

JANUARY 2017

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, January 17th Don Wallace from Singing Tree Gardens and Nursery in McKinleyville, CA will be presenting a program on 'Creating an Arboretum Style nursery'.

Board Meeting: Tuesday January 10th at Bill and Sandi Hennigs' home at 6:30

Chapter Meeting-: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, January 17th at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, at 6:30 for refreshments; 7 pm meeting and program. Our website: siuslawars.org

Pre-Meeting Dinner Will be at Ixtapa at 5 pm. Please email Sandi Hennig at flendish@q.com, or phone her at 541-997-2489. Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Gallagher Park Work Party: There will be a work party on Wednesday, January 18th at Gallagher's Park on 126 and Spruce Street at 10:am, weather permitting . Any questions call Gene Cockeram at 541-997-2377 or email toflowerman@gmail.com

Cookie Team : Sandi Jensen, JoAnn Wilson

Hospitality Table: Kathy Bones



Other Oregon Chapter Meetings and websites

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

Second Thursday, Oct to May; refreshments at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 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 -May 6:30 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.

Our Siuslaw Show dates for 2017 are held on Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23 and May 20-21, our 110th Annual Rhododendron Festival Show.

January 2017 Presidents Message by Mike Bones

Welcome to another year of growing Rhododendrons and Azaleas, gatherings for picnics, dinners, and parties; Attending interesting meetings, workshops, flower shows, conventions, and much more! Take part, it's how you learn. It is YOUR chapter run by fellow rhododendron enthusiasts that you elected to help organize your chapter.



We have had a lot of nice rain during this past fall, so watering should not be an issue except for the plants that have been planted in the shadow of your homes overhang. Remember that fertilizing and mulching will bring great color to your gardens just as soon as the cold spell goes away. If you have some tender plants, be sure to protect them from the cold. You can cover them with a sheet, or wrap plastic around them. If it's really cold for a few days, try adding some Christmas lights before wrapping them. If the plants are in containers, move them into a protected area. I actually moved some plants up under the large cedar trees on the hill. Just remember to move them back out into the sun after the cold is gone for the year. Here on the coast, the more sun, the more flowers, and tighter compact plant habit.

If you have broken limbs, due to high winds or snow, cut those limbs off, be sure to use a sharp pair of pruners. Remember, this is not pruning, it is maintaining your plant. Pruning come right AFTER they bloom.

We have our first blooming bulbs, the snowbells!

Let's hope that it gets cold enough to kill off some of those bad insects, and slugs, just the ones that eat our plants. Once it starts to warm up, those pesky critters will be out eating. Eliminate as you see fit.

Join us for our pre-meeting dinners. Everyone is welcome so bring your guests too. Just let our dinner reservation ladies know ahead of time so the restaurants can be prepared to take care of us.

Plan ahead for the meetings, flower shows and conventions. April 2017 will be the ARS convention in Eureka, Ca. April / May 2018 will be the International Rhododendron Convention in Germany. It's not too early to start planning.

The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden has it's spring catalog on their website now, and the early ordering begins in mid January.

See you on the 21st.

Mike



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 looked like such a fun party! I wish we could have been there. It was the first one we have missed since we joined, but sickness was better kept at home, and not shared! Thank you to Fred Guettler for the great pictures, and for working so hard to get them to me in a usable form!



Steven Price – Board Member Biography

Steven was born in Eugene Oregon and grew up in Creswell 12 miles to the south. Steven graduated from University of Oregon, was in the Army for six years and then used the GI Bill to get a second degree from Oregon State University, thus making him a Platypus. He then started his own research and development company but due to the stress of the work, he walked away from that and began work at a retail nursery. Steven was not a plant person but was a great salesman for hard goods.



