



THE YAK

Volume 38, Number 04

April 2024



Peter Faulk

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

<http://frasersoutherhododendron.ca>

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

In person 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:



Peter Faulk

Predominant Flower Color: Red

Flower/Truss Description: Flower funnel-shaped, wavy lobes, 2½" across, vivid red with scattered darker spots. Ball-shaped truss has 16 flowers.

Fragrant: No

Bloom Time: Early Midseason

Foliage Description / Plant Habit: Leaves narrowly elliptic, acuminate apex, rounded base, convex, 4½" to 6" long, somewhat bullate, dark green with patchy tawny indumentum beneath. Hairy stems. Plant broad, rounded, well-branched.

Height: 3 feet in 10 years

Cold Hardiness Temp: 5°F (-15°C)

Parentage: (Seed Parent x Pollen Parent):
strigillosum x unknown

Elepidote (E) or Lepidote (L): E

Hybridized or Selected by: Faulk

Sources: ARS: www.rhododendron.org

Next Meeting

In lieu of a meeting on April 24th, a garden tour is scheduled for Saturday April 27th.

Details of the garden tour will be provided to members via email.

Upcoming Meetings

Date: Wednesday, May 15 @ 7:30 pm.

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

Topic: Truss show & tell

Upcoming Garden Tour

Place: Byra Garden, 43212 Honeysuckle Dr.,
Chilliwack, BC

Date: Saturday, May 4 at 10:00 AM

Please park on the side(s) of the road, and walk into the garden/down the driveway. Jane said that if we wanted and the weather was nice, we could bring our lunches and eat on their deck, which has stunning views.

Upcoming Conference

Fancy a day trip?

ARS 2024 Spring Convention
Bellingham, Washington
May 2–5, 2024

Visit ARS2024.org for more information and to register.

2023 ELECTED OFFICERS

President:	Gerry Nemanishen	604-826-4660
Past Pres:	Colleen Bojczuk	604-826-4221
Vice Pres:	Jim Worden	604-541-4754
Secretary:	Vacant	
Treasurer(s):	Gerry Nemansihen	604-826-4660
	Colleen Bojczuk	604-826-4221
Directors:	Robert Talbot	604-720-0134
	Colleen Bojczuk	604-826-4221
	Aird Flavelle	604-870-4221

Volunteers

Programs:	Vacant	
Membership:	Vacant	
Newsletter:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Librarian:	Gerald Nemanishen	604-826-4660
Website:	Maureen Worden	604-541-4754
Hospitality:	Vacant	
BCCGC Liaison:	Vacant	

From the President cont'd

There will be no meeting per se this month. Instead, we are planning a number of garden tours. Aird and I will forward details in a few weeks. This will be on Saturday, April 27th.

Our May meeting will be our "show and tell" at the church. Things are early this year, so we may not have the previous selections but remember, bring other interesting things from your gardens. Disasters are ok to share as well.

Gerald Nemanishen, President

From the President



I am sharing a couple of images with this report. The first is of our star magnolia which we planted 13 or 14 years ago – now magnificent. The rhododendron to the right of it is one I rescued from under some of our large firs that had been neglected. It was spindly and about 4 feet tall and with some directed pruning has grown into a magnificent specimen. It has purple blooms toward the end of the season.

The second, a yellow Fritilaria Imperial that I planted about three years ago, and this is the first year it has bloomed.



From the Editor

On grey drizzly days like Monday this week, we're reminded that it is still early April, however when the sun shines like yesterday it's the perfect time to progress this year's gardening agenda. Some of the sanctioned pruning has taken place with more yet to be done but as the birds are nesting it will have to be selective.



Unsanctioned pruning continues around the yard by the novice gardener. Unfortunately he is not selective and occasionally picks on a branch full of yet to bloom delights. As pictured, this is a branch found under Wind River yesterday which has been brought into the house, cut into trusses and has started to open. With the state of rhododendron blooming after our interesting winter weather, any "pruning" with buds will be brought in to hopefully see some flowers.

So far, the magnolias are the first in the garden to show the impact of the contrary winter weather. "Anna" usually the 3rd magnolia to bloom was 1st this year with a good showing of flowers. "Eric Saville" usually the 1st to flower had no flowers at all, with "Royal Crown" coming in its customary 2nd place with only a handful of

flowers. The rhododendrons currently on display are having a mixed showing, some with lots of flowers while others have only a few flowers. Some of the rhododendrons like *R. ririei* that had beautiful flowers out in January, was hit hard by the late freeze causing all the leaves to turn brown has started to show signs of new growth. This is encouraging and a reminder that not all rhododendrons that look dead are actually dead and require time to recover. While they may not look pretty in the garden, they will remain in situ and if no growth appears will be cut back to see whether that stimulates any growth.



As expected the male Rufous hummingbirds kept to their regular schedule and reappeared just after the March YAK went to press and prior to St. Patrick's Day. The females are now starting to appear. So far there does not appear to be any fighting over the feeders with the resident Annas population with everyone busy with nest building.

