

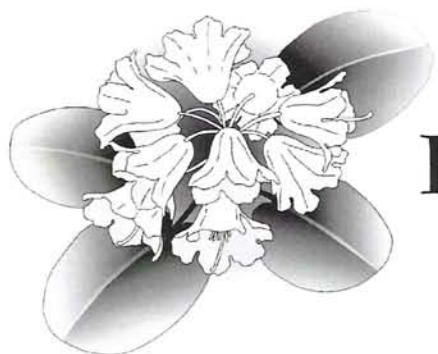
# AtlanticRhodo

[www.AtlanticRhodo.org](http://www.AtlanticRhodo.org)

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May 2007





# Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

## Positions of Responsibility 2006 - 2007

<b>President</b>	Sheila Stevenson	479-3740	<b>Director - Social</b>	Shirley McIntyre	835-3673
<b>Vice-President</b>	Ruth Jackson	454-4681	<b>Director - Horticulture</b>	Audrey Fralic	683-2711
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<b>Director - Communications</b>	Mary Helleiner	429-0213	<b>May - Public Plant Sale</b>	Duff & Donna Evers	835-2586

## Membership (Please Note Changes)

### Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society.

Fees are \$15.00 from January 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007, due January 1, 2007. Fees are \$20.00 from September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, due September 2007. Make cheques payable to Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society. ARHS is a chapter in District 12 of the American Rhododendron Society. For benefits see ARHS website [www.atlanticrhodo.org](http://www.atlanticrhodo.org)

### American Rhododendron Society

Fees are \$50.00 Canadian per year and include ARHS membership. Make cheques payable to American Rhododendron Society District 12. For benefits see [www.rhododendron.org](http://www.rhododendron.org)

Cheques should be sent to ARHS Membership Secretary **Betty MacDonald, 534 Prospect Road, Prospect Bay NS B3T1Z8.**

Please include name, address with postal code, e-mail address and telephone number, for organizational purposes only.

*AtlanticRhodo* is the Newsletter of the Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society. We welcome your comments, suggestions, articles, photos and other material for publication. Send all material to the editor.

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Cover Photo: Steele hybrid '95-TB'. [Photo Sandy Brown]



# Calendar of Events

All ARHS meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month, from September to May, at 7:30 p.m. in the Nova Scotia Museum Auditorium, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, unless otherwise noted. Paid parking is available in the Museum lot. Friends, guests and anyone interested in rhododendrons, azaleas or companion plants are always welcome at meetings or events.

**Information about all these events will be found under Special Notices.**

Friday April 27.	9.15 a.m.	Work day at Kentville Research Station
Saturday April 28	10:00 a.m.	Pre-order Pickup
Tuesday May 1	7:30 p.m.	May Meeting Sale
Saturday May 12	1:00 p.m.	Public Sale
Saturday June 9	1:00 p.m.	Garden tours

**Please Note:** Some members, who have environmental sensitivities, are asking their fellow members please to use no perfumes, scented soaps, etc., on the days or evenings of ARHS events, in order to minimize the risk of allergic reactions.



A very warm welcome to our new and returning ARHS members who have joined since the February 2006 Newsletter:

Trudy Campbell  
 Tony Coakley  
 Pam Ferro  
 Jean Forsey  
 Darrell W. Grant  
 Wendy Haley

Bedford  
 Avonport  
 Hammonds Plains  
 Dartmouth  
 St. Catherines ON  
 Hammonds Plains

Lara Parsons  
 Joy Reyno  
 Chris Reynolds  
 Karen Rutherford  
 Brad Watt

Chester  
 Hammonds Plains  
 Tantallon  
 Dartmouth  
 Hatchett Lake

☺☺☺

## Special Notices

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**April 27, 9:15 a.m.**

### **Work day at Kentville Research Station.**

This is the day we help out with cleaning up the rhodo beds at Kentville. Bring any or all of pitchforks, spades, pruners, rakes, clippers. Bring gloves and lunch. Meet at the upper parking lot. Contact Chris Hopgood, 479-0811.

**Saturday, April 28.  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

### **Pre-order Pickup.**

Pick up plants at 5 Sime Court, Halifax. Sime Court is in the Kingswood subdivision off Hammonds Plains Road. Take Kingswood Drive (between Kearney Lake Road and Farmer Clem's) to Brenda Dr. (the first street on the right) and follow it to the first left which is Sime Court. Plants are to be paid for when they are picked up. Plants will not be shipped. Any plants not picked up on this date will be offered for sale at the Public Sale on May 12.

**Tuesday, May 1.  
7:30 p.m.**

**May Meeting Sale. LeMarchant - St. Thomas School.** 6141 Watt St., Halifax. Our annual event which always causes a lot of buzz. Remember, if you are selling or buying you must be a paid-up member and plants should be unusual or difficult to obtain. Please donate any of the more common varieties to the Public Sale. Also on this evening we will take some time collectively to pull together an evaluation of the rhodos we are growing. This should be very helpful to the new gardener.

