

VIREYA VINE

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RHODODENDRON SPECIES FOUNDATION

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E. White Smith, Editor

Spring is coming fast to the Pacific Northwest. SO, my wife Marlene and I made a Vireya hunting trip down the west coast of the United States in the second week of February. It really was a plant hunting trip although we did spend four days with my mother who lives to the west of San Francisco. We used our Dodge van for this trip and found the drive easy and relaxing.

*We drove down Interstate Highway I-5 to Longview, Washington and then turned west to the Oregon coast. Down US highway 101 to Yachats, Oregon where our Rhododendron friends Jim and Janice Gerdemann live. Yachats is 1/2 way down through Oregon in case you can't find it on a map. This small town is right on the Pacific coast as are all Oregon coastal cities because the Coast Mountain Range starts almost at the ocean. Jim is a big Vireya fan having grown these plants when he lived in Urbana, Illinois and worked at the University. Jim lost some Vireya's last winter from the very cold weather but he watches the incoming weather close and puts plants inside or under cover if he has a hint that cold storms are coming. The Gerdemann's landscape is carved literally out of the wild. Jim has cut and rooted out 10 foot tall stands of Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*). He can grow the maddenii's and the big leafed plants easily, outside. He has lots of Vireya's outside but they have taken a beating from the last two cold winters. There is an outside, in the ground bed, of Vireya's he is testing for cold hardiness, about 75 small plants. We arrived in the early afternoon and spent until after dark looking at plants. During dinner we talked about Vireya's and the weather. The next morning we had to push off to the south. Quite an undertaking the Gerdemann's have accomplished. This is a great collection of hardy and tender Rhododendrons.*

*On the road again, to the south along US 101 with a stop at Brookings Oregon. We stopped at the Oregon State Park, "Azalea Park," which is on the south end of the town. I had never been there before and shall try to get back during blooming season. I had always heard of this park but never understood what it was. It is just like a well cared for city park. About 10 acres with restrooms, a stage and a covered area. Paved paths wind through the Azaleas. Wait a minute, the Azaleas are all *R. occidentale*. Most of the plants are growing as individual specimens. Many are 10+ feet tall and over 10 feet wide. Lots of plants and all look good. This area is where *R. occidentale* is native too so they are quite happy. When we got back down to the highway I stopped to talk to a group of people who were working on a highway intersection/divider. They were from the local garden club and were preparing to landscape the area. I asked them if they were going to use *Rhododendron occidentale* and *R. macrophyllum* (also native to the area). One lady didn't know what either of these plants were but her husband who was doing the heavy shovel work knew them. I talked to them for about 20 minutes and think I convinced them to use lots of native Rhododendrons for the area. Maybe that was the plan anyway, but you never know. This was a beautiful sunny (65°F) day and there were lots of Rhododendron's blooming in landscapes.*

South again into California to Crescent City which is located 20 miles south of the Oregon border. At one old business building there was a 15 foot tall plant of the *Arboreum* series in full bloom. Bright red flowers in February really stops my eyes. I stopped in Redwood National Park and took a 30 minute walk into the forest. A person really has to walk among these trees to understand how great they are. The biggest trees in the whole world. Boy. A person can really understand why so many folks are upset about the cutting of "Old Growth Timber." When it is cut it is gone forever. No unprotected trees will ever be allowed to live the + 500 years that these trees have stood. For people who do not live in the United States and have not been to our National Parks it is hard to explain the idea of "go and look but only take away your shadow." For the most part the American National Park system is a wonderful conservation project.

Still going south on US 101 and finally we turn onto California Highway #1. It crawls along the ocean clear to Mexico (but not always a two lane road in the south). Our destination was Fort Bragg California. Pete Schick lives there and is/was a real *Vireya* nut. Pete got hurt real bad by the 1991 winter. He had many *Vireya*'s planted in his yard that were killed. These were big plants, like 4 foot tall *R. superbum*'s ready to bloom, etc., etc., etc. Pete spent the whole day showing us the "Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden" located just south of Fort Bragg. What a promising future this garden can have with a few more people like Pete Schick working at it. This will end up being a *Rhododendron* garden. The plants do so very well there. All of the tender plants will survive in that location. They already have a good collection of the big leaf and the *Maddenii*'s. This garden stretches from the highway right out to the Pacific Ocean. Wonderful cliffs with ocean breakers and vistas going out forever. Pete took us to the property of Dr. Bowman's in Fort Bragg. Remember in VV30, Mitch Mitchell was writing about a collection of *Vireya*'s sent to Hawaii from Dr. Bowman. What a place. Overgrown yes, but with huge *Rhododendron* plants. The property stretched on for three city blocks, with three houses and things that go with houses mixed in with the plants. This was a great treat for me and I thank Pete for his time and kindness. When we got ready to leave Fort Bragg I passed on to Pete some *Vireya*'s I had brought for him and he handed me a full flat of *Meconopsis betonicifolia* (50 vigorous seedlings). I was speechless. If you stood on a street corner with 10 dollar bills in your hands offering to buy Himalayan blue poppies, you would probably stand there forever. They are almost never to be found in local nurseries.