This month, instead of a regular meeting a tour of a couple of member's garden is in the final planning stages. This tour is set for Saturday April 27th and the itinerary will be sent to the group shortly. As always, if you have friends that are interested in maybe joining our group, bring them along! In addition, Nancy Moore has kindly arranged for a garden tour to Byra Gardens in Chilliwack on Saturday, May 4th which from what I hear is spectacular.

To finish up club activities prior to the summer, plan on attending the in person Truss Show and Tell meeting in May. This new format was enjoyed by all last year. In June we will have the FSRs picnic with its famous silent auction which these days is the club's primary source of income. It's never too early to start thinking of contributions! Hope you enjoy the increasing sunny days and your gardening activities!

Maureen Worden



The following article originally appeared in the Fraser South Newsletter, March 2014 by Sean Rafferty

Rhododendron campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum* (Epithet: With bent fruit)

Joseph Dalton Hooker discovered *R. campylocarpum* ssp. *campylocarpum* in 1848 in the Sikkim Himalaya, but seed was not collected and introduced until 1849. Further collections were made in Nepal, Bhutan, Assam, and south and southeast Tibet. It grows abundantly in the open, on rocky slopes, in mixed forests and in rhododendron forests, at elevations of 9,500-14,000 feet. *R. campylocarpum* ssp. *campylocarpum* is quite variable in habit and is usually an upright shrub or small tree, although it has also been found growing to twenty feet in the wild. It has elliptic leaves and nodding,

Species and their Hybrids		pollen ♂	
		B	b
pistil ♀	B	BB	Bb
	b	Bb	bb



R. campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum*
Illustration by Walter Hood Fitch
From Curtis's Botanical Magazine



R. campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum*
images: Garth Wedemire

bell-shaped cream to yellow flowers, sometimes with a basal blotch. The style is glabrous to glandular in the basal half or sometimes less than half.

R. campylocarpum ssp. *caloxanthum* differs from ssp. *campylocarpum* in that it is much smaller growing and has a more rounded habit. Ssp. *caloxanthum* has small, orbicular leaves which are blue-green, at least when young, and has flowers which are a paler yellow than ssp. *campylocarpum*. It looks much like a yellow *R. williamsianum*. Ssp. *caloxanthum* is also native further east of ssp. *campylocarpum* along the Yunnan/Burma/Tibet border.

R. wardii differs from *R. campylocarpum* ssp. *campylocarpum* in its more saucer-shaped corolla, larger calyx and a style that is glandular to the tip. In addition the fruit of *R. wardii* is straight instead of bent.

R. campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum* is a very popular garden plant and does well in a variety of garden situations, but it requires perfect drainage and will suffer if watering is neglected in dry weather. The advice which is often applied to its cousin, *R. wardii*, of treating it like an alpine plant, should be equally applicable.

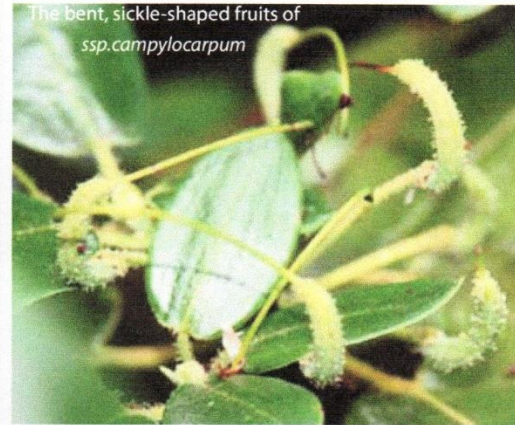
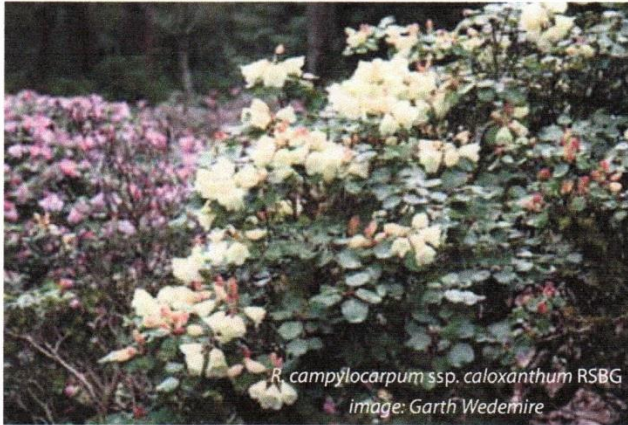
Ssp. *campylocarpum* is considered by many to be the best yellow-flowered species for the garden. While there may be differing opinions on that, it is certainly among the loveliest and brightest yellows to be found.

The first flowering occurred in 1856 at the Standish and Noble, Bagshot Nursery, England, which had acquired much of the Hooker collection, and after that point the love affair between *R. campylocarpum* ssp. *campylocarpum* and the hybridisers began.

There are sixteen pages in *Rhododendron Portraits*, by Van Gelderen and Van Hooey Smith exhibiting forty-eight plates of *R. campylocarpum* hybrids. The CD of Salley and Greer's *Rhododendron Hybrids* counted to nine hundred hybrids when I got exhausted at the letter 'S', and I didn't even bother counting the number of direct and indirect hybrids on *Hirsutum*, but there appears to be more than one hundred. It is all quite understandable as it is such a sweet plant, although it seems that the essence of the species itself cannot quite be outdone.

