

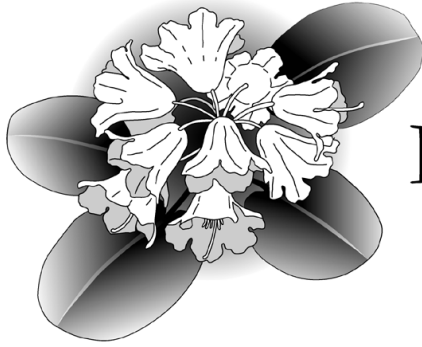
AtlanticRhodo

www.AtlanticRhodo.org

Volume 40: Number 1

February 2016





Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society

Our Mission

ARHS supports and promotes the development and exchange of expertise and material relating to the practice of creating and maintaining year-round garden landscapes featuring rhododendrons and other plants.

Inside this Issue

Sharon Bryson Getting to Know Magnolias at the Willow Garden
Chris Helleiner Springtime in South Africa's West Cape
Bob Howard 'Going for a Genetic Dream' George Woodard's Steele Lecture
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2016 Tissue Culture Sale List
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2016 Garden Tour Details

Photos in articles are by the authors, unless otherwise identified.

Membership

Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society.

Fees are \$20.00 from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, due September 2015. For benefits see ARHS website www.atlanticrhodo.org

American Rhododendron Society: ARHS is a chapter in District 12 of the American Rhododendron Society. Combined ARHS and ARS membership cost is \$50.00 Canadian. For benefits see www.rhododendron.org

Cheques, made payable to Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society should be sent to **Gloria Hardy 47 Melwood Ave. Halifax, NS B3N 1E4**

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 & Horticultural Society. We welcome your comments, suggestions, articles, photos and other material for publication. Send all material to the editor.

Published three times a year. February, May and November

Editor: Sheila Stevenson,
17 Stanbrae Rd.
Fergusons Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1G4
902 479-3740

Cover Photo: **See Editors notes on page 7** [Photo provided by Michael Howell]



Calendar of Events

ARHS meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month, from September to May, at 7:30 p.m. usually in the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History Auditorium, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, unless otherwise noted. Paid parking is available in the Museum lot. We welcome anyone sharing our interest in plants and gardens'.

- March 1** Monthly meeting. **Soil preparation and planting:**
- A panel of dirt-under-the-fingernails gardeners
Like our panel on pruning in October, this group of real gardeners will give brief presentations about soil prep and proper planting of rhododendrons and other plants. The talks will include demonstration, tips, and experiences. They look forward to questions and participation from the audience.
- March 5** **Deadline for tissue culture orders**
- April 2** NS Rock Garden Club invites ARHS members to a presentation by Marion Jarvie ,
Hardy Gems for the Garden, 1 pm at the Bedford Lawn Bowling Club, 1800 Bedford Highway
- April 5** Monthly meeting. **Clematis for Everyone and Everywhere.** Marion Jarvie.
Marion is a passionate plantswoman who has been gardening in Thornhill, ON, for over forty years. An accomplished photographer, she teaches regularly at the Thornhill Botanic Garden and has lectured all over North America and in the UK.
Check out her website at <http://www.marionjarvie.ca>
- April 13** **Deadline for May newsletter material**
- April 30** **Pickup for Members' Pre-ordered Plant Sale. Not earlier than 10 a.m. not later than 1 p.m.**
5 Sime Court, Hammonds Plains, NS
- April 30** **Last day for orders in 2016 Seed Exchange**
- May 3** **Members to Members Plant Sale**
- May 22, 1- 4 pm** **Rare & Unusual Plant Sale**
Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia. <http://acraups.org/>
- Sunday June 12** The Annual Garden Tour: **Willow Garden & Antigonish County, Dal AC Rock Garden.**

Thank you for avoiding the use of perfumes and scented products when you come to ARHS events.



A very warm welcome to our new and returning ARHS members who have joined since the November Newsletter.

Dot Brand
Chris Childs
Paul Chafe

Fall River, NS
Bedford, NS
RR1 Sydenham, Ont. (associate member from Niagara)

□□□

2016 ARHS Garden Tour and Luncheon Sunday June 12

- 8:30 Bus Departs from Halifax
- 10:00 Coffee break in New Glasgow (Tim Horton's)
- 11:30 Garden #1: Mary MacLellan, #4430 Rte 245 Malignant Cove
- 12:30 Garden #2: Sharon Bryson and Bill Wilgenhof The Willow Garden, 407 Old Maryvale Road. Arrange in advance with Sharon if you wish to buy magnolias and other plants.
- 2:15 Buffet Lunch at the Prissy Pig, St. Andrews St., Antigonish
- 3:45 Visit to Pleasant Valley Nurseries, Church St. Ext., Antigonish (visit the website for plant information)
- 4:15 Depart from Antigonish
- 5:30 Dalhousie agricultural Campus Rock Garden, Bible Hill (various rock garden plants may be for sale)
- 7:30 Arrive in Halifax

You may choose to

- Hop on the bus and join us for lunch. \$65 per person (\$35 for the bus + \$30 for meal.)
- Travel in your own car but join the lunch. \$30. Includes tip and tax
- Travel in your own car with your own lunch.
- Bring a spouse or friend

Email Sophie Bieger biegersophie@gmail.com as soon as you can to tell her how you wish to participate, or phone her at 902-422-3817, Monday to Friday, 7-9 am and 7-9 pm.



Entrance Courtyard – Dalhousie Agricultural Campus Rock Garden

ARHS 2016 TISSUE CULTURE ADVANCE SALE

Jon Porter

Descriptions are primarily from previous ARHS listings or from Brigg's website (www.briggsnursery.com and www.briggsnsy.com) where photographs of many of the selections can be found. More details can also be found at <http://www.rhododendron.org/> or www.westonnurseries.com

