

OCTOBER 2016

Siuslaw Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
P.O. Box 1701
Florence OR. 97439-0111
WEBSITE: <http://www.siuslawars.org>
Paul Wilson, Webmaster
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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

Meeting topic: Tuesday, October 18th ; Rhody 101, 102 plus cuttings how to.

Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 11th at 6:30 at Jim and Sylvia Smiths Mapleton home.

Chapter Meeting-: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, October 18th , at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, at 6:30 for refreshments. The meeting will follow at 7:00. The meeting is free and open to all. Our website: [siuslawars.org](http://www.siuslawars.org)

Pre-Meeting Dinner will be at 5:00 pm, Tuesday October 18th ICM Florence. Please contact Sandi Hennig 541-997-2489 or flendish@q.com Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Gallagher Park Work Party: There will be a work party on Wednesday, October 19th, at 10 until noon (weather permitting) . Any questions call Gene Cockeram at 541-997-2377or email toflowerman@gmail.com

Cookie Team- Sandi Jensen

Hospitality Table- no one signed up



Other Oregon Chapter Meetings and websites

EUGENE CHAPTER: Campbell Senior Center 155 High Street, Eugene, OR

Second Thursday, Oct to May at 7:30 pm Website : eugene-chapter-ars.org

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

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

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON: Third Thursday of each Month Oct -May6:30 pm Social, at N. Bend Housing Authority , 1700 Monroe Street North Bend . Website : sworegonars.org

WILLAMETTE CHAPTER : Second Wednesday of the month, Sep thru May; Dec and May meetings held elsewhere. Meeting is held at First United Methodist Church, 600 State St., Salem, OR. Website : Arswillamette.org

All other web sites can be found on rhododendron.org under chapters web sites



The secret to happiness is not only doing what you like, but also liking what you do.



It's the People not the plant.

The Western Regional Rhododendron Convention was fantastic. 35 different



chapters were represented with Siuslaw Chapter having the second most people there, Portland beat us out by only 2 people. The conventions are one way for you to get to meet people from all over the world. It is the people that are growing the plants that really make the Society. The plants are only there for us to



look at, to smell, and to fill our time with rewarding experiences of trying to grow them. At the conventions we are able to see them growing in their natural habitat, a place that many of us cannot go to but wish that we could. Others wouldn't even want to go due to the rugged terrain and harsh conditions. The plant explorers have had challenges trying to gather the best species in the world for our enjoyment with great success. I learn



something new at every seminar I attend, for example, I just found out that they have been growing Rhodies for many years in Chile. The speakers are so knowledgeable. It is like a whole year of chapter meetings bunched into one fun filled weekend that is over as quick as it starts. I am so glad that I am now retired so that I can sleep in on the morning following a convention. Check out the American Rhododendron Society web page, www.rhododendron.org, wow, so much information.



October is Plant a Rhody Month. It is the best time of the year to plant a Rhododendron and have it survive. The combination of the fall rains and the ground still being warm from summer, the roots are becoming active. It is time to mulch and fertilize to keep your plants healthy to survive the winter months. If you have some time, cut out the dead branches to make the plants look good but remember this should be done anytime during the year. The buds are already set for the flowering season of 2017. Blooming time will soon be on us. If you get attacked by the winter blues, hang on. January will be here really soon, bringing the first spring color of Christmas Cheer and Rosa Mundi followed by Seta, the PJM group and other early bloomers.