I contacted Bill Moyles in Oakland California. Bill runs the *Vireya* seed exchange for the American *Rhododendron* Society. Do you know that Bill does not charge for seed mailed out? He relies on donations. You do need to write to him to get on the mailing list. Anybody, not just American RS members. And Bill needs seed. Species, hybrid's, collected in the wild, he just needs seed. Bill works Fridays at the Stribing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. They had an extensive *Vireya* Planting before the bad freeze last winter and are working to replant and rebuild the *Vireya* beds. *Vireya*'s grow well in the SF area if a person keeps an eye out for winter storms. The normal winter will not hurt at all, but now and then --Wow----- John Spring and Karen Morebeck were working with the *Vireya*'s at Stribing when I was there. In these people's hands the plants will get good care. I also had a chance to walk through Bill's Moyles home garden. It's remarkable with many *Rhododendrons* in bloom. Bill has some ideas about growing seedlings that he will probably share with us soon. We also went to visit with Pete Sullivan in San Francisco and to look at some of his *Vireya*'s in Bloom. From two to six foot tall plants growing happily in the ground, about 1/3 of them in bloom. He must have had about 30 mature plants growing in this area and they were all good and bushy with clean foliage. Nice show Pete and real pleasure to meet you.

It was getting ready to rain in the San Francisco area when we headed north on I-5. A thirteen hour drive home and back to my own *Vireya*'s of which there were 11 different species in bloom. A person hardly dares leave home because something new will bloom while you are gone. Dick Chaikin sent me a small plant of a cross; (*macgregoriae* X *laetum*) X *anagalliflorum*. He said that it was a sister seedling of 'R. Silver Thimbles'. It is in bloom here now with pearly white flowers and the name would sure be appropriate. This could end up being as good a growing and blooming plant as St. Valentine.

Other Newsy Things

Hugh Caldwell, in Doctors Inlet, Florida, had a melt down. On January 12, 1992 his greenhouse burned down and all his Vireya's were lost. I hate to think about how well a plastic greenhouse would burn. I have some plants ready to send to Hugh and maybe some Viner's around the world would send him some cuttings. Hugh has been very generous to other people in the past. Help-Help

I went right out and cut the old wiring running to my greenhouse fan. Then I rewired the fan with good wire. We all tend to haywire the electrical stuff in our greenhouse. Boy, do plastic greenhouses burn fast.

Lyn Craven in Melba (Canberra), Australia sent me a photo in his Christmas card of a hybrid of Hunstein's Secret (considered to be *R. leucogigas*) X *aurigeranum*. Lyn says each flower is 13-15cm in diameter. Fifteen centimeters is just a hair short of 6 inches. The photo shows 4 flowers in the truss with a long yellowish tube, and 7 open yellow/white/pink/rose petals. The petals are held open and flat. He said it is one of the best and a #10 for his choice. Lyn has also decided that his problems in his Vireya greenhouse is Boron deficiency. He probably will tell us some day all about it and what he has done to correct the problem.

More photos from Hawaii, Glenn Sahara sent them along. His pictures show Vireya's doing very well thank you. One of the pictures is of a half finished painting about 4X7 feet in size showing Bromelia's and Vireya's. The painting is being done by a friend of Glenn's and is based on a photo taken in Glenn's home yard. The painting will hang in the lobby of the new Nauru Tower complex in Honolulu, Hawaii. Glen plans to rip out some other plants and put in more Vireya's. He says that with their humidity the plants can take full sun but get too leggy in part shade.

I have another photo from someone else I can't remember, showing Vireya's growing and flowering in the conservatory at Wright Park here in Tacoma. Remember Dick Cavender could not find them. Now I have photo evidence of a fact.

