

"THE CREVICE"

In memory of Eswyn

Newsletter of
The Alpine & Rock Garden Special Interest Group of the
Qualicum Beach Garden Club

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CAERHAYS CASTLE AND GARDENS

Text & photos by Shirley Finstad

Nestled in a secluded valley above Porthluney Cove, by the Cornish coast, Caerhays is an 120 acre garden home to a National Magnolia Collection comprising of 600 magnolias, many of which are original plants collected from China in the 1900's. The gardens include rhodos, camelias plus woodland and meadow plants, and many varieties of Acer, Hydrangea, Podocarpus, Oaks and Tree ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*).



This is a very diverse garden with 4 distinct woodland walks around the castle with displays of spring flowers along the grassy trails highlighting the magnificent magnolias, rhodos, camellias etc., and with some inviting cozy benches along the way for one to sit and drink in all the glorious views in the warmth of a comforting sunny day.



We had missed the main spring colour but with such a diverse garden and still flowering rhodos, hydrangeas etc. in the woodland settings we were not disappointed!



Also the views looking down on the coastal bay as well as the estate lake were wondrous. I believe in this garden I felt the most relaxed and rejuvenated!



***Cypripedium parviflorum* IN THE ROCKIES**

Text and Photos by David Sellars

We usually hike in the Canadian Rockies in the summer and had not seen *Cypripedium parviflorum* probably because it flowers in late spring/early summer at low elevations. We were in Calgary last June and members of the Calgary Rock and Alpine Garden Society (CRAGS, what a great acronym!) took us on a day hike in the Rocky Mountain foothills near the old Trans-Canada Highway just east of Canmore, Alberta. Near a favourite rock climber's crag, Yamnuska, we found some extensive open talus slopes covered with *Cypripedium parviflorum* in full flower. There was also *Anemone drummondii* and various species of *Oxytropis*.



Cypripedium parviflorum with Yamnuska
in the background



Cypripedium as rock plant





Androsace chamaejasme



Oxytropis viscida-sericea

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - JUNE STRANDBERG



Narcissus cross

These narcissi I got by transferring pollen from *Narcissus asturiensis* (I bought from Gordon's) onto quite large *Narcissus cyclamineus* (I bought from Cruickshanks).

In 2011 I put pollen from these on to some of my tiny *N. cyclamineus* that I grew from seed. It germinated last year so now I have to wait to see what I get! We used to be able to buy these things but now Gordon's (here) and Cruickshanks (Ont) are gone. and I have not found anywhere else. The cross is called *Narcissus* 'Minicycla'

Here is the large piece of tufa that came from Brisco - I think it was 3 years ago I planted it.





Eswyn bought the above *Lewisia tweedyi* 'Herb's Delight' from a vendor at VIRAGS Show and Sale - I can't find any reference to the name.

It never set seed so in 2009 I moved a bit of pollen around and in the spring it had 1 baby! (see photo 093) Last year I cross pollinated it with *Lewisia tweedyi* 'Rosea' and now they both have seedlings!



Lewisia tweedyi 'Rosea'

(NB: *Lewisia tweedyi* is now known amongst botanists as *Lewisiopsis tweedyi*)



Lewisia cotyledon out in my Semp. Border. I bought it last year, I think from Elk Lake.

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - LORI PROSS

Lori has been busy creating a new crevice garden.
Here's the view of the bed before construction began:



With the slate pieces roughed in:



After a visit from Mike Miller and June Strandberg to advise, the slate was fine-tuned and more fill and a top dressing of bird's eye gravel was added. Here the crevice bed is ready for the addition of plants:



The last 4 pictures are what it looks like now. I have approx. 16 plants in there, some pretty small!



Blooming now in Lori's Garden:



A lovely Hepatica nobilis

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - ELAINE BOHM



Saxifraga 'Clarissa'

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - SUE BEATTY

Success with germination:



An orange lily doing quite well when left outside on the glass patio table



Sorbus seed given by Gordon Mackay at the September seminar

Of the lily, Sue writes: "They want to live!!!! I am going to put them in a pot - I'll leave one out for curiosity's sake. What I love about this lily is the seed is on the stalk while it's up and flowering - so where the leaf meets the stalk it's nestled. I left them there quite a while after the flower died. I really only took the stalks as I was collecting seed with the intention of sharing them and trying to germinate them myself. I think this year I'll cut the stalk late again and just lay it on the ground and my guess is they'll germinate and grow right there."

Lovely spring flowers:



Crocus and Saxifraga 'Touren Neon Rose'



Crocus





A seedling that needs identification.
Can you help Sue?

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - KIRSTEN JUERGENSEN



Hamamelis



Galanthus in bud