Some hybrid selections may be viewed on the following pages.

Sean Rafferty





R. 'Ambassador'

R. campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum* x *R. unknown*
(unregistered)



R. 'Carita'

R. Naomi Group' x *R. campylocarpum* ssp. *campylocarpum*
L. Rothschild, 1935

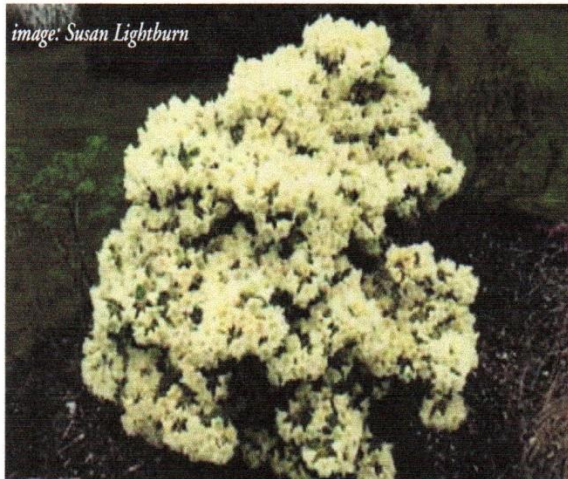
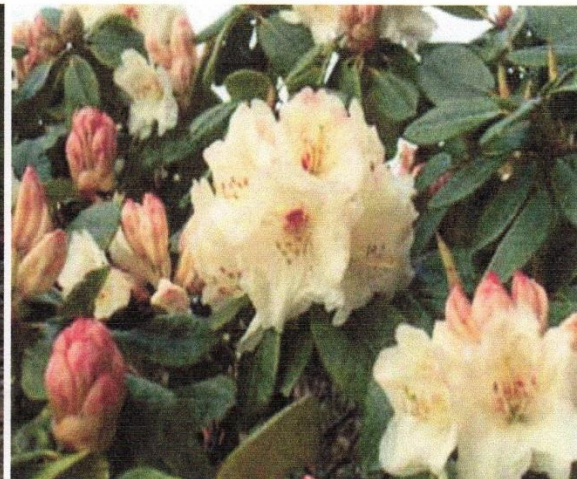


image: Susan Lightburn

R. 'Moonstone Group'

R. campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum* x *R. williamsianum*
J. C. Williams, 1933



R. 'Devonshire Cream'

R. campylocarpum ssp. *campylocarpum* x *unknown*
W. C. Slocock, 1924

In The Garden



R. schlippenbachii



PJM



R. calophytum



R. campanulatem ssp campanulatem



Laramie



Silver Skies



Maureen



Wind River



R. pachysanthum



Angelo



Seatac

Rhododendrons of the Year Plant Awards

NW USA / Canada Region (2024)



Elepidote Rhododendron: 'Horizon Lakeside'

Flower light yellow with a strong red throat and spots, saucer-shaped, wavy edged, 4" across. Held in ball-shaped truss with 16 flowers. Blooms early midseason. Leaves elliptic, broadly acute apex, rounded base, slightly wavy edges, 4½" long, retained 2 years. Spreading moderately open habit. Typical height: 4 feet in 10 years. Plant and bud hardy to 5°F (-15°C). Hybridized by Brockenbrough.



Lepidote Rhododendron: R. 'Gletschernacht'

Flower vivid violet, unmarked, funnel-shaped, about 1¾" across. Truss holds 7-8 flowers. Blooms early midseason. Leaves elliptic, 1½" to 2" long, yellowish-green. Compact, dense shrub. Grows to a typical height of 3 ft. in 10 years. Cold hardy to -5°F (-21°C). Hybridized by Hachmann.



Evergreen Azalea: R. kiusianum var. kiusianum

Flower salmon-red, pink, typically purple, or rarely white, funnel-shaped, about 1" across. Inflorescence has 2-5 flowers. Blooms midseason to late midseason. Spring leaves about 1⅔" long, elliptic or obovate, both sides with stiff flat hairs, summer leaves are obovate, 1⅓"- 1¾" long, semi-evergreen to deciduous. Dense, twiggy, often prostrate plant habit. Grows to a typical height of 2 ft. in 10 years. Cold hardy to -10°F (-23°C). Native to Kyushu, Japan. The official flower of Unzen, Nagasaki, and Kagoshima Prefectures.



Deciduous Azalea: 'Mount Saint Helens'

Flower yellowish pink with a vivid reddish-orange blotch, widely funnel-shaped, wavy lobed, 2½" across. Held in ball-shaped truss with 11 flowers. Blooms midseason. Leaves oblanceolate to narrowly obovate, mucronate, narrowly cuneate, 3" to 4" long, moderate yellowish-green. Upright plant habit. Grows approximately 6 ft. tall in 10 years. Cold hardy to -25°F (-32°C). Hybridized by Girard.

Photos (top to bottom) by Steve Henning, Harold Greer, Hans Eiberg, Sally and John Perkins.