From Dale Green
Dear VV,

Issaquah, Washington USA
Nov. 14, 1991

I haven't had a lot of success in growing Vireya Rhododendrons from seed or cuttings, but I have managed to keep a few alive and growing. But none have bloomed yet. I am still very interested in these plants. What I need to do is to reread all my VV issues to discover better ways to grow them.

Anyway I really appreciate having received the Vine all these years even though I hadn't paid for the subscription until now.

Dale A. Green
1704 121th Ave. SE
Issaquah, Wa 98027

Yes, thanks for the donation to the Vireya Vine Fund. Dale sent along a VERY generous amount. A few people are the ones who keep the VV solvent in the financial sense. While we are on the money subject. Here is how it works: We do not send the VV out free; We expect you to pay something sometime; We will not drop you from the mailing list if we know that you are interested, but you need to give something back. Norman Crutwell formally from PNG has never paid anything for his Vines and I would not want anything from him. Norman has given things that money can't buy with his knowledge and generous writings. Our suggested donation/charge is \$10US, --- forever. Or when ever you feel moved because forever could be a long time. We have a few people on the mailing list who paid back in 1983 and have not sent anything since then and that is OK, but how about a note saying that you are still into Vireya's or at least alive. Quite a few people send in at least \$10 each year and often much more than that. These people are the ones that keep the Vireya Vine adequately financed. OUR big thanks to these supporters. Fran Rutherford and I really have a warm spots in our hearts for you people. Please send your change of address when you move into you new mansion, we have about 6 people with the wrong address.

Please Dale, keep working at it. I have just about decided that there is no perfect formula or method for growing Vireya's. 1/3 peat and 2/3s chunky stuff should be a good potting mix. Fish fertilizer works well, but I also use some 20-20-20 fertilizer at times. Keep the plants on the dry side if you can. Try to avoid the long cold winters by using heat in the greenhouse, +50°F, if you can. Get on the road and visit some other Viners and trade plants. And most important, tender loving care. Yes I agree that these are tough plants, but I am sure that all living things appreciate a "little tender loving care." Don't we?

From Paul Schauenberg
Dear VV,

Gran Canary Island
July 1991

I get many letters from people in California and Florida who envy us having a tropical garden here on the south of Gran Canaria Island. The absolute minimal temperature here last winter was a "cold" + 10° Celsius (50°F) on one night! The bananas are thriving and all trees or shrubs bloom or carry ripening fruits. I lost several Vireya's last year. They were from Bill Moynier and Lucy Sorenson (Bovees in Portland Oregon). I shall keep working to complete my collection.

Paul Schauenberg
Les Navarros, 4
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Spain

Thanks Paul. Can it all be paradise? There must also be something wrong where you are? Maybe not?

From Hank and Lynn Helm
Dear VV,

Bainbridge Island, Washington USA.
April 8, 1991

My first exposure to Vireya's was some 15 years ago when I was visiting the nursery of H. L. Larson in Tacoma, Washington. My purpose was to look at and purchase Rhododendrons for my just started hobby. After showing me around his garden and pointing out many of his hybrids and fine species forms, I made my choices and went to his greenhouse to pay. He was very gracious and showed me many of the things he was growing in there, including new hybrids and forms of many species. One of the plants was *R. leucogigas*. I had never seen anything like it! (In fact *leucogigas* is not written about often and I have not seen it available very often). From that day on I included information about Vireya's in my reading. I was hesitant to try and acquire any of these plants to grow, as I was just learning about cuttings and seed and all the marvelous things that go into becoming a **Rhodoholic**. Besides at that time I was still intent upon acquiring every species and hybrid of what I considered "normal" Rhododendrons. (Yes after several hundred plants, I gave up that idea.

A plant of Princess Alexandra was given to me about 10 years ago and a plant of Souvenir de J. H. Mangles a couple of years latter by my good friend and the person responsible for getting me hooked on Rhododendrons (Conrad Selfors). The label on Princess Alexandra has 'E. White Smith' in parenthesis so I assume it was a cutting from a plant that originated from White. I have kept these plants growing and have enjoyed them a great deal. Princess Alexandra has done particularly well, usually blooming 3 to 4 times a year. Souvenir de J. H. Mangles has not done quite so well, only blooming once every other year. Unfortunately I lost both plants the night of the great Pacific Northwest storm in 1990 along with several other Vireya's.

