



**This Month's Meeting**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2017 @ 7:00 PM**

**THE JUSTLY FAMOUS FRASER SOUTH BEER BOTTLE TRUSS SHOW**

## 2017 Officers

President:	Evelyn Jensen	604-857-5663
Past Pres:	Chris Hodgson	604-541-2382
Vice Pres:	Colleen Bojczuk	604-826-4221
Secretary	Margaret Cadwaladr	604-427-1685
Treasurer:	Harold Fearing	604-857-4136
Directors:	Terry McLellan	604-888-5098
	Sandra Short	604-859-8591
	Jim Worden	604-541-4754
Programme:	Vacant	
Membership:	Ginny Fearing	604-857-4136
Newsletter:	Sean Rafferty	778-528-3647
Librarian:	Gerald Nemanishen	604-826-0166
Website:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Hospitality:	Gail Floyd	604-541-2884
	Lois Williams	604-535-0543

<http://frasersouthernrhodos.ca/>

Fraser South Rhododendron Society  
is a chapter of the  
American Rhododendron Society

Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the  
third Wednesday of each month  
(except June, July and August) at:  
**Langley Mennonite Fellowship Church**  
20997- 40<sup>th</sup>- Street  
Langley BC



## *Quick Hits*



**THIS MONTH'S MEETING IS THE CROWNING GLORY OF THE RHODODENDRON SEASON. THAT DATE FOR WHICH YOU HAVE ANXIOUSLY BEEN WAITING IS ALMOST NIGH. THERE IS NO LONGER A REQUIREMENT TO RESTRAIN YOUR ENTHUSIASM AND BATE YOUR BREATH, FOR NEXT WEDNESDAY'S MEETING WILL CAUSE THE ADRENALIN TO CRESCENDO. INDEED, THE EXALTED EXPERIENCE OF THE JUSTLY FAMOUS FRASER SOUTH BEER BOTTLE TRUSS SHOW WILL BE AT HAND.**

**SHARPEN YOUR SECATEURS AND PROCEED TO PAGES FIVE AND SIX FOR THE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT!!!**



**FROM THE EDITOR**

**This Month:**

will be the twenty-third anniversary of the Justly Famous Fraser South Beer Bottle Truss Show. The keenest among you will have been already eyeballing the best trusses in your garden and keeping the flower petals and leaves looking their finest. As you may recall, entry to the show is a truss and it does not necessarily have to be a rhododendron. Try to enter as many of the listed classes as you can, not just because it is fun but it also makes the hall look spectacular and we are all partial to floral beauty.

Please remember that the meeting will start at 7:00 pm rather than the regular time of 7:30 pm, in order to fill out your entry card, obtain your voting beads and place your entries in their appropriate categories. Getting there early also allows for a perusal of the competition.

**Next Month:**

will be our annual potluck picnic and auction. I believe that our executive have chosen a venue for the picnic and that may be announced at the Truss Show. The venue will also be announced, along with a map and directions, in next month's *Yak*.

**Other Duties As Assigned:**

Lois Williams and Gael Floyd, extremely experienced baristas, will be womanning the tea kettles and coffee urns for the gentle folk at Wednesday's meeting. Their generosity in performing this arduous task may make it difficult for them to place their truss entries on the appropriate tables. Please help them find the time to do double duty by lending a hand and giving some thought to bringing some delectables to the calorie table.

**THE CALENDAR:**

<b>Wednesday, May 17</b> <b>Langley Mennonite Hall</b>	<b>Fraser South Rhododendron Society</b> <b>Annual Justly Famous Beer Bottle Truss Show</b>
<b>Thursday, May 18</b> <b>5:30 pm Van Dusen</b>	<b>A walk in the park with Curator, Cynthia Sayre of Van Dusen</b>
<b>Saturday, June 3</b>	<b>Fraser South Annual Potluck Picnic</b> <b>Time and venue to be announced</b>
<b>Saturday, June 10</b> <b>3:00 pm 6559 Balsam St.</b>	<b>Vancouver Rhododendron Society</b> <b>Annual Potluck Picnic</b>





## The Business Stuff:



Please follow this [link](#) to the most incredible Rhododendron tour ever undertaken



Only days old, and already an accomplished pruner  
in the garden



**The Twenty-third Annual Justly Famous Fraser South Beer Bottle Truss Show will be held at our May meeting, Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.** This is a fun event in which everyone can participate.

1. Entry to the hall will be by bringing at least one truss. It is not necessary that it be a rhododendron.
2. There will be three areas for display:
  - a. competitive rhododendron trusses
  - b. non-competitive rhododendron trusses
  - c. companion plant displays, including bonsai
3. To assist in deciding which class to enter, an Advisory Panel will provide guidance and make any final decisions necessary.
4. All trusses must be in glass bottles. (Cans and plastic pop bottles are too unstable.)
5. Judging will be by member votes. Having given up on the too-sticky and too-tasty Smarties, we will be continuing with the counting beads used for the last few years. Just drop your bead in the receptacle in front of the truss you wish to vote for.
6. All entries to be rhododendrons (not azaleas) unless otherwise specifically noted.

