



THE YAK

Volume 36, Number 7

September 2022



R. auriculatum

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

<http://frasersouthernrhodos.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, August) at:

Langley Mennonite Fellowship Church
20997 40th Ave.
Langley, B.C.

Cover:



R. auriculatum

Subsection Auriculata

Height: 1.8-11m, a large shrub or tree, often umbrella-shaped. Buds long, conical, outer scales with long perulae. Branchlets usually densely glandular-hairy; bark roughish, greenish-brown.

Leaves: 9.5-32 x 2.8-12cm, oblong to oblong-lanceolate, base auriculate, retained 1 or more years; upper surface glabrous or with remains of hairs and glands, lower surface hairy and glandular, especially on midrib, veins and on margins.

Inflorescence: 6-15 flowered, fairly loose.

Corolla: funnel shaped, 6-10cm long, white or occasionally to rose-pink, with greenish blotch, fragrant; calyx small, 1-3mm, slightly glandular; stamens 14; ovary densely glandular; style glandular to tip.

Distribution: E. Sichuan, W. Hubei and E. Guizhou, 500-2,300m (1,600-7,500ft) in forest.

Blooms: July-August

Sources: *The Encyclopedia of Rhododendron Species*, by Peter A. Cox & Kenneth N.E. Cox

This Month

Date: Sunday, September 18th

Open 2 pm to closing 6? 7? pm

Place: Barb Mathias home

4327-232 Street in Langley, between Fraser Highway and Old Yale Road.

Let's enjoy the pleasant September weather outdoors, stroll the garden, feed the chickens, find a place to sit down and visit, bring along your own food or snacks and drinks, maybe a chair, peruse any plants brought by others, check out the silent auction items if we get any.

Next Month

Date: Wednesday, October 20 2022 at 7:30 pm.

Place: To be determined

Title: To be announced

Note:

The intent this year is to hold a combination of in-person and zoom meetings depending on the availability of in-person vs zoom speakers and taking into consideration the time of year and expected weather.

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
Programs:	Vacant	
Membership:	Vacant	
Newsletter:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Librarian:	Gerald Nemanishen	604-826-0166
Website:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Hospitality:	Vacant	
BCCGC Liaison:	Vacant	

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

Vacancies - the positions for FSRs Membership and FSRs Programs are now available. Please consider contributing to the group by volunteering for one of these positions. Contact Harold Fearing with any questions you may have on the membership position and Jim Worden for questions on the program position.

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.

From the President



The outdoor temperature certainly tells us we are still in Summer. Normally this would be thought of as fall. In fact, the US weather service suggested that fall starts on September 1st despite the fall equinox being much later in the month. This has been taken up by many people.

Terrible day outside today with all the smoke. A little work outside and I was coughing and wheezing. I'm sure it will improve for our first "event" of the year which is a get together at Barb's place as you have been messaged and as noted in this issue of the Yak.

I have watered my more vulnerable rhododendrons and they seem to be holding their own. I have not seen any fall blooms on any of mine which occasionally happens. I wouldn't be surprised if Maureen will offer us some blooms in her report.

I hope to see many of your again at the "event"

Respectfully, *Gerald Nemanishen*

We need you!!!



We don't have a permanent Membership Chair now. I am serving on an interim basis, so we are looking for volunteers. If you are interested, please speak to one of the executive.

It is not a particularly hard or time consuming job. Most of the work is in September and October when you would be responsible for collecting renewal dues, perhaps contacting people who are slow in renewing, and getting the money to the treasurer. You also are expected to keep membership records, distribute a membership directory once or twice a year, and send in the names of any ARS renewals to the ARS.

For the rest of the year you would collect data from any new members and work to make them welcome in the chapter. You (with the help of the rest of the executive) would also do anything you could think of to solicit new members and integrate them into the chapter.

The Membership Chair is a member of the Executive so there is an executive meeting about every two months. Recently these have been on Zoom, though we might eventually go back to our past practice of meeting at member's homes which made the meetings not only business but nice social occasions.

Harold Fearing

It is time to renew your membership



We are now collecting membership renewals for 2023. The price is the same as it has been for several years. Local membership in Fraser South Rhododendron Society is \$25 and entitles you to the monthly Yak, our prizewinning newsletter edited by Maureen Worden, and to participation in all meetings, plant sales and other activities of the chapter. For \$55 you get full American Rhododendron Society membership which entitles you also to the quarterly Journal of the American Rhododendron Society and the email version of the Rhododendron and Azalea News, which comes out every month or two. You can also attend ARS conventions (the national convention in 2024 is supposed to be close at hand in Bellingham), get preferential treatment for the ARS seed exchange, and participate in any other ARS activities. Finally you may join FSRS as an Associate ARS member for \$15 if you have full ARS membership with another chapter.

Due to Covid we have not been able to hold our usual fund raising plant sale so our only source of income, which we use to pay for speakers and other expenses, is membership dues. Thus it is more important than usual to get these dues in right away. So please fill out the attached form and get it to me as soon as you can.

