



THE YAK

Volume 36, Number 5

May 2022



Biskra

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

<http://frasersoutherhododendron.ca>

Map : <https://goo.gl/maps/ZB1m1jnF9DP2>

Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the third
Wednesday of each month (except June,
July, and August).

In person meetings are not being held at this
time.

Cover:



Biskra

Lepidote Rhododendron

Rhododendron subsection: Boothia-Cinnabarina

Hybrid: *R. cinnabarinum* (Roylei Group) x *R. ambiguum*

Height: medium 4-5 m

Leaves: elliptic 65 x 30mm, dark green above, with minute, crimson glands below, on a plant of erect and slender habit

Flowers: a deep-pink fading to orange in a lax truss of about 5; narrowly trumpet-shaped, 40 x 50mm. A second clone has flowers reddish-orange shading to light brown.

Registered, introduced, and named by: L. de Rothschild

One of the hardiest *R. cinnabarium* hybrids worth trying in cold climates

Sources:

Rhododendrons & Azaleas A Colour Guide, by Kenneth Cox

The International Rhododendron Register and Checklist Second Edition 2004

This Month

Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

Place: Zoom meeting from the comfort of your own home

Title: The online “No Beer Bottle required” Truss Show.

Members will walk us through the “trusses” from their gardens.

Next Month



Date: Sunday, June 26th – Annual Picnic

The executive have proposed that the group hold their annual picnic on Sunday, June 26th at the home of Barb Mathias from 3:00 p.m. until everyone goes home.

Members would each bring their own picnic dinner. Further details have not been finalized.

Please give some thought as to whether you want to participate in this event as the executive may conduct a poll to determine interest level prior to finalizing the details.

Stay Tuned!

2022 OFFICERS

President:	Gerry Nemanishen	604-826-0166
Past Pres:	Evelyn Jensen	604-857-5663
Vice Pres:	Jim Worden	604-541-4754
Secretary:	Barbara Mathias	778-580-6404
Treasurer:	Harold Fearing	604-857-4136
Directors:	Robert Talbot	604-720-0134
	Nancy Moore	604-859-3690
	Colleen Bojczuk	604-826-4221
Programme:	Jim Worden	604-541-4754
Membership:	Evelyn Jensen	604-857-5663
Newsletter:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Librarian:	Gerald Nemanishen	604-826-0166
Website:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Hospitality:	Vacant	
BCCGC Liaison:	Vacant	

Reminders - !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

WE ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR MEETING SPEAKERS. PLEASE SEND YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO THE YAK EDITOR.

Submit articles, photos, or suggestions for the newsletter or else you will be stuck with the editors choices.

Members are **Encouraged** to send their own "In the Garden" photos to the editor for inclusion in the YAK.

From the President



This month's photo is a frittilaria imperialist. It has been in this spot for about 4 years and this is the best bloom yet.

I am very impressed with the bulb blooms this year. One of the best years ever. I'm not sure why that is and would welcome any ideas. Pam at Botanus has suggested that our blooms have lasted longer this year because of the cooler weather.

Our "virtual truss show" is later this month. I am disappointed by my rhododendrons so far. Some of the early ones are spectacular but most are just so so. The vast majority are not in bloom and will miss the truss show. I look forward to seeing everyone's photos.