**Saturday, May 12  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

### **Public Sale.**

This is one of the largest events that the ARHS holds yearly to raise money to carry on the work of our society. And this year (the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual sale) will prove to be as successful as in the past. But we need your help – in volunteering and helping to spread the word! This year's event will take place at **LeMarchant – St. Thomas School** gymnasium on 6141 Watt Street, Halifax, N. S. on May 12, 2007 from 1:00 – 3:30 PM. As in the past the offerings include extraordinary varieties of nursery and field grown rhododendrons and azaleas as well as many other nursery grown trees, shrubs, conifers and perennials. This sale occurs the day before Mother's Day and what better gift is there for your mother, wife, daughter, sister or favorite aunt! For more information contact Duff or Donna Evers at [devers@eastlink.ca](mailto:devers@eastlink.ca) or (902) 835-2586.

**Saturday, June 9  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Garden Tours and Annual Potluck  
See Map on Page 6**

**This year the gardens are on the Halifax Peninsula. It will be an opportunity to see just what can be done in limited spaces.**

## Special Notices

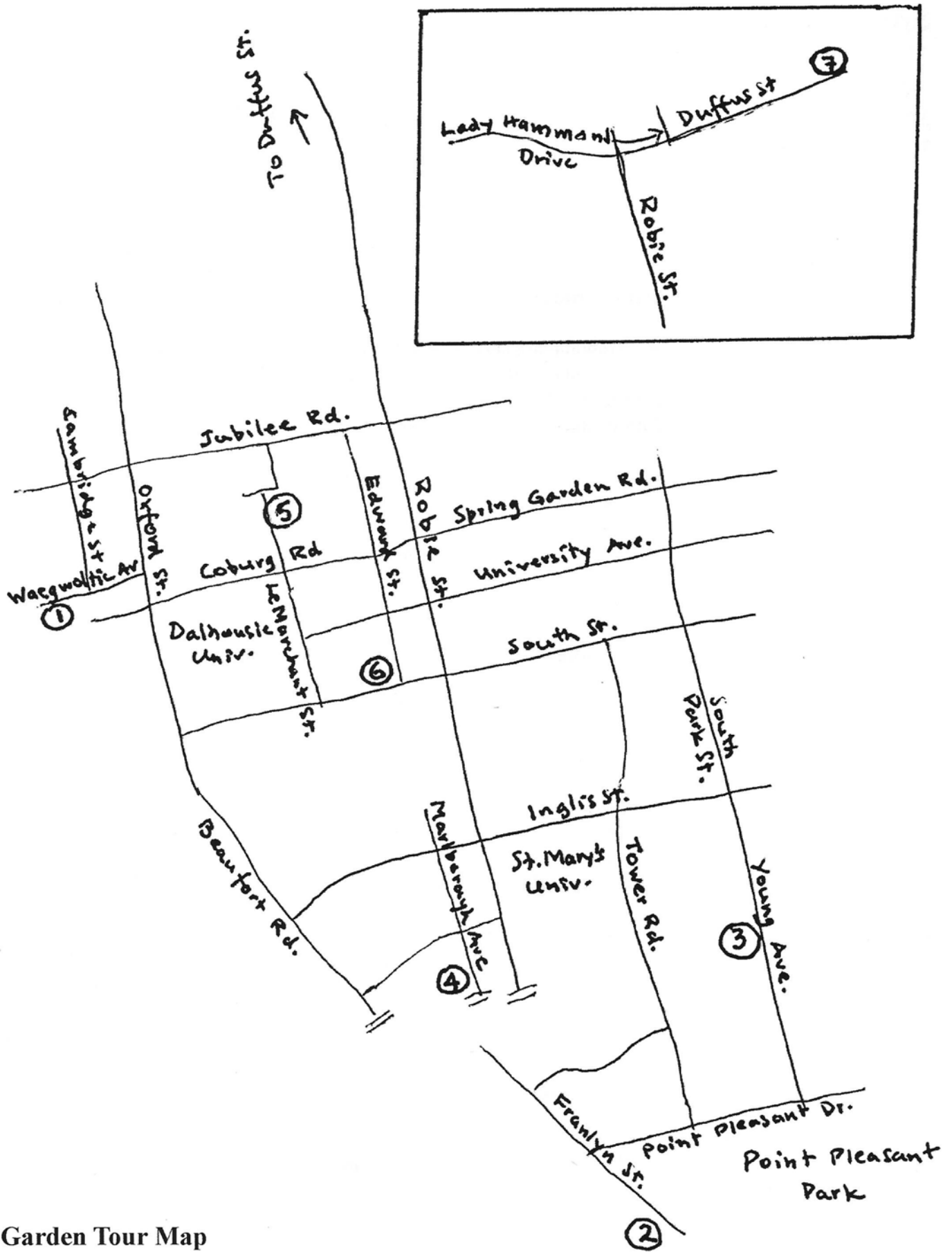
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All gardens open from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., **except** the Lendzer garden on Edward St. which is open from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

