

# Macrophyllum

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February 2015

Siuslaw Chapter

American Rhododendron Society

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## UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

**Meeting topic:** Tuesday February 17, 2015 ; David Eckerdt subject is "A Garden Appreciator". Favorite gardens and plants over the past two years. Mostly Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, with some from the Carolinas. His presentation contains a fair amount of rhododendrons.

**Board Meeting:** The Board Will Meet on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at Bill and Sandi Hennigs

**Chapter Meeting:-** The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> , at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, at 6.30 pm for refreshments. The meeting and program to follow at 7 pm. The meeting is free and open to all.

**Pre-Meeting Dinner** will be at Chen's at 5:00. Please call Sandi Hennig to make reservations at [541-997-2489](tel:541-997-2489) or e-mail her at [flendish@q.com](mailto:flendish@q.com) Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

**Gallagher Park Work Party:** There will be a work party on Wednesday February 18<sup>th</sup> , at 10 until noon(weather permitting . Any questions call Gene Cockeram at 541-997-2377or email [toflowerman@gmail.com](mailto:toflowerman@gmail.com)

**Cookie Team-** Phyllis Dickson, Debbie Peterson, and Sandi Jensen



## Other Oregon Chapter Meetings

**WILLAMETTE CHAPTER :** Second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Carrier room (Church Street entrance) of the First Methodist Church on the corner of Church and State Streets, Salem.

**TUALATIN VALLEY CHAPTER:** First Tuesday of the month at 7 pm Washington County Fire District, 31370 NW Commercial Street North Plains, OR Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. (none in Jan.) Feb., Mar. & Apr.

**EUGENE CHAPTER:** Campbell Senior Center 155 High Street, Eugene, OR  
Second Thursday, Oct to May at 7:30 pm

**PORTLAND CHAPTER:** All Saints Episcopal Church, 4033 SE Woodstock Ave, Portland, OR, Third Thursday September through May, the program begins at 7 pm.

**SOUTHWESTERN OREGON:** Third Thursday of each Month

Oct -May6:30 pm Social, 7 pm Meeting, Coos-Curry Housing Authority 1700 Monroe Ave. North Bend, OR



## ARS Conferences 2015

May 6-10<sup>th</sup>, ARS Annual Convention- 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Sidney, BC Canada

## RHODODENDRON FLOWER SHOWS

SIUSLAW EARLY SHOW - APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> & 12<sup>TH</sup>

SOUTHWEST SHOW – APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> & 26<sup>TH</sup>

EUGENE SPRING RHODODENDRON SHOW AND BANQUET- APRIL 25- HILTON GARDEN INN, 3:00 - 9:00 P.M.

PROGRAM: *HISTORY OF THE RHODODENDRON SPECIES FOUNDATION - THE FIRST 50 YEARS*; SPEAKER: HAROLD GREER  
FLOWER SHOW - PLANT AUCTION - RAFFLE - SILENT AUCTION – DINNER

SIUSLAW LATE SHOW - MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>-17<sup>TH</sup>



Dave and Pat Eckerdt live in Salem, Oregon in a 120-year-old home surrounded by a two acre “collector’s garden”. The twenty-plus year old garden known as *Deerly Missed* has been featured on television, in newspapers and magazines. You can see their garden at [www.deerlymissed.smugmug.com](http://www.deerlymissed.smugmug.com). Dave and Pat are not genus loyal, being members of the American Conifer Society, the North American Rock Garden Society, the International Clematis Society, The Willamette chapter of the American Rhododendron Society and several Oregon plant groups. Dave is the past president of the 200 household Salem Hardy Plant Society. Dave has been a speaker at ARS National and Regional conferences and a contributor to the Journal of the American Rhododendron Society. An engaging speaker and photographer Dave is a frequent presenter to Northwest plant organizations.



COLLECTORS CORNER -FEBRUARY 2015 by Larry Jensen

### Seta (*spinuliferum* x *moupinense*)



Everyone on the coast should grow this floriferous gem. In a normal year (what is normal ?) it is one of the first to bloom. Lately it seems many gardens have elepidotes blooming all winter. Anyway, back to Seta. It is a strong growing lepidote (with scales) that can be easily pruned to maintain nearly any size or shape. Many of these small leaved rhododendrons can be shaped into a hedge.