#### Division I

##### Species Classes

- Class 1. Sub-genus 'Rhododendron' (lepidotes)
- Class 2. Azalea (deciduous and evergreen)
- Class 3. Sub-genus 'Hymenantes' (lepidotes)

#### Division II

##### Hybrid Classes

- Class 4. Any lepidote hybrid
- Class 5. Any deciduous azalea hybrid
- Class 6. Any evergreen azalea hybrid

##### Colour Classes (rhododendrons only)

- Class 7a: Red - (small)
- 7b: Red - (large)
- Class 8a: White - (small)
- 8b: White - (large)

continued on next page

## JFFSBBTS continued

- Class 9a: Pink - (small)
- 9b: Pink - (large)
- 9c: Pink - (really, really, large )
- Class 10a: Yellow & Cream (small)
- 10b: Yellow & Cream (large)
- Class 11a: Mauve & Purple (small)
- 11b: Mauve & Purple (large)
- Class 12: Orange
- Class 13: Bi-colour

## Division III

### Special Classes

- Class 14: "What's it Called" - best new non-registered hybrid - a special class for the hybridizer
- Class 15: Truss with the Best Fuzzy Foliage
- Class 16a: Best Blotched (small)
- 16b: Best Blotched (large)
- Class 17: Best Speckled
- Class 18: Most Lurid
- Class 19: Best Last Year's Truss
- Class 20: Most Elegantly Weevil-Notched
- Class 21: Best Hammerhead
- Class 22: Most Flaccid
- Class 23a: Best Miniature - under 6" (species)
- 23b Best Miniature - under 6" (hybrid)
- Class 24a: Most Fragrant - Rhododendron
- 24b: Most Fragrant - Azalea
- Class 25: Bridesmaid (for anyone not previously an award winner)

### Judged

**Lionheart Award:** best over-all yellow, any Class

### Definitions: :

1. **Small** - 6" or under
2. **Large** - 6" to 10"
3. **Really, Really, Large** - over 10"
4. **Blotch** - each individual flower shows a solid colour mark on dorsal lobe (or three lobes), distinctly different from the base colour of the flower.
5. **Lurid** - most vividly garish
6. **Hammerhead** - an inflorescence which arises from more than a single flower bud
7. **Speckled** - distinguished from blotches by non-solid colour sprinkles and spots, either around entire flower, or at least on upper lobe(s) - e.g. 'Paprika Spiced'





# Shirley's Bloomers





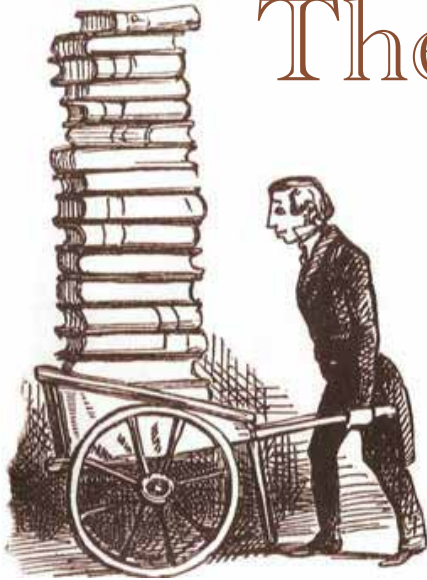
*R. cinnaabarinum*  
ssp. *cinnabarinum*