In the next three years he received his Master Gardener credentials, became their top diagnostician and began teaching horticulture at the high school level. Teaching at-risk kids was not a good fit for him so he moved on to become a turf specialist (Univ. of Georgia Turf Superintendent) and started his own turf care/ pesticide company. During this time he also became a Master Gardener Instructor. As he approached his later years, Steven phased out of the turf and pesticide business and became the Head Groundskeeper for a multi-million dollar retirement facility. During this time, Portland Community College asked Steven to impart his knowledge to its students so he taught Pesticides, Landscape Construction, Turf grass and Small Business Development (LCB) in the evenings and weekends. In 2014 Steven retired from work and moved to Florence from Portland with his lovely wife Debra who retired from the medical field. They are now in the process of landscaping their small acreage south of town.



Thank You Steven for giving us a glimpse of your life before Florence, and now I would love for the rest of our members to do the same ! (so I won't have to make up any silly stories!)

January 2017

New Years Eve we made a foray in to the Hendricks Park in southeast Eugene. The damage from the ice storm is extensive. Mother nature pruned many of the rhodies there by knocking down oak trees and breaking limbs from the fir trees. Most of the rhodies will survive, just a bit shorter.



On Pearl St. south of 13th, one of the street trees fell between a church and a school. Maybe large trees are not a good idea in the planting strip. It tends to curtail the root area.



I hope our friends in the valley have come through this without too much damage.

We lucked out this time! The worst damage started at the Noti hill and off to the east.

Watching the forecast for this week calls for low temps ranging from 12°- 22° from Tuesday night on. I much prefer the temperatures to not drop below 20°, but then, I don't get to decide!



I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! Larry Jensen



These last two pictures were from another part of the park, and it felt like driving through a logging site!



RHODODENDRONS IN THE REDWOODS

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

Register now for the American Rhododendron Society's annual spring Convention April 27-30, 2017. The Eureka Chapter will host the convention which will bring visitors to world-famous Humboldt County, California from across the nation, Canada and around the world. Top notch speakers will be featured every day, along with tours of redwood forests, private and public gardens, azalea reserves and Victorian architecture.

The Red Lion Hotel will be our host hotel, with a rate of \$99 per night per room plus tax. The rate includes a full breakfast and an airport shuttle. Thursday and Sunday events will be held at the hotel. The new state-of-the-art Sequoia Conference Center, three blocks from the Red Lion Hotel, will be our meeting and banqueting venue Friday and Saturday. Visitors can walk to the conference center, take the shuttle or drive; abundant parking is available at the center.

For many ARS members, seeing the Redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) is high on the must see "bucket list", as are the rugged North Coast of California with its *Rhododendron macrophyllum* and Stagecoach Hill, the home of the Smith-Mossman 1966 collections of *Rhododendron occidentale* azaleas.



In addition to the area's redwood parks and other natural wonders, Eureka and its neighboring towns abound with well-preserved Victorian homes displaying the famous Queen Anne "Carpenter Gothic" style. The Carson Mansion (now a private club) is the most famous example from the late 19th century era of the lumber barons in northwestern California.

THE CARSON

Eureka is served by United Express twice daily from San Francisco. Flying to San Francisco and transferring to Eureka is the usual air transport option. Renting a car in San Francisco and driving to Eureka is a very scenic alternative. Drive time from San Francisco is about seven hours through the wine country with its rolling hills and on north through the Coast Range



HUMBOLDT BOTANICAL



mountains and redwood forests. From the north, PenAir flies from Portland, Oregon to the Eureka/Arcata airport. An alternative to flying directly to Eureka from Portland might be to fly to Crescent City or to Medford, Oregon, then rent a car. Drive time from Crescent City is about two hours; from Medford about four hours. Both routes are quite scenic, with wild rivers, rugged mountains and redwood forests well worth visiting. Several car

rental agencies operate at the Eureka/Arcata airport. The Red Lion Hotel offers free shuttle service for convention attendees to and from the Eureka/Arcata airport. However you choose to get here, we look forward to hosting you and showing you our beautiful northwest corner of California.

More information at www.eurekarhody.org

Chapter Contacts

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This picture I took this morning of the hill up behind our house



Then the next one just to the north of us



I'll be very happy if the snow stays up that high!



Here are some of the people who gathered at Ron and Cheryl Prchal's home on November 19th to learn how to make styrofoam troughs. I'll include instructions next month

