderful world of dwarf/ small rhododendrons for the rock garden. Thank you Bernie for coming along and doing the talk. I was so taken with some of your lovely images I failed to take proper notes. Valerie however has provided me with a list of some of rhododendrons mentioned for your perusal; thank you Valerie.

R. pendulum & *R. megeratum* - these have very hairy leaves. Bernie suggests to grow them on a stump, and do give them protection from winter rain.

R. stenophyllum 'Linearifolium' - the leaves look like those of a Japanese Acer

R. lapponicum - prostrate grower, on moss in native habitat

R. kamtschaticum

R. 'Ptarmigan' - great to grow with Hepatica

R. keleticum - likes moisture and has big blooms

R. 'Egret' - a *R. campylogynum* cross developed by Peter Cox

R. fragariflorum - has flowers like a strawberry plant

R. keiskei 'Yaku Fairy'

R. 'Pink Drift'

R. forrestii repens - lovely big red flowers on super compact plant

R. campylogynum myrtilloides - medium pink bell flowers.

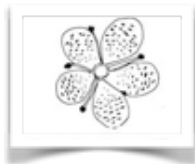


AGCVI EXECUTIVE 2017

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Programs June Strandberg and Valerie Melanson
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Photographer Kirsten Juergensen
Web Site Teri Hyde
At Large Barb Lemoine
Publicity remains open



AGCVI Programme 2017

Feb 27 - MIKE MILLER on PROPAGATING RHODODENDRONS - Shelly Road, Parksville. Library, Prize Draw

At this meeting, membership decision needed on **Topic for David Sellars'** talk on April 24th - 4 choices:

--Following in the Footsteps of Reginald Farrer in the Dolomites.

--The Crowning Glory of the Bighorn Mountains (David visited there during the NARGS 2016 conference and wrote an article for the NARGS Rock Garden Quarterly)

--Tight Buns and other Obsessions (another new presentation focusing on rock gardening techniques)

--Chaos in the Rock Garden: Putting Theory into Practice. David notes: "I think it is my best presentation so your group may want to consider it unless too many from QB were in attendance in Victoria in 2012."

March 18th - VIRAGS Spring Show & Sale, March 17-18

March 27th - Linda Derkach - Rock Gardens at Hidcote and Rodmarton Manor (UK), Shelly Road, Parksville. Library, Prize Draw

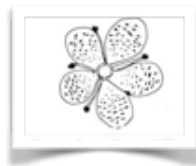
At this meeting Topic to be chosen for Jiri Papousek visit:

--Building crevices and other Czech gardens

--Small daphnes and their cultivation

--Saxifragas - breeding work of Karel Lang

--Diversity of methods of growing alpines in the Czech garden - AGC-BC is having this one on June 14th



--Growing alpines in tufa wall inside the tunnel (as shown in "Crevice" Fall 2016, Pages 4-6 & Spring 2017 issue)

--Exploring Zagros mountains in Iran

--Alpines around the lake Lago di Garda

April 24th - David Sellars - Topic choice to be made Feb 27th. QB Civic Centre. David will send us a plant list in March so we can reserve plants. Prize Draw

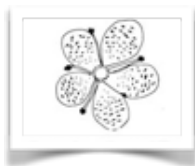
Saturday, April 29th - Our Plant Sale, at Louise Cotterill's, confirmed - MARS & Eaglecrest are April 22, Milner is April 29/30, MARS Garden Tour is May 13/14

May 8th - Alan McMurtrie of reticulatas.com - QB Civic Centre. Alan will speak on his work breeding Iris reticulata cultivars. He is speaking to AGC-BC on May 10th.

May 29th - TBA

June 12th - Jiri Papousek, Alpine Parrot, from Czech Republic, QB Civic Centre. Topic choice to be made Feb 27th.

June 26th - TBA



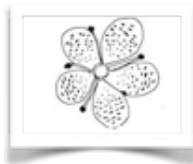


Refreshments:

Please don't forget to bring along your own mug enabling you to partake in the refreshments on offer.

Thank you to Barbara Kulla and Joanne Nemeth. (Please bring just over 2 dozen each). For providing the "goodies" for Monday February 27th Meeting.

Welcome Joanne to the AGCVI





Website for AGCVI:

Teri would like to remind you to take a look at the website:

It is full of interesting information from history to images. The Garden Spotlight is very inspiring.

<http://alpinegardenersofcvi.wixsite.com/agcvi>.

New addition to the website: **Members Garden Spotlight** for all Alpine garden members. Send photos of your garden or alpine plants from a trip and any information you would like with them to alpinesrock@shaw.ca
Every month or two there will be a new **Garden Spotlight** at <http://alpinegardenersofcvi.wixsite.com/agcvi/pictures>
If you have any ideas or suggestions email them too, all ideas are welcome!

Member only section password is 'mimulus' all lower case





Notices:

Qualicum Beach Garden Club

Tuesday March 14th 7:p.m.

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre, 747 Jones St., Qualicum Beach.

All welcome \$3.00 at door for non members. Refreshments, Show & Tell table plus Library for members.

Speakers: Theresa Whitely (Oceanside Yoga) and Kathy Claxton “**G**etting **B**ody and **T**ools into **S**hape’.

Note for this meeting: Please wear comfortable clothing as there will be some group participation for stretches, etc. ‘Advised there will be no downward dog poses.’ There will also be a longer question period. Theresa is a yoga instructor and she will look at specific stretchers for loosening up stiff and sore gardeners. Kathy will be talking about tool maintenance and the ergonomic use of tools for the gardening season.

Eaglecrest Garden Club

Wednesday March 15th 7:p.m

Qualicum beach Civic Centre, 747 Jones St., Qualicum Beach.

All welcome \$3.00 at door for non members.

Speaker: Kathy Claxton “**S**owing **S**eeds **T**iming **I**s **E**verything”

For more info: Jenny [250-954-3888](tel:250-954-3888)