I did not get home until eight o'clock the night of the storm, and immediately moved all of the Vireya's inside. By then, the plants had been exposed to temperatures in the mid 20s and severe wind for several hours.

My Vireya's are kept on a concrete patio with an eastern exposure and under a deck overhang. They share space with a couple of *R. cubittii*'s, *burmanicum*, *fragrantissimum*, *Lin Cil*, *formosum*, *johnstoneanum*, *Selig*, *Countess of Haddington*, *Saffron Queen*, and "Pink maddenii" from Bill Cooley.

All of these tender plants are brought inside when the weather threatens. The storm in 1990 was very sudden and I did not expect to see such cold. I am hopeful the plants that have defoliated and lost top growth will come back from below. Some are showing signs of growth down low. It is interesting to note that *R. St. Valentine* exhibited absolutely no damage and *macgregoriae* lost only very tender new growth. The non Vireya's were untouched.

I am not very excited about my potting mix. I try to keep it light and well drained. I mostly use sand, peat, bark (fir and cedar) and perlite, mixing it until it looks and feels right! The plants are all in black 1 and 2 gallon plastic containers. Princess Alexandra is very root bound and is left that way to encourage bloom. Fertilizing has always been a concern so I have generally been very reluctant to feed with anything other than very weak solutions of "Stern's Miracid," and then not very often. Last summer I became brave and started using small amounts of slow release fertilizer.

As you can see, I have learned from all the wonderfully knowledgeable people who write to the Vine.

The other plants I have are: *R. St. Valentine*, "Small Red seedling" from the Rhododendron Species Foundation, *christianae*, *macgregoriae* seedling, *zoelleri* (RSF #80/150), *macgregoriae* "orange" (RSF #83/056) and two Princess Alexandra crosses made by Cliff Dodd in Florida. Most of these plants were given to me by Neal Nunnamaker of Bainbridge Island. He has since given me another plant of Princess Alexandra.

Hank and Lynn Helm
10674 N.E. Manor Lane
Bainbridge Island, Wa 98110

From Terry Nyman
Dear Vireya Vine,

Kalama, Washington USA
February 1, 1992

Let me introduce myself to the group. My name is Marie Nyman and I am known to my friends as Terry. I will answer to anything. I am a married lady with children and grandchildren. I work full time as a computer Senior Programmer Analyst. My husband, Don, is a retired carpenter. We live in the southwest corner of Washington State, USA, in the heart of the Pacific Northwest and Rhododendron country.

Gardening is my hobby. My garden has many rhododendrons, perennials, roses, and some alpine plants that rock gardeners favor. Don does not garden at all, but he makes his contributions to the garden; benches to sit on, a shed for tools and odd's and ends, etc. Don has built me a nice greenhouse, 8 x 15 feet. We bought a fiberglass shell and Don finished it with sturdy shelves, a work bench, electric lights, water and electric heat controlled by a remote thermostat.

For the last few winters here in the Pacific Northwest we have had some very cold weather visit us from Alaska, for a week at a time, creating havoc to gardeners. On each of these cold occasions, the electric heaters have been unable to keep the greenhouse above freezing overnight. Don sets up a little gas burner or propane stove in the greenhouse to assist the heaters. The Vireya's have tolerated freezing conditions for one night each time the Alaska cold has visited the Northwest. When I find ice in the water bucket, Don and I start the extra ordinary measures to keep the greenhouse from freezing. This year we covered the greenhouse with an extra sheet of visqueen for added protection.

The Vireya's live on one side of the greenhouse so that I can give them specialized care. I mist them often with water from a garden hose. I figure this imitates rainfall. The greenhouse is kept at 50 degrees Fahrenheit. My soil mix is bark, a good potting soil, sandy loam, peat moss and some polymer. The Vireya's are looking good, with their leaves pointing up and out. The plants are in clay pots.

At the Regional Rhododendron Convention in Olympia, Washington, this past fall, I purchased a copy of the "Vireya Vine Book," and got acquainted with the Vireya Vine. This was most helpful. The Vireya,s grow for me but haven't bloomed much. I keep experimenting and looking for what makes them REALLY HAPPY. I have discovered in the Vireya Vine that I am in good company in this quest. Two people who make their Vireya's REALLY HAPPY are Dick Cavender (Red's Rodies) and Leona Carty of Leona's Bonsai Nursery. Leona and Red both fertilize their Vireya,s. Red says to fertilize lightly and to make sure the water runs through the pot. Leona says to use fertilizer at a quarter strength. I haven't fertilized my Vireya's yet but plan to start do so.