RHODODENDRONS

VARIETY	Hybridizer	Description
R. 'Absolute Citron'	Rabideau	('Ada Lohr' aka 'Amber Mist' X 'Goldkrone'). The flowers of 'Absolute Citron' open from deep yellow buds to bright medium yellow with red speckling on the upper lobe. Early midseason. The color, compact habit and heavy budding came from 'Goldkrone'. The good foliage and bigger flowers with a blotch came from the mother (seed) plant, along with potential for -25°F hardiness! 4-5' x 4-5'. Zone 5
R. 'Cherry Cheesecake'	Briggs	An absolutely yummy plant! Large pure white blooms with red edges and red blotch make this a showstopper. Late midseason. Large, lush, mounding foliage. 5' x 5'. Zone 6.
R. 'Dark Lord'	Mezitt/Weston Nurseries (catawbiense hybrid x 'Purple Splendor')	Sibling to the dark purple 'Tapestry' with flowers that are deep burgundy red. Early midseason. 4-5' x 4-5'. Zone 5.
R. 'Holden's Solar Flair'	Leach	A cross with two of Leach's previous hybrids, 'Calcutta' and 'Casanova', plus 'Goldsworth Orange'. Rhododendron catawbiense adds hardiness. Explosive, true yellow flowers sport a fiery red blotch. Superb hardiness and dark green leaves mark improvements over previous Leach introductions. A great substitute for <i>Rhododendron</i> 'Capistrano'. 4' x 3'. Zone 5.
R. 'Minnetonka'	Motzkau/Van Veen	(ponticum x unknown). Rounded trusses of light lavender-pink flowers with vivid yellow- green blotches cover this low-growing hybrid in midseason. 3' x 4'. Zone 5
R. 'Polarnacht'	Hachmann'	Polarnacht' is almost twice the width as its height. Frilly deep dark purple blooms with spotted red throats are held in trusses of 12-14. Mid to late season. 3' x 6'. Zone 6.
R. 'Skookum'	Minch	"Skookum" is a Native American word meaning "little and strong"—which is appropriate for this compact, very hardy rhododendron. Flowers are a striking bright red, the foliage an attractive dark green. Late midseason. Even as a two-year-old plant, 'Skookum' buds freely. 4' x 4'. Zone 5.
R. yak. 'Pink Parasol'	Leach	One of the best R. yakushmanum selections. Particularly attractive foliage is blue-green above and covered with a thick layer of tan indumentum underneath. Flowers open soft pink from dark pink buds and mature pure white. Low, broad habit. 3' x 5'. Zone 5.

EVERGREEN AZALEAS

VARIETY	Hybridizer	Description
Azalea 'Girard's Crimson'	Girard	Crimson red flowers with red blotch. A prolific bloomer with disease-resistant foliage. Early- midseason bloom. Glossy, dark green leaves are evergreen. Leaves acquire red and copper tones in winter. Upright, spreading habit. 3' x 4'. Zone 5.

DECIDUOUS AZALEAS

VARIETY	Hybridizer	Description
Azalea 'Cannon's Double'	Cannon	Pale yellow hose-in-hose flowers with deep pink veins in late midseason. The foliage has a soft red color all summer. Open habit. 5' x 6'. Zone 5.
Azalea 'Fragrant Star'	Briggs Nursery	A polyploid form of 'Snowbird' that was developed at Briggs Nursery. Extremely fragrant, snowy white flowers top lovely blue foliage like stars in the sky. Early midseason. 4' x 4'. Zone 5.
Azalea 'Homebush'	Knapp Hill Nursery	Nearly perfect, ball-shaped trusses of deep pink, semi-double flowers adorn this ever- popular plant. Late-midseason bloom. AGM winner. 6' x 5'. Zone 5.
Azalea 'Klondyke'	Rothschild	The superior, bronzy, mildew-resistant foliage competes with the fragrant, golden-yellow blooms for top honors on this compact hybrid. Early-midseason bloom. AGM winner. 4-6' x 3- 5'. Zone 5.
Azalea 'Millenium'	Weston Nurseries	A feast for the senses. Fragrant, deep red flowers with a pale orange flare are set off by blue-green, mildew-resistant foliage. A late bloomer; flowers don't open until early summer. 3' x 2 1/2'. Zone 5.

COMPANION PLANTS

VARIETY and DESCRIPTION
<p><i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Winter Chocolate' Colorful throughout the year: green and orange summer foliage, soft lavender blooms in late summer and fall, chocolate-colored winter foliage, with red tips in spring. Compact habit. 8" x 15". Zone 4.</p>
<p><i>Clematis</i> hybrid 'Madame Julia Correvon' A charming and beautiful small vine that will produce a plethora of three inch flowers in a sumptuous shade of rosy wine-red. <i>Clematis</i> 'Madam Julia Correvon' will bloom from early summer through early autumn. Grow it scrambling through a large shrub or small tree, or over a fence or trellis. 12' x 6'. Zone 5.</p>
<p><i>Clematis</i> hybrid 'Multi Blue' This is a most unusual and striking plant, not the usual double at all. It is a sport of The President, with outer sepals of the same colour but with a very distinctive spiky green-tipped center, much like a dahlia. The overall impression of the colour is blue with a silver reverse. As the flower ages, the outer sepals are shed, but the spiky center remains ornamental for as long as three weeks. Semi- double flowers are produced on new wood. An intriguing and ornamental plant. 6-8'. Zone 4.</p>
<p><i>Corydalis</i> 'Berry Exciting' Brilliant yellow, fern-like leaves are streaked green and erupt in fragrant purple flowers. This wonderful mutation of <i>C. 'Blackberry Wine'</i> is one of the few <i>Corydalis</i> that does not go summer dormant. Its vigorous cascading habit makes it an excellent groundcover and looks great spilling out of baskets and over banks. 10" x 24". Zone 5.</p>
<p><i>Enkianthus</i> 'Bruce Briggs' Bright green glossy foliage that turns brilliant copper-orange to red in the fall. It has pendulous racemes of delicate, campanulate flowers that hang from the layered branches. 'Bruce Briggs' is a highly- prized cultivar offering among the darkest red flowers in the genus. 5' x 3'. Zone 5.</p>
<p><i>Enkianthus campanulatus</i> 'Red Bells' The name describes the red rims of the otherwise cream-colored, bell-shaped flowers, but the real ornamental value of this shrub is its bold yellow, orange, and red fall color and its tiered habit, which is best appreciated in winter. Shade tolerant. 5-8' x 5-8'. Zone 5.</p>
<p><i>Erica carnea</i> 'Myretoun Ruby' Flowers are ruby red, bloom from January to May. Foliage is dark green. Habit is spreading. Prune after flowering. Low growing plants 8" spreading to 20". Zone 5.</p>