- 1. Isabelle Wainwright** 6570 Waegwoltic Avenue. (One way street). Enter from Jubilee Rd. on Cambridge St. This is a mature garden with specimen trees and shrubs, including large Thujopsis and Pieris, and a mature 'Blue Peter' rhodo.
- 2. Stewart MacInnes** 490 Franklin Street. Close to Point Pleasant Park. This garden has several different environments – woodland, open and sloping sites. With luck there will be a wonderful display of late tulips. Interesting garden sculptures.
- 3. Margaret and David Fountain** 788 Young Avenue. A large and interesting garden with beautifully planned colour combinations.
- 4. Chris and Mary Helleiner** 834 Marlborough Avenue. Dead end street one block west of St. Mary's University. A collectors' garden; rhodos, spring ephemerals, alpine troughs.
- 5. Laidlaw/ Hanley** 1559 LeMarchant Street. Interesting rhodos and perennials, and a formal area with box hedges.
- 6. Irmie Lendzer** 1232 Edward Street. A garden carefully designed for a small space; no grass, only varied plant material. **3:00 to 5:00 p.m. only.**
- 7. Ruth Jackson** 5371 Duffus Street. **Potluck here.** Drive north on Robie Street to the Y intersection (after Young St., nothing to do with Young Ave.) continue right on Robie, **not** the left branch which goes to the bridge. At Lady Hammond Rd. turn right. Follow Lady Hammond Road which becomes Duffus St. Ruth's house is on the left near the bottom of Duffus. This is a skilfully layered garden with a pond and interesting plant material

### Potluck

**6:00 p.m.** Bring easy to eat food – appetizers, salads, cold dishes, desserts. Also bring folding chairs if you have them. This annual event is always a success. Wine is provided by the Society.



Garden Tour Map

## Plant Portrait

### *Geranium sanguineum* var. *striatum*

*Geranium sanguineum* itself is a vibrant magenta (not my favourite colour) and a rather sprawling plant, but var. *striatum* is a different matter. The flowers are a soft attractive pink and the plant is dwarf and very compact, seldom growing more than a foot high. The pink colour is produced by very fine deep pink veining on a blush pink ground. Var. *striatum* is native only to Walney island off the coast of Cumbria in England; its former name is var. *lancastrienne*, from Lancashire.

We have grown it for many years. We first had a plant in our Halifax garden which survived for many years and seeded itself around modestly; we then moved a seedling to our Pictou county garden, where it did the same thing. When we left that garden we brought a seedling back, which is now flourishing in Halifax. This geranium dies back to a root in the late fall and starts up again in the spring, at first as a very small plant. Gradually over the late spring and summer the plant expands so that a mature plant can be three feet across, though still very compact. There is a burst of flowers in late June, and flowering continues through the summer and into the fall. Before the plant dies down most of the leaves turn a brilliant red. It will put up with a little shade and does not require much water. Although they grow naturally on limestone, they do not seem to require an alkaline soil. Ours have never been winter killed. Seedlings frequently spring up in the cracks of a paved patio, and could be good crevice plants, for a very large crevice.

I can recommend *Geranium sanguineum* var. *striatum* without hesitation.

— Mary Helleiner

## Preparing For The Pre-Order Pickup

Photos by D. Evers



# A Waverley Garden from Scratch

By Roslyn Duffus



Spring Bulb Display. [Photo Roslyn Duffus]

When I was four years old, I was showing signs of an interest in plants. In an attempt to get a better look at germinating seedlings, I placed my hands on the glass of a cold frame cover and promptly broke through slicing off a piece of my pinkie in the process. Fortunately, this did not end my love of gardening. In Bedford, where I grew up, we were blessed with a rich river valley loam and my mother grew many flowers and vegetables. I gradually took an interest in tending the vegetable garden but left the ornamentals to her. When we made the move to Waverley in 1985 we chose a strip of land sandwiched between a lake shore and a peat bog. The lot is roughly triangular, has a common boundary with one neighbour with the other two lines being the lake shore and the road which eventually meet as the property narrows down to a long tail. We call this tail the back 40 – that's 40 ft. x 15 ft. down to nothing. This is where the nursery and holding areas are. The sandy ridge is covered with white pine, spruce, oak, grey birch, swamp maple and assorted other native vegetation that will tolerate the rather lean and dry to boggy conditions. There are lady's slippers, trilliums, labrador tea, rhodora and other lovely natives as well.