*R. elliotii*



# The Book Cart

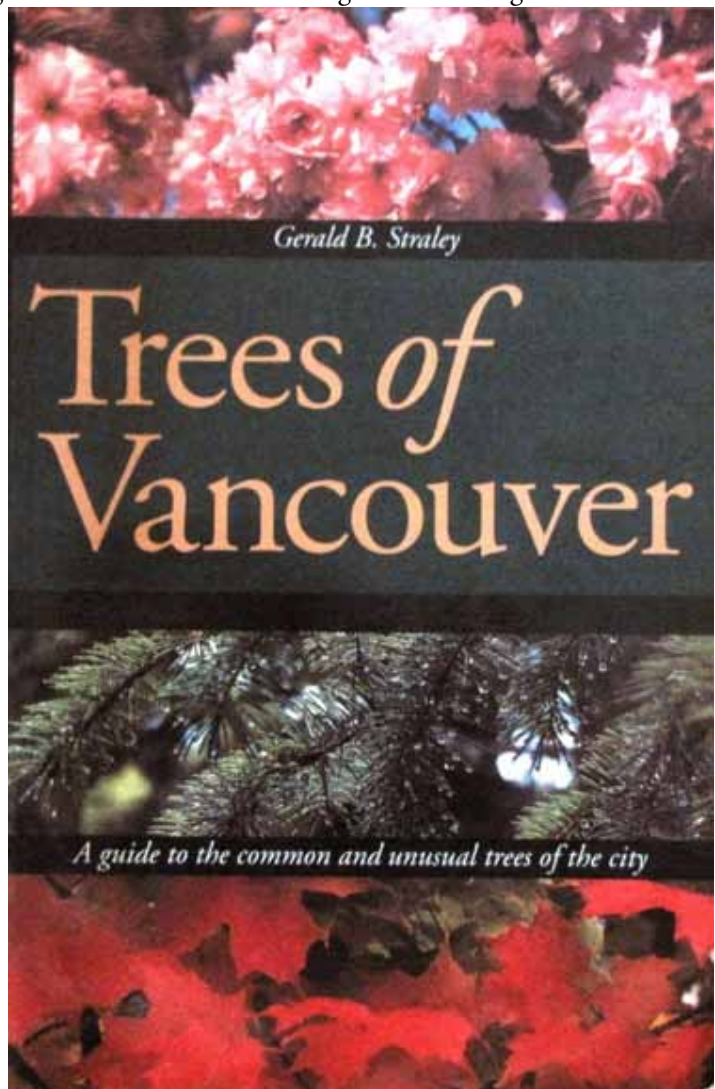


*Trees of Vancouver* by Gerald B. Straley. Published by University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, BC. Copyright ©1992 UBC Press. 232 pages, approx. 86 colour plates of trees in the Vancouver area which include the botanical names and the exact location of the tree photographed. Many black and white illustrations and diagrams, Glossary and a comprehensive Index of trees. ISBN 0-7748-0406-8

The Author: Dr. Gerald Bane Straley (1945-1997) was research scientist and Curator of Collections at UBC Botanical Garden. He was a well-known botanist and plantsman who lived in Vancouver, BC, and who took the opportunity to enjoy many interests, including hiking, gardening and photography. He used his position as an educator at UBC to pass on his vast knowledge to his students. He was recognized as having an almost

encyclopaedic ability to identify plants.

*Trees of Vancouver* is a book which I have intended to read for some time. The gentle climate of our area lends itself to providing a very green city and a city heavily populated by large conifers and broad-leaved evergreens. The spring brings in a magic flush of colour when the many thousands of flowering cherry trees, plums and other ornamental trees burst into full bloom, lasting over many weeks. There are well over 75,000 street trees in Vancouver. Right at the beginning of the book, the author has included a map of the West Mall (the Old Arboretum) at UBC with markings of all the trees located there, including the names of the numbered locations of 88 trees. He has made a similar map of The Crescent plantings (Angus Drive, Hudson Street, Osler Street, Tecumseh Avenue and McRae Avenue), again numbering and identifying all the trees located in this area. No doubt some of the trees will have been removed or new plantings added, but the majority of the trees will be there for some time. The book is a guide to visitors and local people in the area to discover the immense diversity of trees we have living in our streets around us. The book is divided into two sections with conifers and related trees in the first section, and flowering trees in the second section. Plants are listed alphabetically by family and then in each family, the trees are listed alphabetically by genus, species and cultivars. The book does not include collections of very rare trees such as one sees in the Van Dusen Gardens. Instead it concentrates on the many trees we see in parks, street boulevards and in gardens around Vancouver. This is an intriguing book and encourages the reader to plan a walking tour/car tour entailing a full day of tree discovery in the beautiful city of Vancouver. It is in our library.



Margaret Hodgson

## *Rhododendron fulgens* (Epithet: Shining)

*Rhododendron fulgens* has a wide distribution throughout the Himalayas, ranging through Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan, Assam, and south Tibet. Discovered by J.D. Hooker in 1849, in Sikkim, *R. fulgens* grows on mountain slopes, in thick rhododendron and *Abies* forests, and on open hillsides at elevations of 10,000-14,000 feet. It forms impenetrable thickets of itself between 12,000 and 14,000 feet and grows from five to fifteen feet tall. *R. fulgens* has striking crimson bracts on its new growth, roundish, shiny, dark-green leaves (often glaucous blue-green when young, similar to *R. campanulatum*) with a thick, brown, unistrate indumentum. Also, it has smooth and peeling red-



*R. fulgens*  
Walter Hood Fitch

brown or reddish-gray bark similar to *R. barbatum*. The inflorescence of *R. fulgens* is compact and rounded comprising 8-24 tubular-bell shaped, red to bright scarlet flowers with darker nectar pouches. It blooms in early spring. This species is rather easy to grow if given good drainage and it is tolerant of full sun but prefers light shade from the afternoon sun.

*R. fulgens* is classified in its own subsection, Subsection Fulgensia, although *R. sherriffii* and *R. succothii* seem to

be closely related and have been lumped in with *R. fulgens* in the past. *R. fulgens* differs from *R. succothii* in that *R. fulgens* has a thick woolly indumentum on its leaf underside

When not in flower it might be confused with *R. campanulatum* but differs from it by its smooth bark.

Hooker introduced *R. fulgens* in 1850 and it first flowered at Kew in 1862. The plant varies considerably in its freedom of flowering. Some flower profusely and some forms are extremely shy with flowers, producing very few each year.



*R. fulgens*  
image: Garth Wedemire

Sean Rafferty





*R. fulgens*, N. Sikkim



*R. fulgens*, N. Sikkim





Bracts on new growth



Bracts on new growth