Growing Seta at our place is more of a challenge (but well worth the effort). Many times when a cold snap comes at bloom time, I’ve been known to go out and drape a sheet over the plant to keep the flowers from being blasted. Our large plant (6’+) was severely damaged in the 0° F. , but I pruned it back to about 18” and it looks good now. LJ



**At my age "Getting lucky" means walking into a room  
and remembering what I came in there for.**

This is an article reprinted in February in the Southwest Newsletter . Ann Drake found it in her archives. Thank You Ann and Marjean for sharing it with us. SJ

Looking through the archives the following novel idea was found. The Tacoma Chapter had a meeting and decided to have a rhododendron show May 7, 8 and 9th 1949. A conversation between Leonard Frisbie, show chairman, and the bank he was visiting resulted in a show being held at the bank. He had taken some blooms to the bank. Incidentally the first show Tom and I attended was held in a bank in Florence. One idea followed another and this is what transpired: A quote from The Spokesman newspaper in Spokane:



“A traveling rhododendron show from Tacoma will stop long enough to allow “ Spokanites” to see a display of Washington’s official state flower. The crack Milwaukee Flyer train will pause 15 minutes at the station at 9 p.m. May 4 to allow inspection of rhododendrons which are to be placed in the train from one end to the other. The exhibit is one sponsored by the rhododendron growers, the garden club and the Bank of California. “The idea,” explained Mrs. Killian Weiler, “is to let the people of Washington and the Midwest see what our state flower is like and to advertise the rhododendron show which will be held May 8 and 9. The train will make stops for inspection only at Spokane, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago. On the train will be corsages of the state flower for various garden club presidents in Spokane.” An attempt was made to fly in blossoms from England for display but the flowers were frozen as the plane moved through Canada.(oops) What a novel idea.



**This is how we display ours. I wonder how they displayed theirs?**



February 2015 Presidents Message by Larry Jensen

Nearly every year we have a false spring (except on the coast where you don’t often have winter). Last year January was beautiful, then came February. With snow, ice, and destruction, it is mother natures way of pruning.

I have been out cleaning and pruning. I built a new flower bed and planted NO RHODIES in it! There is a hedge of Forsythia that will soon be followed by a bunch of daffodils. Gavin, our youngest grandson ,is helping me get the trails cleaned and put new bark on there.

February is when I apply the first application of fertilizer. I use 20-12-8-8 which is the time release formula once called the Greer formula. Wilco produces it, and I believe it is available from Mike Bones.

We had a good turn-out for cleaning Gallagher Park on Wednesday (5 people). Then on Thursday Tom and Gene did some more. Now barring a wind storm, it is getting pretty well caught up in the inside. The garden club maintains the perimeter.

What a great presentation by Steve Hootman of the RSBG. We had about 50 attendees to see the program of the 2012 expedition to China for collecting seed and plant material.

Dave Eckerdt is our speaker for February and will show pictures and talk about favorite gardens and plants over the past two years from Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, and a few in the Carolinas. He is an accomplished photographer, so we can expect some great images.

We also have a demonstration on grafting. Dan Bones has been grafting rhodies forever. It is a very important way of propagation in Germany. The Hachman Nursery uses this as their main way of propagating.

Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> was our pre-show meeting. It is nice to go over things that worked well, or things that need to change. Please look for the sign-up sheets to help at the show, and add your name. There are many jobs that aren't difficult, but are very important. Also a reminder to everyone to make note of when the shows are so you do not schedule a vacation at the wrong time. Lj



Such a fun and informative meeting!

Just a walk in the park....Come and join us sometime.



### Siuslaw Chapter ARS Mission Statement

The mission of the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is to promote the genus Rhododendron by:

- ✓ Creating enthusiasm for the genus Rhododendron through meetings, shows, publications, and social activities that provide the opportunities for members to share experiences and build friendships.
- ✓ Providing educational opportunities to successfully grow and enjoy these wonderful plants.
- ✓ Encouraging propagation and hybridizing of species and hybrid rhododendrons.
- ✓ Furthering the planting and use of rhododendrons in home, business, and public landscapes.
- ✓ Advocating the conservation and preservation of superior plants of our native rhododendrons and the habitat along the Oregon coast.
- ✓ Advancing and supporting the mission of the American Rhododendron Society.

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I think this is Goldilocks



**Please, please, please, send me some articles and member profiles. We really want to know more about you and how you came to be interested in rhododendrons!**



**I have a bunch of these coming up in pots. For the auction, maybe?**



**These are Clivia plants in my greenhouse. The yellow ones have a bunch of seeds that are almost ripe for planting. If anyone wants some, please let me know. I have LOTS!**

**The open days for Hinsdale this year are :**

**April 18<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, & May 9<sup>th</sup>**

**The bridge is supposed to be done so that will make it easier to view the entire garden. It is well worth visiting!**



**In putting together the newsletter I spent waaaaay too much time looking for pictures of Seta to include in the Collector Corner. Well, I FINALLY found them....on my phone, and after downloading them to the email, putting them on my computer, and into the article, I found them already in the computer in the downloads file. I know....a mind is a terrible thing to lose, and it's official! Mine is gone!**



**Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller!**



**Thank You Karen Timmons for the email from which this came called 'Random Thoughts to Ponder'**