Since 1985 was devoted to building the house, no gardening was done until the fall when we brought in a little soil in order to heel in the few plants we had been able to bring with us. These included some raspberry canes, eastern white cedar seedlings, yew seedlings and a very few perennials. The first order of business in the spring of 1986 was to install a lawn and a few beds. Unfortunately, the building contractor had left us with a rotten fill composed of slabs of slate and really nasty clay. This was laid over the septic field and it should have been removed and replaced with 6 to 8 inches of decent soil in order to give

us any chance for a lawn. Today, the only plants in our lawn are those known as lawn weeds. The lawnaholic would have a stroke looking at my "lawn" but since grass is not my thing, I manage to tolerate it most of the time. Since, I found out the hard way, it took a pick axe and a strong back to put in gardens at sod level, I soon decided that going up would be much easier.

During the first few seasons, we had rock and timber retaining walls built, paths were laid out and my dad, at seventy-one, spent many hours on his knees laying keystone pavers. We went on many rock hunting trips along the sides of highways and to abandoned quarries looking for good pieces of stone for walls and pathways which we used for projects that we took on ourselves. Many loads of soil of varying quality were brought in and we planted whatever appealed, would fill the void or was given to us, and lots of species crocus, tulips and other small bulbs. Some of these plants remain but many have been passed on to beginners and to assorted garden club plant sales. You know the type I am talking about! We grew and continue to grow spinach, peas, beans, carrots, parsnips, melon and raspberries that we enjoy fresh from the garden. Some parts of the garden are my domain and other parts my mother's. Other areas we share and negotiate over.

In 1991, I joined the Ontario Rock Garden Society and so began my compulsion for seed sowing. I had done the usual sowing in the early years of easy annuals and perennials but now I could try many different things, most of which I had never heard. This interest has resulted in the addition of some very nice little plants, such as *Eunomia oppositifolia*, species of *Di-anthus*, *Campanula*, *Clematis*, *Gentiana*, *Lewisia*, *Penstemon*, *Primula*, *Platycodon*, *Pulsatilla* and *Saxifraga*, to my garden and I have also enjoyed experimenting with growing alpiners in troughs (stone, hypertufa and styrofoam). I expect to find this particular form of gardening quite captivating for some time yet. I also started to visit nurseries, such as Bayport and Cornhill, that had more unusual plant material and started to add some of these to my collection. In the mid 90's I joined the rhodo society and began to collect way beyond my needs because the price was right and the descriptions beguiling.

I cannot describe my garden as a planned or properly designed garden. It is more of a mish mash of beloved, trial, heritage, wild, not up to snuff but not yet removed, and whatever takes my fancy at the moment plants. My design sense is of the



'there's a hole, what can I put into it' school of thought or 'I must have this, where can I find a place for it?' Sometimes this works wonderfully well but most of the time I end up moving things around until I finally get a reasonable arrangement. I can also have a fair bit of self sowing when I can talk my mum out of too much deadheading.

At the moment I have some fifty rhododendrons, most still quite small tissue culture plants. I will be in real trouble if even half do well. Some of these have never developed good root systems and will soon be yanked or I may attempt to get healthy roots by scraping the stems and trying the layering method. My first Rhododendron was 'Nova Zembla' which after 20 years is in year one of renewal pruning. Some of my favourites are 'April Mist', 'April Rose', 'Ingrid Melquist' and 'Wren'. I expect to have many other favourites when some of the little ones come into their own. I have four kalmias and have ordered, I think, two more from this year's ARHS selections. I really love these and have found them to be very hardy and free flowering. I also love the woodlanders and have many tucked into pockets under the trees. These include *Cypripedium acaule*, *C. pubescens*, and *C. reginae*, *Trillium erectum*, *T. grandiflorum* and *T. undulatum*, *Sanguinaria canadensis*, species of *Dodecatheon*, *Corydalis*, *Erythronium* and recently *Arisaema*. I have also acquired great plants as gifts from other members of ARHS as well as from the members sale.

We have a few challenges with growing plants here. The site can be very windy due to the open expanse of water to the south and bog to the northwest. In the last twenty years, trees on the bog have grown big enough to give a little bit of protection. We were fortunate during Hurricane Juan that the wind was parallel to the shore, otherwise, we could have lost a fair chunk of land. We did lose 10 trees which has certainly provided more light. Some years, when we get a lot of spring or autumn rains, the lowest part of the property can be under water. This, unfortunately, includes the road out front, one driveway and parts of the garden. It is a little disheartening to see people drive through the large puddle that the road becomes and watch the resulting tidal wave flow over plantings and suck mulch, soil and sometimes plants back out onto the road. Sometimes beavers harvest their winter food supply from the selection of trees remaining along the shore and there is always the possibility of damage from voles, cats and deer.