<p>Gaylussacia brachycera 'Berried Treasure' box huckleberry is an evergreen subshrub with small, glossy, leathery leaves, flowering in the spring. 12-18" high. Zone 5.</p>
<p>Hakonechloa macra 'Naomi' This stunning cultivar of Japanese Forest Grass from Bruno Carpentier features creamy yellow and green variegated leaves that take on cool purplish-red tones in the fall. 10" x 16". Zone 5.</p>
<p>Helleborus x hybridus ROYAL HERITAGE The Royal Heritage™ Hellebores are a strain of hybrids developed over many years by the noted plantsman, John Elsley. They have long-lasting, cup-shaped flowers in a range of colors that includes shades of purple, pink, green, white, and near black, all with a contrasting center of yellow stamens. Blooms begin in winter & continue for 2+ months. Leathery, dark green leaves persist well into Winter. Introduced by Briggs Nursery. 1999 Briggs Plant of the Year. 1.5' x 2'. Zone 5.</p>
<p>Heptacodium microniodes Seven-Son Flower. Snow-white blossoms in large clusters, replaced by brilliant red sepals and colorful fruits. Best in partial shade. Fall foliage is reddish-purple. Brown exfoliating bark. Grows 12-15'. Zone 5.</p>
<p>Hosta 'Blue Mouse Ears' 2009 Hosta of the year! Very thick rounded leaves, looks like the shape of little mouse ears. This dainty little charmer makes a neat, symmetrical clump of silvery blue leaves which roll up at the edges. Partial shade or shade. 8" x 8". Zone 3.</p>
<p>Hydrangea quercifolia 'Pee Wee' A dwarf, of course. Grows just 3' x 3', with smaller leaves and flowers, so everything is in scale. Reddish-purple fall color. Ideal for a small garden. Zone 6.</p>
<p>Ilex verticillata 'Red Sprite' A dwarf selection of the winterberry with a profusion of bright red berries which brighten the winter landscape and provide food for birds. A male pollenizer, such as Jim Dandy Holly, is required for berry set. 2-3' tall. Zone 4.</p>
<p>Liquidambar styraciflua 'Worplesdon' An outstanding cultivar of the Sweet Gum tree selected for its fingerlike leaves and its rich purple, orange, and yellow fall color. Broadly pyramidal to oval habit. AGM winner. 60-75' x 40-50'. Zone 6.</p>
<p>Vaccinium vitis-idaea 'Koralle' A low, dense, evergreen shrub that creeps to form a dense thicket. It produces small white flowers in midspring and a crop (sometimes two) of large, bright red berries in summer. Foliage turns an attractive mahogany in winter. Best in full sun and evenly moist soil. 1' x 2'. Zone 2.</p>

Editors Notes

Our Cover Photo

This image of plant materials, transformed by a chef in Wolfsburg Germany and shot by NS chef Michael Howell, evoked the moment in my spring garden when the brown earth is exposed and the hot pinks of rhododendrons 'airy fairy' and 'milestone' are out simultaneously with the chartreuse corylopsis spicata. Michael says "This is one of the best things I've ever put in my mouth. And it's dessert! An amazing concoction of avocado/lime sorbet, spruce tree sprouts, aerated Araguani chocolate, black chanterelle, and beet macarons."

Library Books

Our librarian, Bonie Conrad, is trying to locate a number of missing or outstandingly late ARHS library books. We would appreciate you looking to see if ARHS books have been 'lost' among your own books. Thank you. ☺

Seeds on Offer: the ARHS 2016 Seed Exchange

The sale closes on April 30 but seeds go out on a first-come, first-served basis, and after Feb 29 the sale is open to anyone. Please share the list with anyone and everyone.

Follow the links to the ARHS Seed Exchange at the [The Willow Garden](#) or on the Atlantic Rhodo site to find lots of images, info, and updates about availability.

Seed packets are \$2.50 CDN each for collected wild, \$2.00 CDN each for hand-pollinated, and \$1.50 CDN each for open-pollinated seed. One packet per lot per person. Order more on chance. List substitutes as quantities for some lots are small. Save this seed list for some of the footnote information. US regulations now require an import permit and a phytosanitary certificate but seeds sent to the US will be shipped without a phytosanitary certificate and at the orderer's risk.

Send orders, on the form provided, to: Sharon Bryson, #407 Old Maryvale Rd., RR#3 Antigonish, Nova Scotia B2G 2L1 CANADA Be sure to list second choices on the order form.

Make your cheque or money order payable to Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticultural Society. Add \$3.00 CDN for postage & padded envelope.

The FREE seeds are a deciduous azalea mix, lot 123. Make your claim on the order form and send it per Sharon Bryson's instructions + \$3 for postage. (We are not offering free postage.)

If you are involved in a local Seedy Saturday, please let us know at atlanticrhodo@gmail.com

SEED LIST

DONORS: **ADD** – Betty-Ann Addison, Minneapolis, MN **BIR** - Jens Birck, Copenhagen, Denmark
BRE - John Brett, Halifax/Morris Island, NS **BRU** - Joe Brusio, Hopkinton, MA **CLY** - Bruce Clyburn, New Waterford, NS **CRE** - Mike Creel, Lexington, SC **DAU** - Tadeusz Dauksza, Orland Park, IL **DOI** - Y. Doi, Japan **EVE** - Donna Evers, Halifax, NS **GRA** - Laura Grant, Toronto, ON **HAR** - Joe Harvey, Victoria, BC **HOP** - Chris Hopgood, Halifax, NS **LEV** - S. Levy, Halifax, NS **LOO** - Jack Looye, Niagara on the Lake, ON **REE** - Ed Reekie, Wolfville, NS **SHA** - Ken Shannik, Halifax, NS **SUR** - R. Surette, Yarmouth, NS

Rhododendron Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated -\$2.00

- 36 LOO 'Anke Heinje' x 'Snow's Red' 2015
- 37 DOI *R. aureum* x *R. eclecctum*, yellow goal: oval foliage, yellow flower 2015
- 38 CLY 'Babylon' x ('Cloud Nine' x *R. calophytum*)
- 39 BIR ('Bambi' x *R. proteoides*) #25 x *R. recurvoides*
- 40 CLY 'Blazen Sun' x 'Goldprinz' 2015
- 41 ADD *R. brachycarpum* 'Green as Grass' x 'Henry's Red'
- 42 ADD *R. brachycarpum* 'Green as Grass' x 'White Peter'
- 43 CLY ('Calsap' x *R. calophytum*) x 'Babylon'
- 44 CLY ('Calsap' x *R. calophytum*) x *R. rex*, ssp. *ficulacteum*
- 45 CLY 'Casanova' x 'Nancy Steele'
- 46 ADD (*R. catawbiense* x *R. smirnowii*) x 'Pink Flourish'
- 47 LOO (('Catfortcampy' x 'Mary Garrison') x 'Rio#2') x 'Delp's Dream' 2015 †1
- 48 CLY ('Connecticut Yankee' x *R. calophytum*) x 'Babylon'
- 49 CLY *R. fortunei* 'Andersen' x 'Babylon' 2015
- 50 WEA 'Francesca' x 'Babylon' 2015 goal: improved colour
- 51 WEA 'Francesca' x *R. strigillosum* RSF99/211 goal: later Taurus look-alike 2015
- 52 CLY Gable's 'Red Cat' x Gable's 'Red Max' †2
- 53 LOO 'Gable's Peaches' x 'Casanova' 2015
- 54 BIR 'Goldsprengl' x *R. citriniflorum* ssp. *horeaum* (trying for blotch)
- 72 BIR *R. proteoides* KGB700 x *R. proteoides* R.151
- 73 LOO 'Rabatz' x 'Anna Delp' 2015