I learned to grow Rhododendron from seed at the Rhododendron Club that meets in Longview, Washington. I am growing on Vireya seedlings for Leona. The little guys grow slowly, but I am getting some favorable response from them by misting. The seedlings we are growing on are R. konori, konori selfed x lochae, macgregoriae selfed, superbum x javanicum, and some others.

Vireyas that I have bought at club auctions, the Rhododendron Species Foundation, and at Rhododendron Regional conventions are, R. lochae, dielsianum, herzogii (Eddie Creek), christiana x jasminiflorum, pauciflorum. Two of my rhododendrons that are not hardy but may or may not be Vireyas are R. vailii and R. phaeocephalum x leucogigas.

R. Valentine has bloomed steadily since fall, R. christiana x jasminiflorum are blooming now and phaeocephalum x leucogigas is getting ready to bloom for the first time.

Mrs. Terry Nyman
PO BOX 214
Kalama, Wa 98625

Thanks for the letter Terry, you are doing something right to get phaeocephalum x leucogigas to bloom. These plants usually take many years to get to blooming size. And I really want to know more about the plant you call R. vailii. I think the spelling is vidalii. It is listed in the RHS handbook as "Not in Cultivation." I was not aware that it was in cultivation at all. Where did you get it from? This species is from the Philippines (Luzon). It has white flowers. There is a rather poor picture of it in the Sleumer Book. Bill Moyles sent me cuttings of R. kochii a few years ago. It also is from the Philippines. In fact there are many Vireya species native to the Philippine Islands. There are few in cultivation though.

I am real happy to hear that you and Don go to the extra effort to add extra heat in the greenhouse during cold spells. When ever I know that it is going to get real cold I get my gas lantern and camp stove ready to light up. The gas fumes might not be very good for the plants but it is sure better that having them freeze to death. Your adding the extra sheet of plastic to the greenhouse should be a big help. I like greenhouses where the plastic can be attached to the inside as an "air pocket." It really helps keep the heat in and also cuts down a bit on very bright sunshine. Who and where is Leona Carty and her "Leona's Bonsai Nursery?" Does she sell Vireyas?

From Jim Gerdemann
Dear VV,

Yachats, Oregon
January 22, 1992

Two Vireya species, Rhododendron kawakamii and R. commonae (Laiagam P.N.G. open pollinated seed - Dick Cavender) survived the extreme cold of December 1990 in my garden near Yachats, Oregon. The cold period lasted from December 18th to December 31st. The highs and lows for each day, in degrees Fahrenheit were: 42-36, 32-29, 20-14, 20,10, 27-15, 31-23, 34-24, 43-35, 46-40, 30-21, 34-22, 34-24, 43-34. Three inches of snow fell on Dec. 19, but most of it evaporated during the dry cold days that followed.

Rhododendron kawakamii was frozen back but considerable wood completely unprotected by the snow survived. *R. commonae* froze to near ground level. Both species made good recovery during the summer of 1991. In February 1989 *R. kawakamii* in my garden survived +15°F on two successive nights without injury, and it probable should receive a hardiness rating of +15°F. *R. commonae* (Laiagam form) survived with moderate injury, but the Dolo Pass form was killed. This species probably deserves a +20°F rating. A search should be made for hardier forms of both species.

The following species were killed in the 1990 freeze: *R. commonae* RSF 79/035 Dolo Pass (*Rhododendron* Species Foundation #); *R. commonae*, D. Stanton (this looks like *R. retusum* to me); *R. retusum*; *R. atropurpureum*, Mt. Wilhelm, 12,598 feet; *R. gaultheriifolium*, Mt. Wilhelm, 12,598 feet; *R. womersleyi*, RSF 84/162, Mt. Guleiwe; *R. caliginis*; *R. macgregoriae*, red flowers, Waba road, Mossman (this had been hardy in Peter Schick's garden in Fort Bragg, California); *R. inconspicuum*.

So far only *R. kawakamii* and *commonae* have proven to be hardy enough to be useful in my breeding program. The form of *commonae* from Dolo Pass RSF 79/035 is a good bloomer. I have never flowered the form from Laiagam and have had to rely on what I believe to be a less hardy form in my crossing work.