Some of the joys include the chorus of songs from, first, the wood frogs and then the spring peepers in April, the mating call of the pheasant and all the other birds and later, the sight of ducklings on the lake and in the woods and the garden as they forage with their mother. Did you know that ducks like blueberries and acorns? Then there is the daily inspection to look for the first signs of growth in spring -- witch hazel (*Hamamelis*), *Erica*, Snowdrops (*Galanthus*), *Crocus*, *Eranthis*, *Helleborus* -- woodlanders, followed by the parade of bloom and foliage through the season.

I keep telling myself that I am making so much work for mum and me but how can it be wrong to do something that makes us so happy mentally even if we have to admit to having the physical aches and pains of our labour. So be it. ☺



*Digitalis grandiflora*. [Photo Roslyn Duffus]

## Book Reviews

### **Rhododendrons & Azaleas – A Colour Guide, by Kenneth Cox**

**The Crowood Press, 2005, ISBN 1-8621-784; 240 Pages, Approximately \$65, considerably less from Amazon.com**

Kenneth Cox, of Glendoick Gardens nursery in Scotland, is well known to our society. He gave the Steele Lectures in 2001, one on his rhododendron hybridizing and the other on one of his expeditions to China. He is extremely knowledgeable about rhododendrons, both in cultivation and in the wild. I regard this book as an update to our well-used copy of Harold Greer's *Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons* (third edition, 1996), but it is more than that. The introductory section on growing rhododendrons runs to 32 pages. Cox's advice is quite flexible, since he recognizes that his readers will be working in a wide variety of diverse conditions. Furthermore, as his title says, he includes an extensive list of azaleas, which Greer does not, and (of less practical interest to most of us) a section on the tropical *Vireya* species and hybrids.

The bulk of the book consists of accounts of approximately 4000 varieties of rhododendrons, including descriptions, notes on hardiness, size and flowering times, as well as sometimes rather idiosyncratic evaluations of quality. The name of the originator of each hybrid is given, but (oddly) not the date of registration. Cox uses a British system of hardiness ratings; its numbers run in the reverse direction from the USDA system familiar to us. His hardiest plants are H9, the tenderest H0. Our area (USDA 5b or 6a) are H6 and H5. More than a quarter of the varieties are illustrated. The organization of the species is by sub-genus, section and sub-section, including some hybrids. This is followed by a much longer list of other hybrids. Cox has accounts of several Canadian introductions, including a number by our own John Weagle, Don Craig and Dr. Brueckner. The descriptions of azaleas are brief – the author takes the view that far too many nearly identical hybrid azaleas have been named and registered.

Greer rates each cultivar on a scale of 1 to 5 (for flower/plant and foliage/performance). Cox uses only verbal descriptions, and he has a way with words! I thought it might be amusing to compare the two authors' opinions on a few hybrids. They agree quite often. For example, 'Percy Wiseman' is given 4/4/4 by Greer; Cox says "an outstanding hybrid ... free flowering from a young age." But look at 'Brigadoon': Greer gives it 4/4/4. Cox says "an appalling plant without any merit ... claimed to be double, which it is not ..." Here are his words on 'Capistrano' (too new to be in Greer's book): "Reports indicate this may be the long sought after breakthrough of a really hardy yellow. Compact and with better foliage than most Leach yellows, this is definitely the best of them."

At the end, Cox presents his "best" lists, as well as a "worst" list. And finally, he considers names of hybrids. As he says "What you name your hybrid is very important for sales and credibility". So of course he gives us lists of "best" and "worst" names. Good for a chuckle.

— Chris Helleiner

### **The Jade Garden, New and Notable Plants from Asia,**

**by Peter Wharton, Brent Hine and Douglas Justice, Timber Press, 2005; 228 pages, \$47.50**

A great many of our well-known garden plants originated in Japan, China and surrounding areas. These include hollyhocks, many lilies, forsythia, pieris, and of course an abundance of rhododendrons. Botanical expeditions to this area are still finding new treasures for introduction into North American and European gardens. *The Jade Garden* provides accounts of a variety of less familiar plants that are successfully growing in the University of British Columbia Botanical Garden. Three expert curators deal respectively with 40 species of herbaceous perennials, 50 shrubs and 40 trees. For each species the account includes its geographical origin, a description (sometimes including the meaning of the scientific name), an estimate of its hardiness, and methods of cultivation and propagation. Every plant is illustrated by at least one photograph, mostly growing in gardens, but some

in situ in the wild. An introductory chapter, “The Natural Landscapes of China and Bordering Regions – A Botanist’s View” describes in considerable detail the geography and ecology of this region, and includes photographs of the landscapes and their human inhabitants. A short but useful chapter on bioinvasiveness warns us to be cautious about introducing exotic plants, some of which can become dangerous weeds.

