

# "Niagara Rhodo"

Newsletter of the Niagara Chapter, Rhododendron Society of Canada District 12, American Rhododendron Society

September, 2013

Our Purpose: We are a non-profit organization whose aim is to promote, encourage and support interest in the genus *rhododendron.*. Our goal is to encourage gardeners to grow and appreciate these plants, by providing educational meetings with knowledgeable speakers, access to topical publications and hosting joint meetings with other chapters.

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#### **Word of Caution**

By becoming a successful grower, the reader will be exposed to a contagion for which there is no cure. Once infected with an appreciation of rhododendrons and azaleas most gardeners spend a lifetime collecting these most beautiful of all plants.

#### 4. Edward Reiley

# The Season's End, Members' September Picnic & P4M

## The Season's End

This month we close out the Spring and Summer season and start the Fall program, but first a brief reference to how the spring season ended.

Member and volunteer support is critical to the continuing success of any community Not-for-Profit organization. Our members and volunteers



Preparing the fertilizer packets

showed their commitment by coming out in significant numbers to the various meetings and by outstanding support of the annual plant sale. We take this opportunity to thank everyone, and especially the many volunteers who gave of the time and energy to make this past year very successful. The following, in one way or another, cheerfully participated in the work of the Chapter and helped to make the past year successful: John & Angela Calixto, Wendy Fletcher, Joan & John Kooger, the Foltarzs, Peter Hannam, Lille Haworth, Kevin Kavanagh, Ray Kaczmarski & his staff at Vineland research, Mike & Marian Little, the Klammers at Blue Sky Nursery including Peter Zwaagstra and Jenn Freimanis, Marie Johns, Addy Majewski, Sondra Meis, Peter & Barbara Phelps, Gordon & Marilyn Polych, Irma Purchase, Ron Sutton, Christina Woodward, Wanda Yarmoshuk. Thank you one and all.

Preorders are ready to be picked up





Sold out

## Members' September Picnic & P4M

Setting up for the sale





END OF SUMMER MEMBERS' PICNIC **P4M DISTRIBUTION** 12 Noon, Saturday, September 21, 2013

> Lil Haworth's Garden 4 Deer Park Crt Grimsby ON L3M 2R2

BBQ Meets & Soft Drinks to be Provided Please bring Pot-Luck Salads & Desserts, Lawn Chairs, Personal Knives, Forks & Dishes











**Explaining** the finer points



The September Picnic and the Plant for Member's distribution combines renewing of personal contacts among members and of acquiring some varieties of rhododendrons that may have been long anticipated by members.

We are fortunate to have a member who has a splendid garden to visit at this time of the year, and one that affords space where plants that have been acquired and have developed over the past year or two, can be effectively displayed and distributed to members. Shown on Page 4 are colour images of the plants available to members.

Each of the plants will be available to members at \$4 per plant. This price will recover the Chapter's costs of producing these plants.

Sustenance during the action

The picnic is a pot-luck picnic where members are invited to bring salads and desserts, their own cutlery and plates and lawn chairs. Various BBQ meats and soft drinks will be provided by the Chapter.

It would facilitate planning if we could please have some indication of potential numbers at this event. Perhaps members would please drop a short note to Lille Haworth indicating their potential interest in attending.

ljhaworth@sympatico.ca

### **Fall Planting of Rhododendrons**

Typically, we are accustomed to putting new plants in the ground in the spring in anticipation of wonderful colourful blooms during the summer. The arrival of spring after, often, a dreary, cold winter provides the stimulus for getting one's hands into the soil. The fall is usually seen as a time for clean-up and preparing our gardens for winter.

There are those who contend that the ideal time for planting rhododendrons, and indeed other plants, in our area, is in the fall. They suggest that temperatures have moderated, daytime highs are comfortable, night temperatures are cool, rain is plentiful, the soil is still warm and will remain at a mild temperature for some time. This period avoids the summer droughts, the super high day-time temperatures and the relatively very high soil temperatures that rhododendrons dislike.

Accordingly, we are encouraging members to consider selecting plants from this collection to replace those that may not be doing so well or that may have succumbed to drought or other ailments.

Plants listed on the following pages have been cloned from members' gardens, or obtained by special attention from Briggs Nursery, the tissue culture specialists. These plants have been successful in others' gardens and we anticipate they will be successful in yours.

#### Directions to Lille Haworth garden. 4 Deer Park Crt, Grimsby, ON

Take the QEW to Bartlett Avenue, Grimsby exit 68. Follow Bartlett to Main Street. Take right on Main St and immediate left on Park Road. Follow Park Road to Bell Avenue. From Bell Avenue turn right to Deer Park Crt. Lille Haworth is on the right hand side.