I know of no hybrids of *R. kawakamii* and indeed some people doubt that it is a "true" *Vireya*. I believe that it will cross with other *Vireyas*, but with difficulty. I have twice crossed it with *R. pauciflorum* and have obtained a few seeds. The seed produced seedlings that died in infancy. I now have a few healthy appearing seedlings from the cross - *R. kawakamii* X (*lochae* X *pseudonitens*) X *commonae* (*pseudonitens* is now considered for *R. commonae*). I continue to use the name *pseudonitens* because the name applies to a particular form of *R. commonae*. The seedlings look like possible hybrids, but it will be several years before this can be confirmed.

At least one other species, *R. saxifragoides*, could be useful in breeding for hardiness. I have found it slow growing and very difficult to keep alive. I grew a number of plants from seed but they all died off. I have the cross, *R. lochae* X *saxifragoides*, made by Dr. Frank Mossman. It too, is slow growing and difficult, and it's hardiness has never been adequately tested.

In a recent letter, Os Blumhardt of Whangarei, New Zealand, reported considerable success in crossing *R. saxifragoides* with the hybrids 'Coral Chimes' (*macgregoriae* X *gracilentum*), 'Hot Tropic' (*laetum* X *zoelleri* F2), and 'Tetramum' (*lochae* X *macgregoriae*). He has kindly send me seed of (Hot Tropic X *saxifragoides*) X self, and (Hot Tropic X *saxifragoides*) X *commonae*, and I now have many seedlings. It does not get cold enough in his garden in New Zealand to give a good test for hardiness.

My hybrids using *R. commonae* RSF 79/035 were covered with a sheet of plastic placed over a two foot high wooden frame on Dec. 19th. On the morning of the 20th the outside temperature was +14°F and the temperature under the plastic was 20°F. Later that day when the outside temperature was 20°F, all of the plants were dug and taken to the garage where the temperature varied from 28° to slightly above freezing. None of the seedlings would have survived unprotected, but the manipulated conditions provided an opportunity to select for hardiness. With (*R. lochae* X *pseudonitens*) X *commonae*; hardiness varied from dead plants to plants with only the new growth killed. All that survived made good recovery during the summer of 1991. Plants of this hybrid resemble *R. commonae* with slightly larger leaves. Some are fairly compact and a number of them have bloomed. The flowers are red and similar to *commonae*, but are somewhat larger. The hybrid, *R. wrightianum* v *cyclopense* X *commonae*; several plants were killed and all plants that survived were froze to near the ground. The survivors grew well during the summer of 91. These are very attractive, vigorous seedlings with deep red flowers similar to *R. wrightianum* v *cyclopense*. (*R. zoelleri* X *lochae*) X *commonae*; all of these plants were killed or froze to the ground. One seedling has made a outstanding recovery.

In conclusion, I believe that *Vireya* hybrids can be produced that are hardy to 20-22°F using *R. commonae* as the source for hardiness. If *R. kawakamii* does indeed cross with other *Vireyas*, one might be able to select hybrid seedlings hardy to at least +15°F. I believe such hybrids would be useful and completely hardy along the California and southern Oregon coast.

On the central and northern Oregon coast these plants could be grown outside, provided they were protected during the relatively brief periods of extreme cold that occasionally occurs. In colder climates they could be grown in containers that are brought in during the winters. Their greater hardiness could increase the length of time that they could be left outside. They might also have a place in unheated greenhouses in some areas.

Jim Gerdemann
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Yachats, Oregon USA 97498

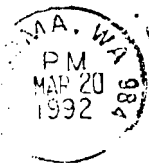
I am out of letters to the Vine again. The next VV will be out when there is something to print. OK?????

Bob badger sent me a newspaper clipping from the Seattle paper. It was a small add for backpacking trips to Irian Jaya (western New Guinea). I called the man and he said that they were organizing trips there. I said that as far as I knew, no one was getting into that part of the country. He said that I was right, but they had already been there. I asked a couple of technical questions and he had the right answers. SO, backpacking expeditions to Irian Jaya, highlands of New Guinea. \$3,950 each person, 11 days, 5,000 to 8,000 feet, includes air fare, round trip from Seattle, Washington, hotels, food, and guides in Irian Jaya for 9 days.

Contact; James F. Clarke
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