For gardeners in our region, two questions arise concerning the tempting plants described in this book: How hardy are they likely to be? Where can we get them? The UBC gardens are near the shore on Point Grey in Vancouver. The hardiness zone is 8 or 9; the coldest temperature recorded there by the authors was  $-13.4^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 1990. To a visitor from Maritime Canada, the lush variety of plants growing there is astounding. How meaningful are the estimates of hardiness listed in *The Jade Garden*? The authors probably based them on their knowledge of the habitat of each of the plants in its native country. Probably many of the perennials might do well here, particularly if we can rely on snow cover. For woody plants, the situation is rather less favourable. Of the six species of rhododendron described, three (*R. asterochnoum*, *denudatum* and *oligocarpum*) are given hardiness ratings of zones 6 – 8. Perhaps worth a try? We won’t know until we do.

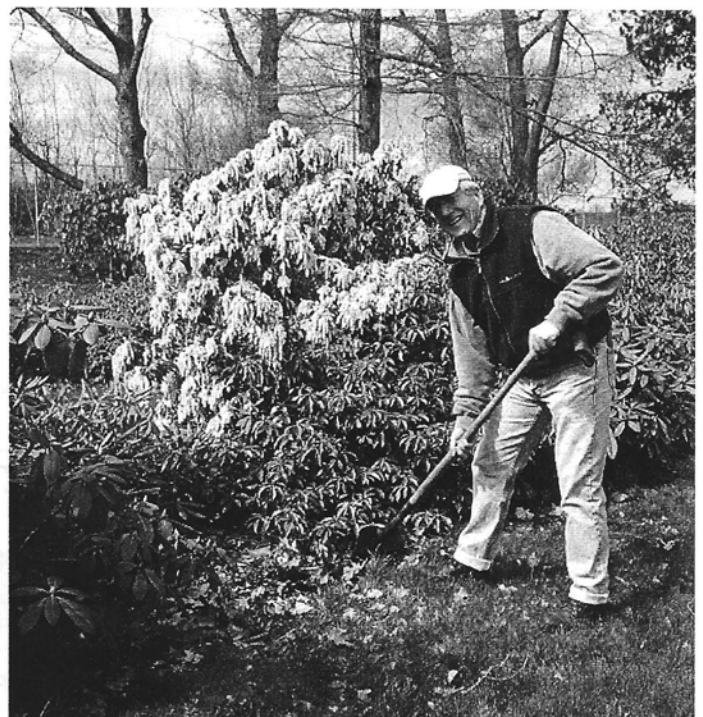
Availability? The book does not mention nurseries, and in many cases the authors acknowledge gifts of plants or seeds from collectors or other botanical gardens. I tried googling the names of a random selection of the plants described, and found sources for many of them, mostly in British nurseries, and a few in the US Pacific North West and in North Carolina. We could get them, but it would take a bit of effort.

In conclusion: A very tempting book, thoroughly researched and well illustrated, but probably not very practical for us on the East Coast. A nice thing to have on the shelf to look at on a cold winter evening.

– C. W. H.

## Kentville Work Day

Photos by Cora Swinamer



# Proven Performers

By Cora Swinamer

The following chart of proven performers has been revised and updated by the executive of the ARHS, to assist the public when selecting rhododendrons and azaleas for their Nova Scotia gardens.

The list is not exhaustive and many of the most common 'Iron-Clad' / Catawba hybrids or varieties not available commercially, have not been included.

At the May meeting we will be looking for our members' input on the many other varieties that we have brought in over the years and how they have performed.

That survey will be included as an insert in this month's Newsletter.

## Rhododendron Proven Performers for Nova Scotia

<b>Elepidotes (large-leaf)</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Bloom Time</b>	<b>Height in 10 yrs</b>	<b>Colour</b>
<i>R. 'Bellefontaine'</i>	6	LM	1.5m	Pink
<i>R. 'Calsap'</i>	5b	M	1m	White, purple blotch
<i>R. Catawbiense 'Boursault'</i>	5b	LM	1.5m	Pale purple
<i>R. 'Chionoides'</i>	5b	LM	1m	White, yellow dorsal blotch
<i>R. 'Francesca'</i>	5b	LM	1.5m	Dark red
<i>R. 'Henry's Red'</i>	5	M	1.2m	Red
<i>R. 'Janet Blair'</i>	6	M	1m	Pink, green flare on upper petal
<i>R. 'Minas Grand Pre'</i>	5b	M	.75m	Pink bells
<i>R. 'Nova Zembla'</i>	5	M	1.5m	Red
<i>R. 'Roseum Elegans'</i>	5b	LM	1.5m	Lavender pink
<i>R. 'Scintillation'</i>	5	M	1.5m	Pink
<i>R. Yakushmanum 'Mist Maiden'</i> , <i>Pink Parasol</i> , Ken Janeck', <i>'Exbury'</i> , <i>'Mardi Gras'</i>	5b	M	.8m	Pink to white