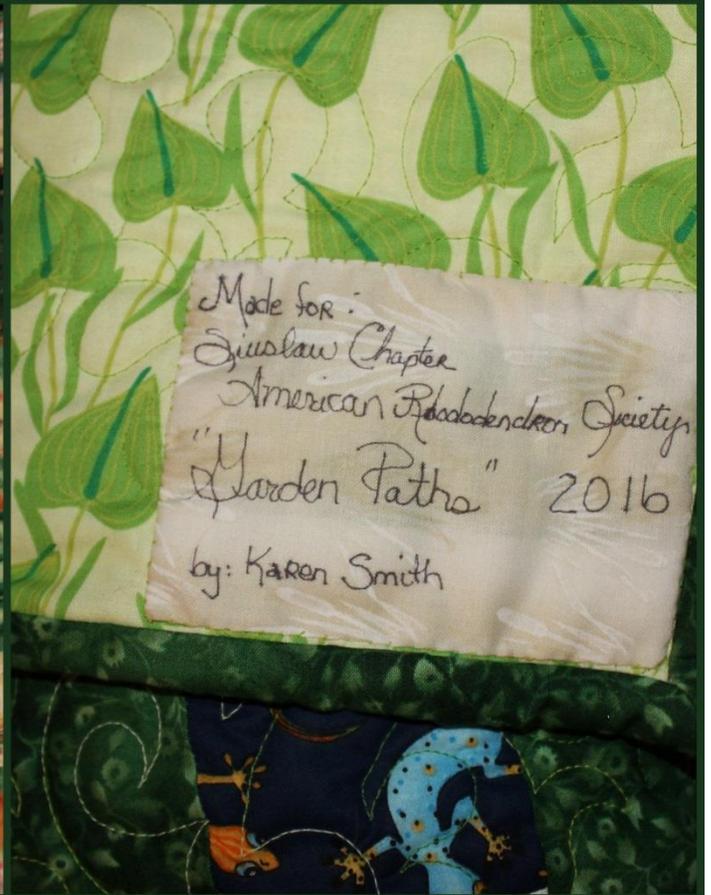
Your elected board has a great year planned for you. Join in on everything, pre-meeting dinners, make your favorite cookie for the meetings, volunteer to host the hospitality table to greet people coming to our meeting, stay to clean up. It is Your Chapter, join in for that extra fun.



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



This quilt has been so kindly donated to the Siuslaw Rhody Society by our members , Gary and Karen Smith. It will be raffled off . We will be selling tickets at each meeting !



What a wonderful , and fun meeting! Steve Hootman's presentation , as always was like watching the travel channel without commercials, and with someone who knows how to pronounce everything .



Dear Dr. Rhody,

I just bought a Rhododendron. Is there a special way to plant it, and where should I plant it?

First Timer

Dear First Timer,

Your purchase is well timed, particularly on the Oregon 'Coast. This is a perfect time to plant Rhododendrons.

Rhododendrons prefer a location that has well drained soil and high broken shade.

When you are ready, dig a hole twice as large as the root ball. Mix the soil with equal amounts of bark. Fill the hole approximately one half full with the mixture.

If the root ball is dry, it should be soaked before planting. If the root ball contains clay, it is best to wash as much of the clay away as possible before planting.

Container grown plants may be root bound. The root balls should be cut and the roots loosened before planting. Score the roots and then set the plant in the prepared hole. The root ball should be at least 1 ½ inches higher than the surrounding soil. Use the rest of the mix to fill in around the plant. Mound the soil around the side of the plant. Leave the top of the root ball uncovered so water will penetrate easily. Pack the soil gently around the root ball and water lightly and thoroughly.

After planting, mulch with bark, wood chips, pine needles or any other organic material to conserve moisture, keep the soil cool and restrict the growth of weeds.

Good planting, Dr. Rhody



Past presidents message by Larry Jensen

The Western regional 2016 was one of the best! We are lucky to have people like Harold and Nancy Greer and Mike and Maria Stewart to organize such events !

Our October meeting is some Rhodie 101 and 102, plus cuttings. These hands on meetings frequently turn out to be a great learning experience for all of us.

The November meeting will be a talk on Occidentale by Dick Cavender. He and his wife Karen have had a nursery, Red's Rhodies, for many years. They also headed up many tours into occidentale country to find select forms, and study the environment they are found in. Occidentale, once established in the ground, is quite cold hardy. I have found that in pots they can be killed by cold weather. Of course, I have killed many rhodies without trying.

The October weather is a welcome relief. We have had over a half inch of rain so far. I heard nearly 2 inches at Florence over the week-end !

See you all at the meeting October 18th ! LJ



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What a beauty!!!

Remember to send in your dues!