

Macrophyllum

MARCH 2015

Siuslaw Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

Meeting topic: Tuesday March 17, 2015 ; Truls Jensen from Wild Ginger Farm in Beaver Creek , Oregon , will speak about "The Shady Rock Garden" which features many of our plants that will be suited for planting in and around Rhodies. These will include many of our true and wild gingers, other himalayan plants as well as a wide assortment of primulas and other traditional rock garden plants that are well suited for interplanting with other types of plants.

Board Meeting: The Board Will Meet on Tuesday, March 10th at 6:30 at Jim and Sylvia Smiths'.

Chapter Meeting-: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, March 17th , 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 Ixtapa 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 Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Gallagher Park Work Party: There will be a work party on Wednesday March 18th , at 10 until noon(weather permitting . Any questions call Gene Cockeram at 541-997-2377or email toflowerman@gmail.com

Cookie Team- Robin Parks, Sandi Hennig, Marjean McIntyre



Other Oregon Chapter Meetings

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.

TUALATIN VALLEY CHAPTER: First Tuesday of the month at 7 pm Washington County Fire District 2
31370 NW Commercial Street North Plains, OR 97133

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 Conference 2015

May 6-10th, ARS Annual Convention- 70th Anniversary, Sidney, BC Canada

RHODODENDRON FLOWER SHOWS

SIUSLAW EARLY SHOW - APRIL 11TH & 12TH

SOUTHWEST SHOW – APRIL 25TH & 26TH

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 16TH-17TH



Here is a little bit about Wild Ginger Farm, and Truls Jensen along with a couple pictures . SJ

Our specialties include alpine, rock garden, select Western native and woodland plants.

We grow many hard-to-find perennials from around the world, offering the adventurous gardener a diverse selection of interesting and uncommon plants.

I am a retired scientist (medical entomologist) whose primary research interest was the field biology and ecology of mosquitoes of medical importance with a Ph.D. from UC Davis and an MPH from UC Berkeley. I have conducted field research throughout the US from California to Florida to Illinois and Louisiana while working for the University of California, USDA and the Illinois Natural History Survey. After a number of years, my wife Emma and I decided to pursue a different career and follow our life long love of plants and found a nursery in Beavercreek Oregon which we named Wild Ginger Farm. We have a broad interest in plants of all types but chose to emphasize alpine, montaine and woodland plants from around the world. We have had the nursery since 2003 and grow over a 500 species of plants from all continents of the world (including recent acquired seed from an Antarctic species) but have special interests in western North American natives and plants from the Himalayas. We grow many different natives including Pacific Coast Irises (and our own registered cultivars), penstemons, lewisias, eriogonums and, of course, wild ginger. We grow many different himalayan species including hardy true gingers, cobra lilies, Podophyllums, true lilies and Himalayan Blue Poppies, all of which do very well in our Himalayan garden with its tree canopy and an overstory of Rhododendrons.



Himalayan Blue Poppies



Iris



Gentian



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.



Collectors Corner by Larry Jensen
Noyo Dream (yak x arboreum)



Of the hundreds of Yak crosses, a few are special. For a period of time it seemed that everyone had to play with Yak crosses. Way too many were named, but there are some special ones. Noyo Dream is special because it blooms very early. The plant is typical for the yaks and their crosses, short and wide. The buds open bright pink with the trusses finally fading to nearly white.

At our house it is usually the first elepidote hybrid to bloom, thus proving its worth. I picked a spray Sunday because of the impending frost. It has 12 trusses in a 12" x 13" spray! Definitely one to add to any collection. LJ



Jack Hackett- Member Profile



I have lived in Coos Bay most all my life. I liked looking at Rhododendrons in the area, and in the early 1960s I met Tom Drake. He asked me about joining the Southwestern Oregon Rhododendron Chapter, which I did. After a little more than a year, my life changed with a family and a job and I didn't have time to belong. Then in about 2007, I had more time for Rhododendrons. I rejoined the Southwestern Oregon Chapter, and became an associate member of the Siuslaw Chapter, and I am loving it. I have 4 plus acres North of Bandon, Oregon. I have been putting in

rhododendrons, azaleas, hydrangeas, and any other plants I like. I have 600 plus Rhododendrons and azaleas, over 50 hydrangeas, Maples, Fruit trees, and other companion plants. I have also added yard art, birdhouses, and almost anything that looks neat. I am still clearing and putting in more as I go along this adventure in life. I have been putting on the Southwestern Oregon Chapter summer picnic each year and you are all welcome to come and enjoy yourselves.