<b>Lepidotes (small-leaf)</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Bloom Time</b>	<b>Height in 10 Yrs</b>	<b>Colour</b>
<i>R. 'Aglo'</i>	5b	EM	0.8	Light pink with reddish eye
<i>R. 'April Rose'</i>	5b	E	1m	Rose
<i>R. 'April Mist'</i>	5b	E	1m	Soft pink
<i>R. 'Bluenose'</i>	6	EM	1m	Blue
<i>R. 'Dora Amateis'</i>	6	EM	.5m	White
<i>R. 'Ginny Gee'</i>	6	EM	.25m	Pink/white bicolour
<i>R. 'Patty Bee'</i>	5b	EM	.6m	Yellow
<i>R. 'Manitau'</i>	5b	EM	.8m	Pink
<i>R. 'Olga Mezzitt'</i>	5b	EM	1m	Pink
<i>R. 'Ramapo'</i>	5	EM	.4m	Purple-blue
<i>R. 'Purple Gem'</i>	5	EM	0.8m	Purple
<i>R. 'PJM' Group ('Elite' &amp; 'Regal')</i>	5	E	1m	Lilac to purple

<b>Deciduous Azaleas</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Bloom Time</b>	<b>Height in 10 yrs</b>	<b>Colour</b>
<i>R. 'Cannon's Double'</i>	5b	LM	1.5m	Pale Yellow Mutlicolour
<i>R. 'Gibraltar'</i>	5b	M	1.5m	Orange
<i>R. 'Homebush'</i>	5b	LM	1.5m	Pink ball-shaped
<i>R. 'Pink &amp; Sweet'</i>	5	L	1.2m	Pink
<i>R. 'White Lights', 'Rosy Lights' etc</i>	5a	LM	1.5m	Pink fading to white
<i>R. 'Weston's Innocence'</i>	5	L	1m	White
<i>R. molle ssp. japonicum</i>	5b	M	1m	Pale orange or yellow
<i>R. schlippenbachii 'Royal Azalea'</i>	6	EM	1.5m	Pale pink
<i>R. 'Mount St. Helen's'</i>	5	EM	1m	Pink/yellow

<b>Evergreen Azaleas</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Bloom Time</b>	<b>Height in 10 yrs</b>	<b>Colour</b>
R. 'Elsie Lee' (Shamarello)	6	M	1m	Lavender
R. 'Rosebud' (Gable)	6	M	.5m	Pink
R. 'Stewartstonian' (Gable)	6	M	.75m	Red
R. 'Diamant' Series, eg., 'Diamant Purple'	6	M	.3m	Purple
R. <i>kiusianum</i> - all forms	5b	M	0.25m	Red, Pink, White
R. 'Komo Kulsan'	6	LM	0.75m	Red
R. 'Bixby'	5b	LM	0.75m	Red

**Bloom colour and time, size at 10 yrs from the American Rhododendron Society website:**

<http://www.rhododendron.org>.

**Revised January 2007 for Atlantic Canadian conditions.**

**May vary according to site selection and growing conditions.**

The following NS nurseries have carried some or all of these varieties at various times recently:

Apple Berry Farm Market Ltd, 360 La Have St. Bridgewater (902) 543-6622

Bayport Plant Farm, 2740 Rte 332 West, Rose Bay, (902) 766-4319

Blomidon Garden Centre, 10060 Hwy 1, Greenwich, Wolfville (902) 542-2295

Brier Patch Nursery, 4568 Hwy 1, RR#1, South Berwick, (902)538-9164

Cosby's Garden Centre, Sandycove Rd., Liverpool, (902) 354-2133

Dayton Red & White Nursery, RR#2, Yarmouth County, (902) 742-5663 or 742-5148

den Haan's Garden World, Exit 18 Hwy 101, west of Middleton, Hwy #1, (902) 825-4722

Gerry's Nursery, Centreville, Queens County, (902) 678-1255

Lakeland Plant World, 909 Main St, Dartmouth (902) 435-1983

Levo Gardens, RR#1, Westville, NS (902) 396-4590

Natural Expressions, Exit 8, 4392 Hwy #3, Chester, (902) 275-2505

Pine View Farm, 216 Pine Grove Rd, Bridgewater (902) 543-4228

Pleasant Valley Nurseries Ltd, Church St Ext., Antigonish, (902) 863-1072

Seabright Greenhouses, 56 Umlah Rd., Tantallon, NS (902) 823-2627

Springvale Nurseries & Shaffner's Greenhouse, 1421 Hammonds Plains Rd., Hammonds Plains,  
(902) 832-9268 (also located in Berwick (902) 538-8825)

Thexton's Greenhouses, 902-532-2403, Karsdale Annapolis Royal, (902) 532-2403

Village Nursery, Rte 331, South Pleasantville, (902) 543-5649

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# Rhododendron and Native Plant Society

By Captain Richard Steele

The Rhododendron and Native Plant Society was organized to collect, study and trial plants that are or may be appropriate to our climate, and of value in the future for ornamental or other purposes. Establishing good forms of plants judged to be significant to the Society's objective would create a "foundation of plants for the future". To this end, three and a half acres of very suitable land was acquired in the late 1970's, in what was then a quite secure location at Lake Centre, several miles down river from Bridgewater, and about a quarter of a mile back from the road in a lightly wooded area.