- 74 LOO 'Sandra Hinton' x 'Butterscotch' 2015
'Butterscotch' = ('Marybelle' x 'Casanova')
- 75 LOO 'Sandra Hinton' x 'Yellow Stone' 2015
- 76 CLY 'Scintillation' x 'Sandra Hinton'
- 77 LOO {'*R. smirnowii*' x (*R. yakusimanum* x 'America')}f2 x (*R. degronianum* x *R. roxianum*) 2015
- 78 CLY 'Summer Snow' x [(*R. brachycarpum* v. *Tigerstedtii* x *R. auriculatum*) x ('Babylon' x *R. auriculatum*)]
- 79 CLY 'Summer Summit' x [(BVT x *R. auriculatum*) x ('Babylon' x *R. auriculatum*)] †4
- 80 LOO 'Tols' (*R. degronianum* ssp. *yakushmanum* x *R. catawbiense*) x 'Great Dane' 2015
- 81 LOO (*R. yakushmanum* x 'Goldkrone') x 'Delp's Dream' 2015
- 82 CLY (*R. yakushmanum* x *R. pachysanthum*),
'Blue Heaven' Grex x ('Calsap' x *R. rex*)
- 83 HAR *R. yakushmanum* 'Exbury' x *R. pachysanthum* 2015
- 84 CLY 'Vinecrest' x {(*R. yakushmanum* x *R. lacteum*) x 'Powder Snow'} 2015

Rhododendron Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 85 WIL *R. dauricum* cross, unknown origin, white
- 86 ADD 'Rice Creek Coral', OP 2015 (cat x *smirnowii*)
Very hardy
- 87 GRA 'Sandra Hinton' sibling, very hardy
- 88 WIL seedling from ARS92#765, aka "Sproeten"
('Barbara Cook' x 'Janet Blair')

Azalea Hybrids - Hand-Pollinated - \$2.00

- 89 DAU [(455-7 x (*R. arborescens* x *R. cumberlandense*)] x 'Red Velvet' (455-7 is ARS 2007 # 455 - *R. periclymenoides*, cw Kate's Branch)
- 90 DAU 526-7 x 'July Jester'
(526-7 is ARS2007#526 - *R. viscosum*,op)
- 91 DAU 570-7 x ('Red Velvet' x 'Tri-lights') (570-7 is from ARS 2007 #570 , *R. prinophyllum*, cw, Grant County, WV; from one plant population)
- 92 DAU 'Arneson Ruby' x 'Snowbird'
- 93 REE *R. calendulaceum* x 'Washington State Centennial'
- 94 DAU 'Chetco' x 'Earl's Gold'
- 95 CRE 'Choice Cream' (*R. atlanticum* x *R. austrinum*) x 'Gold Coast'
- 96 DAU 'Clear Creek' (Aromi hyb.) x 'Red Velvet'
- 97 CLY (*R. cumberlandense* 'Camp's Red' x *R. occidentale*) x *R. occidentale* 77/385 †5
- 98 DAU 'Gallipoli' x ('Red Velvet' x 'Tri-lights')
- 99 DAU 'Jolie Madame' x 'Red Velvet'
- 100 DAU 'July Jester' x 526-7
(526-7 is from ARS2007#526, *R. viscosum*, op)
- 101 DAU 'July Jester' x 'Pink Ember'
- 102 LOO 'Lemon Drop' x 'Vineland Gold'
- 103 REE *R. molle ssp. japonicum* x *R. prinophyllum*
- 104 DAU 'My Mary' x 'King's Red'
- 105 DAU ("Orange *R. austrinum*" x 'Red Velvet') x 'Chetco' "Orange *R. austrinum*" 2002 Atlanta ARS convention, Earl Sommerville plant
- 106 DAU 'Pink Ember' x 529-7
529-7= (*R. viscosum oblongifolium* x *R. occidentale*)op
- 107 DAU 'Pink Ember' x 'Millenium'
- 108 DAU 'Snowbird' x 'Gallipoli'
- 109 WEA 'Watchet', selfed Evergreen azalea Robin Hill azalea, large pink flower
- 110 CLY Washington State Centennial' x ('Marydel' x 'Smoky Mountaineer')image

Azalea Hybrids - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50

- 111 DAU 'Berry Rose' OP
- 112 DAU 'Candy Lights' OP
- 113 DAU 'Clear Creek' (Aromi hyb.) OP
- 114 DAU 'Gallipoli' OP
- 115 DAU 'Jolie Madame' OP
- 116 WIL 'Pennsylvania' OP very late blooming(August)
- 117 WEA 'Snowbird'
- 118 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling from ARHS'01#74 (*R. arborescens* x *R. cumberlandense*), Late blooming (fragrant orange red shade)
- 119 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling from ARHS'01#74 (*R. arborescens* x *R. cumberlandense*) Late blooming (Pink, fragrant)

- 120 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling from ARS2004#262 semi-double orange †6
- 121 WIL Unnamed azalea seedling "Peachy" ('Homebush' x unnamed yellow)
- 122 WIL Pink seedling mix from ('Homebush' x unnamed pink)
- 123 WIL Deciduous azalea, mix - **FREE**
- Companion Plants - Open-Pollinated - \$1.50**
- 124 WES Agapanthus 'Headbourne Hybrid' -Per
- 125 WEA Agapanthus 'Summer Skies' HP, Halifax hardy - Per
- 126 --- Albizia julibrissin V. Rosea 'Ernest Wilson' F2 silk tree or mimosa, is a small tree that produces an abundance of pink, powder puff-like flowers from June-Sept. zone 5b-6 from Hopkinton, MA old tree - Tree
- 127 --- Albizia julibrissin V. Rosea 'Ernest Wilson'F3 from Hopkinton, MA young tree - Tree †7
- 128 SHA Arisaema ciliata v. libuense ACE1570 Himalayan Cobra Lily - Per
- 129 SHA Arisaema fimbriatum RBGE #1519 - Per
- 130 SHA Arisaema heterophyllum -Per
- 131 SHA Arisaema jacquemontii -Per
- 132 SHA Arisaema sp, ex AGCBC 94-1520 -Per
- 133 WES *Asimina triloba*, common PawPaw †7 -Tree
- 134 WIL *Begonia grandis*, semi hardy begonia with beautiful foliage, pink flowers until hard frost; supplied as small tubers - Tuber
- 135 WES *Calycanthus floridus*, Sweetshrub or Carolina Allspice. Dense, rounded deciduous shrub with a suckering habit 6-9', fragrant reddish brown flowers in spring - Shrub
- 136 WEA *Castanea dentata*, American Chestnut from Wolfville, NS †7 - Tree
- 137 SHA Clematis integrifolia -Per, non-vining
- 138 WES *Cornus officinalis*, Japanese cornelian cherry, - Deciduous shrub †7
- 139 WEA Cyclamen hederifolium -Per
- 140 WES *Deinathe bifida*, Blue, 18"(.45m), part shade, hydrangea relative , felty dark-green leaves, lavender-blue blossoms HP - Per
- 141 WIL *Dictamnus purpurea*, pink form Gasplant † 8 - Bulb
- 147 WIL *Lilium martagon*, mixed pink and white † 8 - Bulb
- 148 WIL *Lilium superbum* , orange, downward facing, tall, vigorous † 8 - Bulb
- 149 WES *Lindera angustifolia*, Oriental spicebush is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub †7 6-8' tall and 3-5' wide Hardiness Z5b
- 150 SUR *Magnolia acuminata*, isolated tree Yarmouth -Tree †9
- 151 WES *Magnolia acuminata*, (cucumber tree) bears greenish yellow flowers. >40 Ft. -Tree †9

- 152 EVE Magnolia ('Lennei' x 'Phil's Masterpiece') o.p. - Tree †9
 153 WIL *M. x loebneri* ex 'Ballerina', op white blooms - tree †9
 154 WIL *Magnolia loebneri* hyb. ex. 'Leonard Messel', pink, mid-sized - Tree †9
 155 SHA *Magnolia x loebneri* 'Spring Snow' HP -Tree †9
 156 WES *Magnolia macrophylla* - Tree †9
 157 SHA Magnolia 'Mazeppa' o.p.