Respectfully, *Gerald Nemanishen*

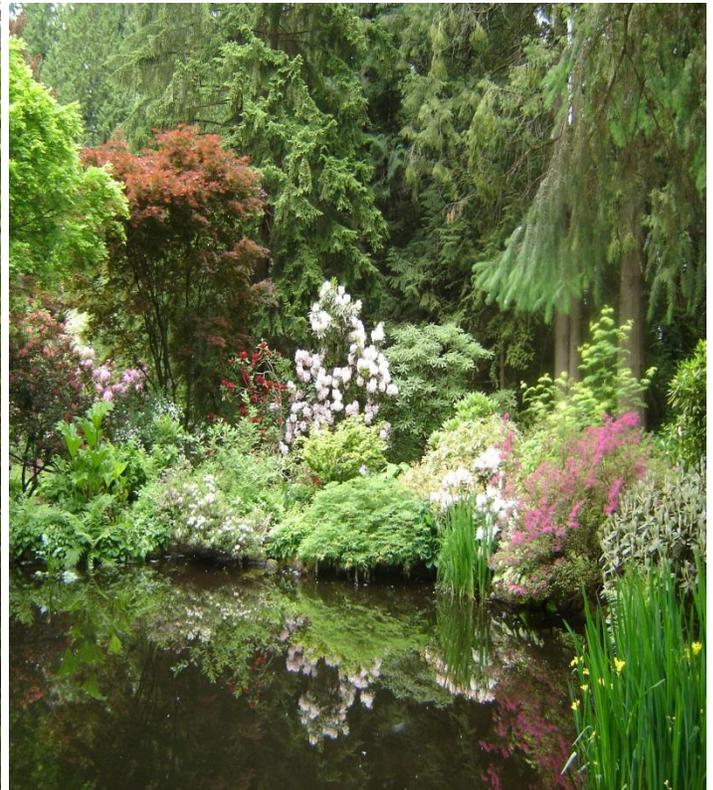


You're Invited!

John and Gael Dodd will be opening their garden on Sunday, May 22, from 10 a.m. – 4:00 P.M.

Their address is 24365 61st Ave, Langley.

A couple of pictures from a previous open garden at the Dodd's



Reminder: Upcoming Vacancies

A reminder that the positions for FSRS Membership and FSRS Programs will be soon be available and the executive is looking for volunteers to take these positions. Please consider contributing to the group by volunteering for one of these positions. Contact one of the executive with any questions you may have on either position.

From the Editor

While the rhododendrons may be somewhat late in blooming this year, they are certainly coming out now. As a result of the cool, unseasonable spring we've been having, the blooms are long lasting. "In the Garden" this month had second pick of the flower photos with the "Truss Show" having first pick, but with so many shots to choose from it didn't cause any issues! Both the YAK Editor and resident Head Gardener are happy with their respective picks.



When walking around the yard, it's interesting to notice that some rhododendrons have prolific buds/flowerings this year while others have only a few. Some have gone straight into new leaf production in preparation for next year (left). In addition to the rhododendrons, early blooming perennials (like *Doronicum orietale* 'Little Leo' AKA Leopard's Bane) (below) and tulip bulbs have been blooming for weeks. The hardy fuchsias have just started to show some growth along with later blooming perennials. Unfortunately the extreme cold we experienced over the winter has done in my Teddy Bear fuchsia and a beautiful planter of succulents

that have survived previous winters. Both had been moved as usual to over winter in the garage, but that protection wasn't enough this year. I will be on the hunt for a new teddy bear fuchsia as I love the minute flowers and watching the hummingbirds feed from them. Activity at the hummingbird feeders has increased over the past couple of weeks and I now have to fill them up on a daily basis. Perhaps it's the cool weather and the lack of flowers that they would normally be feeding from at this time of year, or early nesting has resulted in a population boom in the yard.



The squirrels have fortunately halted their assault of the rhododendron buds but are constantly on the hunt for food. I have a couple of suet/seed feeders out that are of the "hot pepper" variety and can attest that they work. It's actually quite entertaining to watch them come down to this food source and after a bite? nibble?, quickly leave and sit of the branches almost wiping their mouths trying to rid themselves of the hot pepper.

I hope you will join us this month for the first ever online "No Beer Bottle required" Truss Show and that you also sent in pictures of your "trusses". After a slow start, it appears that Nancy has over 100 pictures from members to share with us. Hope you are able to enjoy the floral beauty online in our next meeting. Take care!

Maureen Worden

The following articles originally appeared in the Fraser South Newsletter, June 2016 by Nancy Moore



The Truss Show- A Different Perspective

Hello, my name is Charles (SIR Charles, to you) and I'm a rhododendron.

Apparently, I've just been 'shown'. How demeaning! To be broken down into segments and judged. I am more than the sum total of my parts. Yes, I'm proud of my trusses. But really, how cruel can you be?

"The truss is too loose—it should be tighter."

Well, I am getting on in age.

"The flowers are a good week past their prime."

Ditto.

"Shame about the weevil damage."