Harold Fearing

From the Editor

Welcome back! Start the fall season out right and continue to support the FSRS by renewing your membership for the 2023 season as we adjust to in-person meetings and events as well as continuing to enjoy out of town speakers via Zoom.

I must admit that I enjoyed the break from doing the YAK as its coming up to my 5th anniversary of being YAK editor. I am hoping that this will be the year where members take to heart my requests for content submissions by submitting articles, pictures of your garden, or a favourite plant as the well of new ideas is running dangerously low.



It's been a rough year on some rhododendrons. After a particularly cold winter they have been hit by drought. We lost a couple over the winter and some were questionable but as the pictures show *R. maddenii* ssp. *crassum* survived and after a good prune is on its way again, albeit much smaller.

The rhododendrons, especially those that are competing with nearby trees have required regular watering. We were a little surprised by the number of *R. auriculatum* blooms this year in mid-July. With all the other rhododendrons done for the season, the sight and scent of this beauty was wonderful.



Another surprise for me was the rebirth of a pot of Agastache and a pot of succulents that had overwintered unsuccessfully (I thought) in the garage. They had sat side by side on the patio last summer. In early June I noticed some green sprouts in the succulent pot. By July my Agastache was blooming.

AND hidden among the Agastache roots one large and numerous small succulents were growing. I'm letting the roots get well established before I

separate the two.



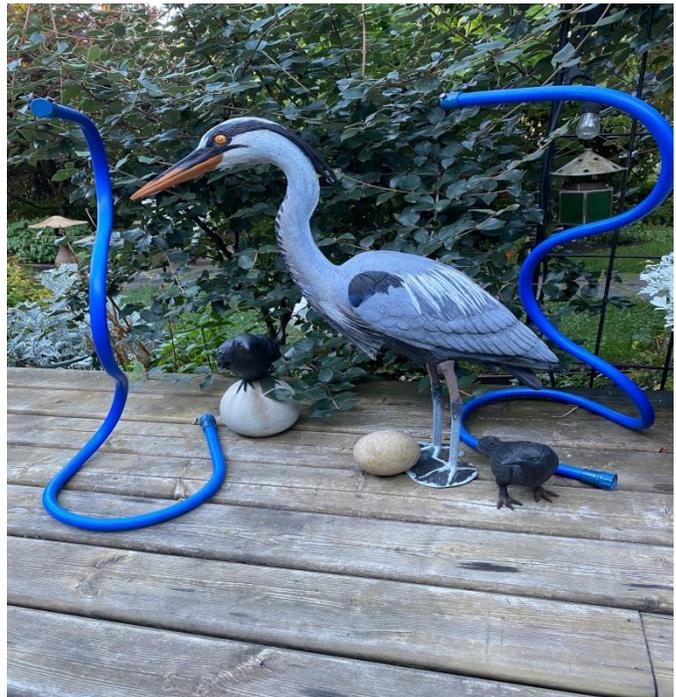
The young rufous hummingbirds have departed leaving only the young Annas to entertain us as they chase each other and queue at the gurgler for bathing. The bees and dragonflies continue to keep busy in the yard and the squirrels (grey and black) are jostling with the flickers for the ripening magnolia seeds. The flickers have a leg up as our youngest garden crew member works hard at keeping the squirrels on the move and out of our trees and feeders. But the biggest sign for me that Fall is upon us is that the Douglas squirrels have started to store nuts.

I hope everyone is planning to attend the outdoor event at Barb`s on September 18th. to visit with members some of who we haven't seen in person in over two years. Hope to see you there!

Maureen Worden

More snaps from the Mathias Garden

If you haven't responded to Barb barbmathias@telus.net about attending the opening FSRs event on September 18th, please remember to do so. Perhaps these additional pictures will persuade you to join us in our first face to face group get together since 2020.



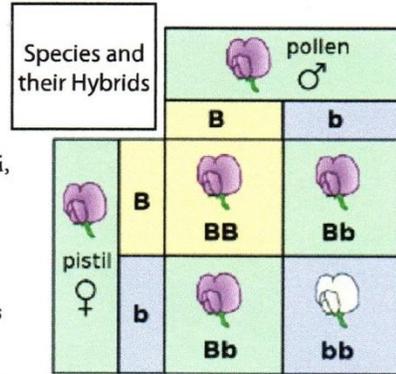
From the Archives

The following articles originally appeared in the Fraser South Newsletter, September 2012 by Sean Rafferty



R. bureavii (epithet: after Louis Edouard Bureau 1830-1918, a French Professor of Botany in Paris)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_%C3%89douard_Bureau