'Mazeppa' is a seedling of 'Anne Ross' OP Grown by, named and registered by John Weagle, may be pollinated by a nearby *M. soulangeana* - Tree †9

FOOTNOTES

- †1. 'Delp's Dream' also known as "D.D."
 †2. Joe Gable's selections of the reddest flowered forms of the two native rhododendrons, *R. catawbiense* and *R. maximum* crossed.
 †3. *R. maximum* in all cases is a red seedling of Mt. Mitchell form, aka "Red Picotee" (Bruso crosses)
 †4. BVT= *R. brachycarpum* v. *Tigerstedtii*
 †5. Goal is an *R. occidentale* facsimile which will thrive in zone 6 eastern gardens.
 †6. ARS2004 #262 semi-double yellow/peach Exbury seedling x ('Homebush' x *R. austrinum*) yellow hp
 †7. Seed has been stratified. Store in fridge in plastic packet as received until March/April then sow in warm soil.
 †8. *Lilium* seeds may require a warm/ moist period followed by a cold period if there is no germination. Plant cold treated pots outside in spring.

†9. Magnolia seed has been stratified. Store in fridge in plastic packet as received until March/April then sow in warm soil.

†10. *Xanthoceras sorbifolium* is a small deciduous tree or large multi-stemmed shrub considered rare in America and Europe. Also known as the CHINESE FLOWERING CHESTNUT, it has large white 1" flowers with a red or yellow blotch at the base. ~ 15 feet, with dark green leaflets. China. Zone 4. Hardy in the North. The flowers, leaves, and fruit are said to have been used as food.

NOTES

1. Open-pollinated species, with the exception of a very few, may not come true from seed. Cultivars, with the exception of a few perennials do not come true. Plants from these seeds should be labelled as being "ex" that species or cultivar.
2. The 2016 Seed List will be posted on the Internet with insertion of images and links to help in your decision-making. Updates re availability will be posted here. <http://www.willowgarden.net> Follow the links for 2016 ARHS Seed Exchange.
A link to the list will be inserted on the Atlantic Rhodo site. www.atlanticrhodo.org
3. Also see the ARHS website for an article on growing rhododendrons from seed.
4. When sowing rhododendrons on peat we recommend you sterilize it first. Microwave it for 15 minutes or pour boiling water through it several times. Allow to cool.

☼☼☼



Dalhousie Agricultural Campus Rock Garden

Members' Pre-Ordered Plant Sale

Wendy Cornwall reports that the list of plants on offer for 2106 is very extensive (including lots of Japanese maples) and close to complete.

You will receive an email from Jean Henshall with the entire list, descriptions, instructions, and info re pick-up times and location! You will also find the same info on our website, thanks to Cora.

Our U.S. members will receive only the rhododendron list, since we cannot ship Canadian plants to the U.S. and the rhodies are coming from Van Veen's in the US.

About these rhodies, Anitra says this: The rhododendrons are a unique collection of plants, grown from cuttings specially selected for us; plants not readily available to us in other ways. On this list you will discover the very finest of the yellow rhododendrons, the result of years of selection by the top hybridizers including our own Captain Steele; magnificent reds whose blooms glow like jewels; plants with the eye-catching multi-tinged blooms we envy in west coast hybrids. Beautiful classic species plants and interspecies hybrids that perform so well in our landscape are well represented. Also there are many representatives of the most attractive, smaller compact rhododendrons that fit so well into any landscape or yard. A special mention too for the less well known, but outstanding, low-growing *sargentianum* hybrids, which cover themselves in clusters of tiny daphne-like blooms with strawberry-scented foliage.

Liz Naylor will manage the pick-up again this year. liz.anne.naylor@gmail.com

Pick-up: APRIL 30. NOT EARLIER THAN 10 AM. NOT LATER THAN 1 PM. 5 Sime Court, Hammonds Plains, NS

THE DEADLINE FOR 2016 Tissue Culture ORDERS is MARCH 5, 2016.

The order form (email from Jean Henshall, Jan 5 and Feb 2) shows the sizes available for each plant. Prices will vary with plant size as the larger plants cost more and have a higher freight charge. As all our major expenses are in US dollars, the exchange rate is critical. The standard size, similar to previous years, is L2 (with a minimum order of 49 plants for each variety) and an expected price of \$5.50/plant. Other sizes are L3 (minimum order of 25 plants per variety) with an expected price of \$8/plant and QT (minimum order 16 plants per variety) with an expected price of \$11.50/plant. For plants that are available in both L2 and QT, we plan to order the L2 size unless there are not enough orders to reach the minimum quantity.

All members will be advised of the date, time, and location for pickup in early April, once confirmation is received of the plants' arrival date. In addition to your order, you may be able to purchase leftover plants on the day of the pick-up.

Please make sure your phone number and email address are included in the order form.

Send your order to ARHS c/o Jon Porter 1103 Brooklyn Shore Rd, Brooklyn, NS B0J 1H0 [902-354-2387](tel:902-354-2387)
E-mail orders also acceptable to jonporter@eastlink.ca

REMEMBER TO MAKE A COPY OF YOUR ORDER.

YOU WILL PAY or BE BILLED WHEN YOUR ORDER IS PICKED UP OR SENT.

Special shipping charges may apply.

Orders that are not picked up in Halifax on the sale date will be shipped collect by whatever method you have indicated on your order. Where shipping options are limited, the parcel will be shipped by Canada Post. This sale is only available to paid-up members in the Atlantic Region. ☞

Springtime in South Africa's West Cape

By Chris Helleiner



The Western Cape Province of South Africa is one of the world's most exciting areas for plant lovers. Botanists have divided the world into six floristic kingdoms. The southern tip of Africa is the smallest of these kingdoms all to itself – a unique lot of habitats and species found nowhere else. When the University of British Columbia alumni set up a tour there, Mary and I eagerly signed up. Though we actually have no connection with UBC, they welcomed us. The group consisted of ten people and the leader, Gary Lewis, who runs a nursery in Vancouver, as well as a knowledgeable local guide and a driver.