Ooooooh! Perfection is so boring! It's obviously not enough to trash my appearance. They insist on criticizing my habits.

"He takes so long to bloom."

Clearly worth the wait.

"You really only get a decent show every other year."

Ditto.

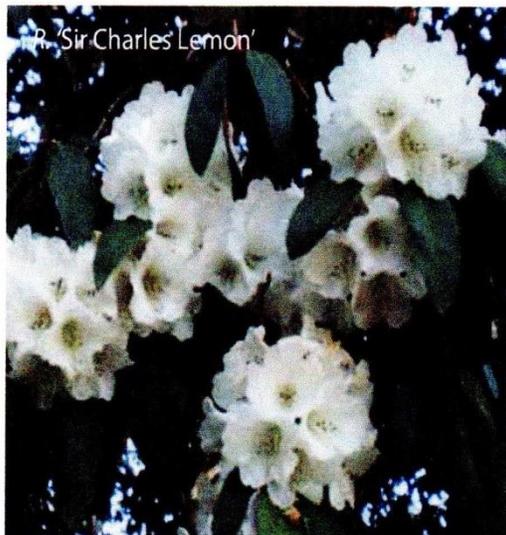
Seriously, I am a worthwhile rhododendron. I contribute, in a meaningful way to every garden I grace.

Notwithstanding my being a love-child from the wild, I have inner beauty, and great foliage, of course. I have intrinsic value. And I grow well with others. But to have my value reduced to the number of beads tossed into a bowl in front of me, as I sit helplessly perched in my owner's used beer bottle!!! Or worse, NOT have beads tossed at me!

How humiliating.

Apparently the female rhododendron namesakes have similar issues. If only it didn't feel so good to win . . . And what does 'best last year's truss' mean?

Nancy Moore



R. 'Sir Charles Lemon'

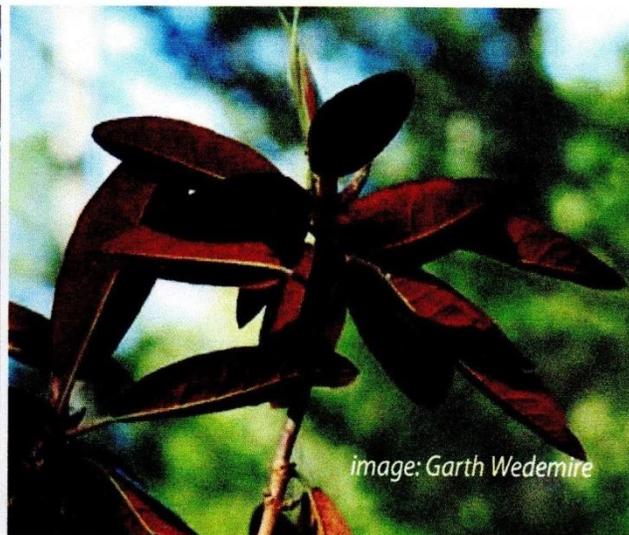


image: Garth Wedemire

From the Garden



Laramie



Cosmopolitan



R. schlippenbachii



Bambi x R. proteoides



Maureen



Unique



R. ambiguum



R. oreotrephes x R. cinnabarium



Loderi King George



Thor



Nancy Evans



Medusa



R.luteum(Golden Comet), Biskra, *R. augustinii* ssp. *chasmanthum*



R.yakushmanum

Jim Barlup Hybrids

Picture credit : Jim Barlup



Rose Tango (Crimson Constellation x Plum Passion)



Rose Velvet (Cody x Plum Passion)



Rose Whisper (Jonathan Saw x Rosalee Hall x Hills Low Red)



Rosewine (Independence Day x Plum High)



Roy Blackmore (Maverick x Orchid Bouquet)



Sachet (Dosido x r.yakushmanum)



Sandstone (Coral Blosson x Bambi x r.proteoides)



Saralynn (Meela x Christina Dee)



Sassy Orange (Sedona x Hills Low Red)



Satin Memories (Mrs. Furnivall x Whopper x Lems Cameo x Whopper x Brandts Tropicanna)



Sedona (Brinny x Whitneys Late Frilled Yellow)



Shanna Song (Mrs. Furnivall x One thousand Butterflies)