R. bureavii was first discovered by the Abbe Delavay in 1886, north of Dali, in north-west Yunnan. He later collected it again, as did George Forrest and Joseph Rock, in other localities in the same region, and it was introduced by Forrest in 1917. It grows in rhododendron forest, open pine forest, fir forest, on the margins of open conifer forest, in rhododendron thickets and open pasture at elevations of 10,400-14,000 feet. It is a rounded shrub which grows from 5 to 20 feet and needs a well drained soil and requires some shade. The



most striking feature of the plant is the underside of the leaf which is covered by a thick, woolly cinnamon-coloured or rusty-red continuous, bistrate indumentum. The branchlets and leaf petiole are also covered with the same richly coloured indumentum. All of which contrasts beautifully with the shiny, dark green, upper surface of the oblong-lanceolate or oblong-elliptic leaves. The inflorescence has 6-15 campanulate, 1.5-2 inch long flowers, which are white, white suffused rose, or rose, with crimson spots. This is an absolutely stunning plant which needs to be in



R. bureavii
 Image: Hirsutum

R. bureavii: painting by Carlos Reifel from "The Rhododendron" Vol. 2, Edited by Leslie Urquart

everyones collection. *R. bureavii* is found in North Central and North East Yunnan, both in limited areas. However, H H Davidian, in "The Rhododendron Species" volume 111, states that the collectors for Wilson and McLaren found it in southwest Sichuan. Kenneth and Peter Cox in "The Encyclopedia of Rhododendron Species" state that *R. bureavii* is found only in Yunnan. Possibly the *R. bureavii* that Wilson collected in Southwest Sichuan was in fact *R. bureavoides*, a species that he also introduced from that same area of Sichuan, and which only differs from *R. bureavii* in the width of its leaf and lack of hairs on the ovary and style. *R. bureavoides* is in its own right a marvelous plant, and in some instances can be just as striking as *R. bureavii*.

Historical quibbles aside, *R. bureavii* is such a glorious foliage plant that it has, thankfully, been put to good use by the hybridisers. Please find some of them below.



R. bureaviodes,
Mujeco Lakes, Sichuan,

Image: *Sean Rafferty*



Above left: *R. 'Hansel'*: *R. bureavii* x 'Fabia Group', Lem, 1976
 Above right: *R. 'Gretsel'*: *R. bureavii* x 'Fabia Group', Lem, 1960
 Below left: *R. 'Hydon Velvet'*, G. Hydon Nursery: *R. degronum* ssp.
yakushmanum x *R. bureavii*, 1960
 Below right: *R. 'Teddy Bear'*: *R. bureavii* x *R. yakushmanum*,
 Briggs, 1980





Left: *R.* 'Cherries and Cream': *R.* 'Fabia Group' x *R. bureavii* x *R.* 'Lem's Cameo', Y. Workman, 1989

Below: *R.* 'Kodiak', *R. bureavii* x '*R.* KenJaneck', Unknown



Above: *R.* 'Cinnamon Bear': *R. yakushimanum* x *R. bureavii*, C. Smith, 1964

Above right: *R.* 'Kodiak', *R. yakushimanum* x *R. bureavii*, Unknown

Right: *R.* 'Elya', *R.* 'Fabia Group' x *R. bureavii* x *R. yakushimanum*, H Larson, 1968



From the Garden



R. auriculatum





Jim Barlup Hybrids

Picture credit : Jim Barlup



Strawberry Wine (Mrs. Furnivall x Peggie Roberts)



Summer Dreams (Jonathan Shaw x Rosalee Hall x Hills Low Red)



Summer Peach (Whitneys Late Peach x Phyllis Korn)



Summer Straw (Nancy Evans x Whitneys Late Yellow)



Summer Sunrise (Orange Prelude x Bergs Yellow x R.proteoide)



Summer Wind (Golden Gala x Summer Peach)



Sun Blosson (Terra x Trina)



Sun Blush (Scintillation x Recital)



Sun High (Mindys Love x Janet Blair)



Sun Music (Sun Quest x Peach Recital)



Sun Quest (Invitation x Janet Blair)



Sun Satin (Journey x Gold Prinz)



Fraser South Rhododendron Society

frasersouthernrhodos.ca

2023 Membership Form

Date _____

Membership: *[An individual or two people residing at the same address]*

- _____ Full Member: (Includes ARS membership & quarterly ARS Journal) \$55 _____
- _____ Associate: (Member of _____ ARS Chapter) \$15 _____
- _____ FSRS Chapter member (ARS membership & journal NOT included) \$25 _____

All personal information collected here is for FSRS or ARS use only. Your contact information will be included in the FSRS membership directory, distributed to FSRS members, unless you indicate here that all or part should be kept confidential.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province (State) _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone Number _____ Email Address _____

All cheques should be made out to: **Fraser South Rhododendron Society**

If mailing, send to: Harold Fearing, 5376 Ross Road, Abbotsford, B.C. V4X 1Z2
Membership questions may be addressed to
Harold Fearing at 604-857-4136 or to any other FSRS officer.

Treasurer _____; FSRS database _____; YAK Editor _____ or Snail Mail _____; ARS _____.