Aloe on Table Mountain

After a flight of nearly twelve hours from Amsterdam, we arrived August 15th, 2015 in the Cape Town area, where we spent three days. Cape Town is a large city, with a population greater than any Canadian city. The suburbs include some of the best vineyards in South Africa, some demonstration farms, and botanical gardens. The most famous of these is Kirstenbosch, devoted almost entirely to growing and displaying plants native to South Africa. We had half a day there, not nearly long enough to do justice to the abundant plant life. Like everyone else we were taken to the top of Table Mountain, had a trip out to the Cape of Good Hope, and visited a colony of African penguins.

Our next destination was the small town of Springbok, about 500 km to the north. As we drove, we had to keep reminding ourselves that the sun was in the north and the southern slopes of the mountains were the shady ones. The climate of the Western Cape is Mediterranean – cool, wet winters and

hot, dry summers. The southern part is the dampest. As you go north it becomes dryer and dryer, and is completely arid in the Kalahari Desert over the border in Namibia. Plants that thrive under these conditions have evolved various mechanisms for surviving the summer drought, including drying up their green parts and retreating underground as bulbs.

Springbok is the centre of Namaqualand, famous for its outstanding show of wild flowers. For most of the year, this region is a barren near-desert. But in a good year, when the winter rains are sufficient, the desert comes alive with vivid flowers in spring, i.e. August and September. We were lucky to get there at a time when the display was very fine. The predominant colour is orange, but there were also patches of white and mauve. Many of the plants are mesembryanthemums and other members of the *Aizoaceae*, the ice plant family. Almost all plants in this family are endemic to southern Africa. Numerous kinds of daisy relatives also contribute to the colourful effect. Another prominent plant in this area is the tree aloe, *Aloidendron dichotomum* (formerly *Aloe dichotoma*, known locally as the quivertree; these sometimes grow up to 10 meters high.

After three days in this area, we turned southwards by easy stages. The land became greener, and we actually had a rainy day at Nieuwoudtville. This town and its environs are said to be particularly rich in bulbs, but since most of them bloom in the summer, we did not see them at their best. There were still small lakes and ponds, destined to dry up in a month or so. Among the showy plants in flower were several species of the iris family, including *Babiana* and *Ixia*. A couple of days in the winelands, actually in the outer suburbs of Cape Town, allowed us to visit some historic estates from the period of the Dutch settlement. It was pointed out to us that calling the wines of South Africa “new world” is really a mistake – some of the wine estates are as old as many European ones, dating back to the 1600s.



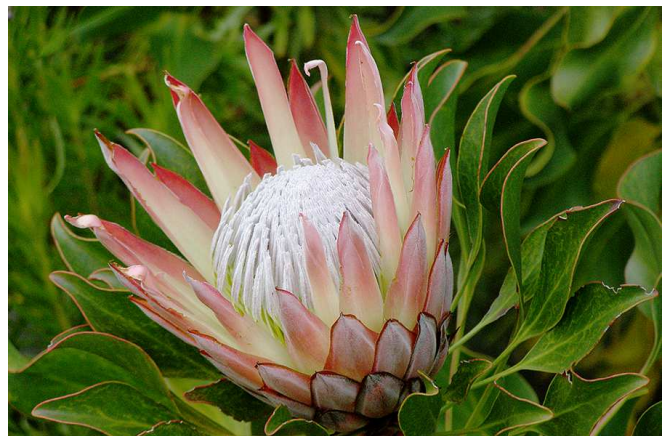
Bulbinella, related to asphodel

The last few days of our two-week trip were spent in the Fynbos area on the south coast. Fynbos refers to densely packed shrubs with thin, needle-like leaves. Around 8000 species of plants grow in this small area, including many kinds of *Erica*, with flowers in vivid yellow and red shades. Some of the showiest flowering shrubs grow here, including various kinds of *Protea* and *Leucospermum* (pincushion flower), said to be pollinated by the Cape sugarbird.

In addition to the botanical interest, we were introduced to some aspects of the people living in South Africa. We saw only a very small part of this vast country, and only during a very brief, though particularly interesting, part of the year. If only it was not so far away, we would be tempted to go there again. ☘



Strelitzia reginae ‘Mandela’s Gold’



Protea cynaroides, King Protea, the national flower

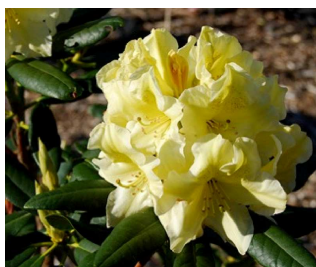
'Going for a Genetic Dream' : George Woodard's Steele Lecture to the ARHS

By Bob Howard

George Woodard, noted rhododendron breeder and superintendent/head gardener at the Howard Phipps Jr. estate in Old Westbury, Long Island, presented the 2015 Steele Lecture at our November meeting. His talk was entitled "Looking for Little Epiphanies".

Lots of ordinary experiences in a life career of gardening, making crosses, weeding out all but the best, rubbing shoulders with other passionate gardeners, visiting gardens and nurseries, and continuing afresh added up to a story that inspired me.

George's project (that "genetic dream") has been to combine the lush size and colour of west coast flowers with northeast US hardiness. His best-known success is probably 'Kristi Lynn'.



'Kristi Lynn'

His breeding goals are

1. At least 1/4 *yakushimanum*
2. Heavy color saturation
3. Hardy on Long Island
4. Large number of flowers per truss

Just reading the names of the parents of the registered hybrid, 'Mary Phipps', gives a hint of the colour, luxury, and character of the plants he has worked on: ('Scintillation' X 'Pink Petticoats' x *yakushimanum*) x ('Dumper's Yellow' x 'Phipps Yellow' X 'One Thousand Butterflies'). These are big-flowered, showy plants. At one point in his presentation, George showed a plant that has 35 flowers in a truss.

George has been fortunate to work for a man, Howard Phipps Jr., and his wife Mary (also a horticulturalist) with the facilities, grounds, and wherewithal to "go big". With the greenhouses and lighting at his disposal, he can flower a new plant in two to three years. This makes relatively quick progress in selecting candidates and in making subsequent new crosses. The estate and the prominent role of both the owners and George in the American Rhododendron Society and the NY chapter have created the opportunity to know and share enthusiasm and knowledge with other notable breeders and gardeners. I think it was this glimpse into that world that most captured my attention. There's something very attractive about the world of gardens and gardeners.

Interesting to learn that the rhododendron world was very competitive when George was first hired in 1976. An early job for him was to sit by the displays at a truss show and make sure no one stole any pollen from the flowers!

George started his talk by saying that Howard Phipps Sr. created the garden with the goal of making a horticultural refuge. In fact, the name of the estate is "Erchless", a Welsh word that means solitude, solemnity, calmness. At the same time, there's a lot of passion and engagement in all this breeding work and garden-making. The senior Phipps was an avid hybridizer of magnolias, peonies and rhododendrons. He was friends with Charles Dexter and produced some very nice hybrids. Some of Phipps' registered crosses are listed in the book, *Hybrids and Hybridizers*.