If you are in the area, and would like to stop by for a visit, please call or write me, Jack Hackett , 57131 Fuller Rd. , Bandon OR 97411; 541-347-2635



Thank You Jack. Not only has he shared his garden with us on multiple occasions, but now he has shared his story! We would LOVE to hear from the rest of you, if you haven't sent in one already! Also he told me that the lovely bouquet of hydrangeas that I featured in a recent newsletter was from his garden! SJ



This accompanied the email link to Eugene's March Newsletter. I thought it contained more food for thought. SJ
What an unusual February this has been in the weather category. Anyone else starting to water potted plants or newly planted ones?? As Gordon recently said "The plants are emerging from dormancy early and beginning to take up water. In addition to the plant demands, that northwest wind we've had the last couple of days is hastening the soil drying. Early watering is kind of a pain, but I like it better than the east coast syndrome." Sincerely, Ted Hewitt, Newsletter Editor ARS Eugene Chapter



"All Gardening is Landscape Painting" Horace Walpole



Every Path has some puddles

O. HOWARD HINSDALE GARDEN

Open Garden days: April 18, April 25 and May 9

Never been to the garden? Been there for a visit, but weren't able to have a close look at the east side because of the long and rather unpleasant walk inside the highway guardrail? Been to both parts of the garden but wondering how they may have changed? Want to see how the house fit into the garden one last time? Or maybe just want to enjoy an informal woodland garden with lots of mature rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias?



The Friends of Hinsdale Garden organization is generously hosting three open garden days this year. All are Saturdays: **April 18, April 25 and May 9** from 10 in the morning until 2 in the afternoon. Please park at the Elk viewing and interpretive center about a mile west of the garden. Transportation will be provided to Hinsdale Garden, which you may then explore at your leisure before catching one of the shuttles for returning to your vehicle.



The largest change visitors who've been there before will immediately notice is a gracefully arched footbridge between the main garden and the east garden. Definitely a far more pleasant experience—and much shorter journey—than the walk next to the highway. Not only that, it provides a brand new perspective of the entire garden; one that invites pauses to look and perhaps capture a few pictures with your smart phone or camera. This year will also be the last chance for a nostalgic look at the Hinsdale residence, as demolition and removal is

scheduled for later this summer after the flowering season has passed. Other plans include re-establishing irrigation to the entire garden, enabled through the Friends having helped secure an adequate water supply from the City of Reedsport. There's no charge or entry fee, but please consider a donation to the Friends to aid their efforts in supporting improvements to the garden and opening it to the public. Group visits may be possible at other dates. Please contact me at lgwone@gmail.com or 541 895-2864.

Gordon Wylie



HISTORY OF the SIUSLAW CHAPTER AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society was formed to promote and educate people about the genus rhododendron. For many years, people from the Florence area who were interested in rhododendrons drove 75 miles to Eugene for meetings. . In 1970 it was decided to form a Florence Chapter and call it "Siuslaw" after the indigenous native American tribe. On April 7, 1970, Dr. DeVern Pinnock was elected the first president with Kay Hutchison as secretary. Dr. Pinnock presided over the first meeting of the Siuslaw Chapter, a slide show of rhododendrons and azaleas by lone Reed, a feature writer for the Eugene *Register Guard*. In March 1971, Agnes McCornack received the Chapter's first Bronze Medal award which is presented for outstanding work in the rhododendron field. Receiving this high honor since have been: Galen & Helen Baxter, Marty Beam, Dan Bones, Gladys Bones, Mike & Kathy Bones, Gene & Doris Cockeram, Tom Drake, Eileen & Henry McKenney, Vernon & Marion May,

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On our way home from Gallagher park, we stopped by Smiths' garden in Mapleton. This arboreum was strutting its stuff!



Remember that we are going to have the flower bud class – in the early show only! Also remember that there can be no color showing on the bud, or it will not be judged! I was looking at several President Roosevelts at the park the other day , and although they were beautiful, they would have been dis-qualified because they were showing color. Even this one. Not much, but they must be tight buds!



Don't be discouraged though, I'm sure you can find many examples!



Here is another Gentian



My hippophaeoides is beginning to bloom



Small starfish cactus. I'll have small plants at the auction.



Nice hellebore in Hendricks Park

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE by Larry Jensen

On the Wednesday after the February meeting, we did a lot of cleaning at Gallagher Park. Tom & Walter were there with Sandi and myself. Gene took the day off to meet a computer tech to try & speed him up.

The February meeting was a real treat. Dave Eckerdt showed slides of gardens from all over the USA and Canada.

Thank You to Dan Bones for the demonstration of grafting! It was very interesting and informative. Sandi really wants to try it...in her spare time.

Truls Jensen of Wild Ginger Farm will be here for our March Meeting. They grow rare and unusual plants. The gentians, and the West Coast iris along with cardiocrinim giganteum are some of my favorites.



In the garden I've been cleaning, fertilizing, and removing dead branches from the freeze damage of Dec. 2013. Probably damaged cambium layer that is not able to support life.

Speaking of weeds, (who was speaking of weeds?) don't ever let someone talk you into planting any plant that they refer to as a ground cover! Sandi planted vinca and a terrible variegated leafed plant (lamium) (and don't forget the sweet woodruff). I think they are in a race to see which one can colonize the most ground. These ground cover thugs like to crowd out the dwarf rhodies (and anything else that gets in their way)



Also one of my favorite red rhodies is open. The frost nipped the edges of the flowers before "we" could get a picture, but even the foliage is cool. Strigilosum has hairs radially arranged, and the name means "with short bristles".