Among the original members participating in the project were Barbara Hall, Dr. Robinson, John Weagle, Joe Harvey, Carole Dancer, Bob Pettipas, Aileen Meagher, Johnny Meagher, Grover Jewett, Shirley Francis, Cathy Chute, David Veinotte, Dick Steele and quite a number more.

The Society was incorporated in 1979 and flourished for ten years, but then developed some quite serious problems.

1. A large group of valuable and rare plants were donated to the project. Unfortunately they brought along with them an unidentifiable fungus that spread quickly through the collection and destroyed a very large portion of the established plants at the Lake Centre site.
2. A number of the important remaining plants were stolen.
3. Key members of the main working group died.
4. Important members of our working team escaped to the west coast.

The operations were moved to two other sites, which have proven unsatisfactory.

The disease has departed from the Lake Centre site, and Dennis and Doris House now live permanently next to it and provide security for the plants. Last season we moved back and are rehabilitating our operations there.

We now would welcome any who would be interested in joining the Society and helping us to: prune, plough the land, make paths and trails, build nursery beds, hump plants around and cultivate. While doing so, there is an opportunity to revel in the surroundings and to occasionally be "very common slaves" in working the soil and growing interesting and often quite beautiful plants.

Joe Harvey, one of the originals in this group now living on the west coast, has done very interesting and impressive breeding of indumented rhododendrons. Over the years he has sent seed of these crosses to our seed exchange and ARHS members here on the east coast may have some very interesting and fine plants from his seed. Our group would like to obtain cuttings from any such plants in order to establish a "Living Collection of Harvey Plants" at the Lake Centre test garden. If anyone is willing to provide a cutting please contact Audrey Fralic at 683-2711, [alfralic@excite.com](mailto:alfralic@excite.com) or Christine Curry 656-2513, [c.curry@auracom.com](mailto:c.curry@auracom.com), or Dick Steele at 767-4319, [nanddsteele@eastlink.ca](mailto:nanddsteele@eastlink.ca). ☐

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## Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

### Balance Sheet

As At August 31/06

Cash In Bank	36,759.97
Total Assets	<u>36,759.97</u>
Equity / Surplus	36,759.97
Total Equity	<u>36,759.97</u>

# Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

## Income Statement

For The Year Ended August 31/06

<u>Cash Inflows</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>2006-2007 Budget</u>
Memberships	2,029.24	2,400.00
ARS-CDA Rebate	-	375.00
May Plant Sale	22,467.00	22,000.00
Tissue Culture	6,394.80	6,000.00
Seed Exchange	981.35	1,000.00
Workshop	1,245.00	1,300.00
Miscellaneous	122.00	100.00
Interest	6.69	-
<b>Total Cash Inflows</b>	33,246.08	33,175.00
<u>Cash Outflows</u>		
May Plant Sale	17,322.52	18,000.00
Tissue Culture	3,684.94	3,800.00
Seed Exchange	155.32	200.00
Workshop	967.24	1,000.00
Social	401.81	200.00
Christmas	273.91	300.00
Auditorium	800.00	400.00
Administration	-	25.00
Memberships	117.00	100.00
Website	690.00	342.00
Newsletter		
<b>Printing</b>	2,096.54	2,400.00
<b>Postage &amp; Envelopes</b>	1,099.90	700.00
Programs	927.75	1,500.00
Steele Lecture	1,430.45	1,500.00
Library	-	300.00
Student Award	-	1,000.00
Donations	200.00	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	334.89	500.00
<b>Total Cash Outflows</b>	30,502.27	33,267.00
<b>Net Cash Inflow (Outflow)</b>	2,743.81	(92.00)

## Photo Album



*Geranium sanguineum* v. *striatum*. [Photo Chris Helleiner]



'Ingrid Melquist'. [Photo Roslyn Duffus]



*Cypripedium acaule*. [Photo Janet Quigg]



*Trillium erectum*. [Photo Roslyn Duffus]



'Consolini's Windmill'. [Photo Donna Silver]



'America X Mars'. [Photo Dick Steele]



'BPT-88B Sibling'. [Photo Dick Steele]



'Hello Dolly'. [Photo Bob Pettipas]