And the people! The list of mentors and gardeners George has known, learned from, and shared life with impressed me. See the photo taken at the Bruns Nursery in Germany with Warren Berg, June Sinclair, and one of George's particular mentors, Hank Shannen, who started the very well-known Rare Find Nursery in New Jersey. Warren Berg, a breeder of hardy rhododendrons who gardened in Washington State, is a name we frequently see when we review our plant choices in the annual members' plant sale. 'Ginny Gee' and 'Patty Bee' are two of his famous hybrids. Tying it all together, 'June Bee' ('Yaku Fairy x 'Mary Fleming') is a white dwarf hybrid bred by Warren Berg, named for June Sinclair, and currently offered by Rare Plant Nursery! It's fully hardy here. George is the tall man in the back row on the right.

George showed 156 images of rhododendrons and other plants in one hour. Words cannot convey them but

- Magnolias, witch hazels, a beech hedge, a Japanese garden, and katsura trees figured in the lead up to the rhododendrons.
- I particularly liked the combination of a *Corylopsis pauciflora*, which grows well for me, with a pink rhodo.
- *Edgeworthia chrysantha*, (oriental paperbush), is a beautiful shrub, a zone 7 plant that I fear would be risky here.
- One of the plants that got some oohs and aahs from the audience was rhododendron ‘Blue Baron’ x ‘Angel Powder’, which looks close to true blue.
- I can fall in love with foliage and Frank Fujioka’s garden on Puget Sound made me jealous. The first image shows some of Frank’s hybrids in flower. The second one shows the foliage and shape of plants in his seedling beds. Which ones would you discard as not-good-enough-to-save?
- There are photos of the Phipps estate at www.oldlongisland.com/.webloc and www.flickr.com/.webloc

Thanks, George, for sharing the beauty and “little epiphanies” of your garden world and your genetic dream! ☘



‘Blue Baron’ x ‘Angel Powder’

Getting to Know Magnolias

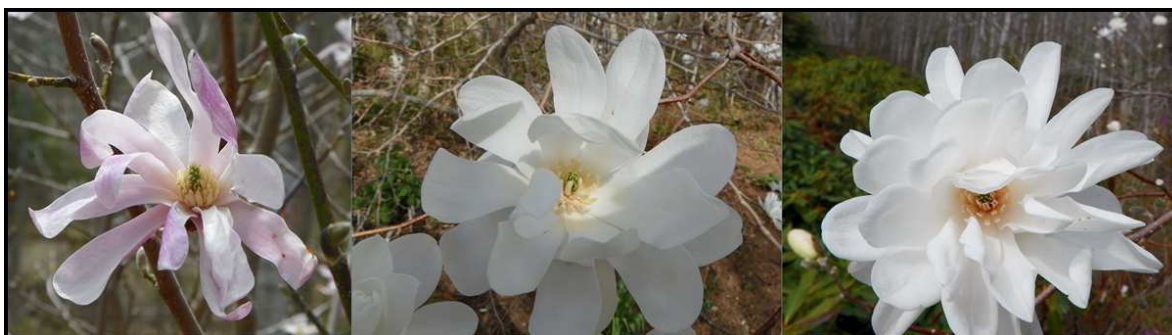
By Sharon Bryson

We aren't exactly sure when magnolias became part of our garden here at The Willow Garden. Bill, being the frugal person he is, was convinced that these lovely trees were far too expensive and saw no reason they couldn't be grown from seed.

Consequently seeds were sought and some modest results happened. Probably the first bloomer from seed was *Magnolia stellata*, sourced from a somewhat dwarf specimen in the town of Antigonish. These lovely spring bloomers also exhibit fall foliage interest.



Bill's annual seed searches meant that any nearby magnolia with seeds was a likely candidate for growing. Several *M. loebneri* hybrids such as 'Leo Messel', 'Ballerina' and 'Spring Snow' have given quite decent results. The ARHS Seed Exchange has also provided seeds at various times since about 2002.



Two of our favourite trees were given to us by John Weagle. *Magnolia tripetala* arrived in ~2004 and a *M. sieboldii*, a year or two prior. We have since grown both of these species from seed ourselves. *M. sieboldii* is certainly the easier of the two.

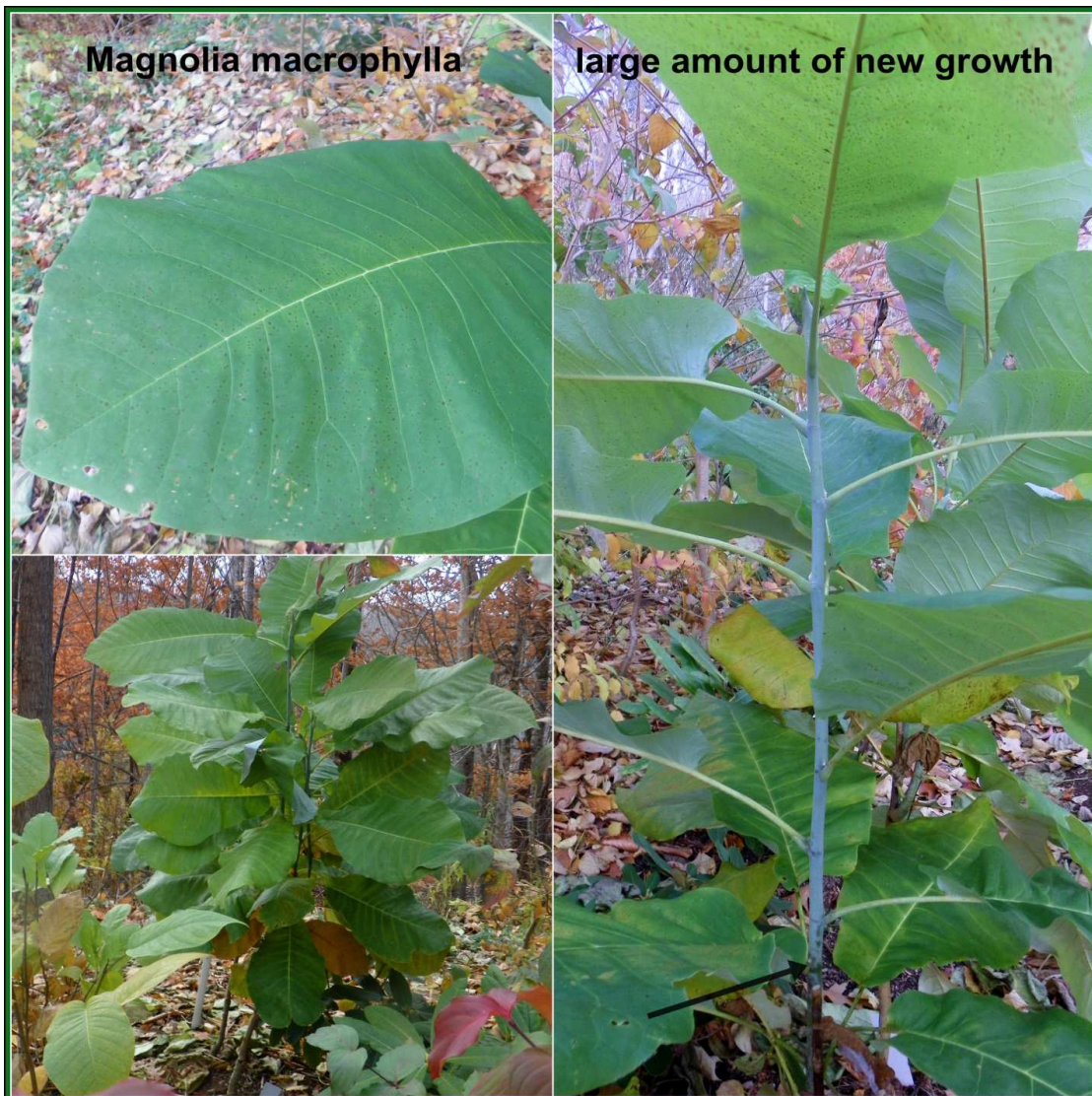
Magnolia tripetala is likely our favourite tree as it lends a very exotic touch to the garden in all seasons. Our large tree is now over twenty feet and has bloomed since ~2011. Gorgeous bloom followed by interesting seed pods makes it an entertaining species



Magnolia sieboldii has its own set of interesting characteristics: they bloom a bit later than the regular spring magnolias, doing so after the leaves have emerged plus they have a very long period of sporadic bloom. This year we were pleased to have some bloom into September. Seedlings grow very rapidly and will often bloom in the third to fourth year.



Hardiness has not been a great issue. The only species we have doubts about achieving its potential are seedlings from *M. macrophylla* (the big leaf magnolia). The vigorous new growth seems late to harden off in the fall and subsequently suffers winter damage. The plants have never been killed, but do have a setback. This seems like a good reason to have a couple of these go to a slightly milder garden. This seems like a good reason to have a couple of these go to a garden milder than our zone 5b area.



pictured November 12, 2015

Dealing with the ARHS Seed Exchange each year has given us exposure to many seed lots from magnolias of many types. The urge to try them all was kept at bay sometimes, but most years we have grown a few samples. Recently (~2011-2014), there seemed to be less restraint and we had over 90 seedlings in pots, plus several rows in the ground.

These 2013 seedlings spent the better part of two years in smallish pots before getting their feet in a section of garden nursery bed. Once there, they took off in a vigorous fashion



This past summer of 2015, we decided it was essential to try and sort out what was growing. Having a surplus of plants needing new homes has led us to encourage other gardeners to grow some or more magnolias. Our experience says they are rather easy plants which grow quite rapidly. They are not generally the prima donnas they are purported to be. As with many seed-grown plants, some patience is required.

Here is the list of plants we are selling in our Magnolia Sale Spring 2016. We shall have quite modest pricing depending on the plant size, so if anyone wants to reserve a plant(s) let us know .

Willow Garden Magnolia Seedlings 2012-2015

Year/Lot#	Parent	~#	~ size(Ft.)
ARHS2012 #100	'Leo Messel'	12	3+
ARHS2012 #101	<i>M. macrophylla</i> ssp. <i>asheii</i>	2	3.0+
ARHS2012 #104	<i>M. sieboldii</i> 'Colossus'	3	3.5+
ARHS2012 #105	<i>M. sieboldii</i> ex Korean	3	3.5+
ARHS2012 #111	(<i>M. stellata rosea</i> x <i>M. 'Leo Messel'</i>)	9	2.5+
2013	unknown dark pink, St. FX	9	2
ARHS 2013 #131	<i>M. kobus</i>	3	2.0+
ARHS 2013 #132	ex 'Ballerina'	12	1.5- 2.5
ARHS 2013 #134	'Leo Messel'	12	2-2.5
ARHS 2013 #135	<i>M. macrophylla</i> x <i>M. macrophylla</i> ssp. <i>asheii</i>	2	~2
ARHS 2013 #139	<i>M. sieboldii</i> ex cw Korea	9	2.5+
ARHS 2013 #140	<i>M. stellata</i> , compact form	12	2.0+
ARHS 2014 #147	(<i>M. cylindica</i> x <i>M. 'Pink Delight'</i>)	4	1.5+
ARHS 2014 #150	<i>M. loebneri</i> 'Raspberry Fun'	2	1.5+
ARHS 2014 #155	('Pink Surprise' x 'Coral Reef')	3	1.5
ARHS 2014 #162	(<i>M. tripetala</i> x <i>M. obovata</i>)	6	1.5+
ARHS 2014 #165	<i>M. 'Yellow Lantern'</i>	3	1.5+

Positions of Responsibility

Officers and Directors of the Atlantic Rhododendron & Horticulture Society for 2015 -16

President:	Sheila Stevenson	902-479-3740
Vice-President:	Roslyn Duffus	902-832-0204
Secretary:	Jean Henshall	902-477-2933
Treasurer:	Rachel Martin	902-425-3779
Past President:	Cora Swinamar	902-826-7705
Director, Communication:	Sheila Stevenson	902 479-3740
Director, Education:	Bob Howard	902-532-0834
Director, Plant Material/ Horticulture:	Wendy Cornwall	902-477-6121
Director, Social:	Sophie Bieger	902-422-3817
Director at Large and Membership Coordinator:	Gloria Hardy	902-477-4411
Director at Large:	John Brett	902-477-3687
Director at Large:	Ruth Jackson	902-454-4681

Other Positions of Responsibility

Newsletter Editor:	Sheila Stevenson	902 479-3740
Newsletter Layout:	Sterling Levy	902-861-1176
Website:	Cora Swinamar	902-826-7705
Library:	Bonie Conrad	902-832-0204
Coordinator, Seed Exchange:	Sharon Bryson	902-863-6307
Coordinator, Tissue Culture Plant Sale :	Jon Porter	902-350-0010
Coordinators, Members' Pre-ordered Sale:	Wendy Cornwall & Antitra Laycock	902-477-6121
Tech Support at Meetings:	Rachel Martin	902-425-3779
Gardens Care Outreach:	Chris Hopgood	902-479-0811
District 12 ARS Rep (American Rhodo Society):	Lynne Melnyk, Toronto	705-835-0372

Photo Album - Signs Of Spring



Cornus mas [Stephen Archibald]



Corylopsis spicata [Stephen Archibald]



Epimedium rubrum - [Stephen Archibald]



Sempervivum, Winter colour [Stephen Archibald]



Encrusted saxifrage, Winter colour - [Stephen Archibald]



R. ' Milestone ' [Stephen Archibald]



Helleborus niger [Sterling Levy]



Paeonia foliage [Sterling Levy]