

MARCH 2018

Siuslaw Chapter

American Rhododendron Society

P.O. Box 1701

Florence OR. 97439-0111

WEBSITE: <http://www.siuslawars.org>

IS CHANGING TO A FACEBOOK PAGE

CALLED COASTAL RHODODENDRONS



UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

Meeting topic: Tuesday March 20th Thomas Johnson and his partner Kirk Hansen own and operate Sebright Gardens, a shade specialty nursery, near Salem. Come to the meeting to see a program, and be able to purchase hostas, ferns, and epimediums! Another great program!!

Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 13th at Sandi and Bill Hennigs home at 05638 Martin Rd. at 6:30.

Chapter Meeting:- The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, March 20th at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, 6:30 for refreshments, 7:00 for the meeting. Our website: siuslawars.org

Pre-Meeting Dinner Will be at Chens' Tuesday March 20th at 5 pm. Call or email Rosemary Rebello at [541-261-1849](tel:541-261-1849) or rosemary.rebello@gmail.com to **reserve your place at the dinner table!** Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Gallagher Park Work Party: Gallagher Park Rhody Days prep. **Saturday March 31st** (rain or shine) 9 am to 3 pm (There will be snacks and a door prize) Please note the change! Please contact Steven Price at phone: [503-252-1897](tel:503-252-1897) or email: sgprice1@gmail.com Remember, if you work at the park, you get 6 free tickets for the raffle!

Cookie Team : Lois Bravo

Hospitality Table: Lee Goodenough



Other Oregon Chapter Meetings and websites

EUGENE CHAPTER: Changing their place and Date to 3rd Wednesday of each month at The Springs at Greer Gardens, 1282 Goodpasture Island Road, Eugene, Oregon 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) Saturday-Sunday, April 7-8th: [Early Sale and Show](#)

TUALATIN VALLEY CHAPTER: First Tuesday of the month at 6:45 pm Washington County Fire District 2 31370 NW Commercial Street North Plains, OR 97133 Website : tuatitinvalleyars.org

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON: Changing the day of the week and time. Beginning Saturday Oct 21st at 1 in the afternoon at N. Bend Housing Authority 1700 Monroe Street North Bend . Website : sworegonars.org April 28th show!

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.





Great meeting, great speaker, great people !



I do believe that winter has come and gone, just in the matter of one week. Those early blooming rhododendrons, that I so look forward to are now gone. Not by time, but by Mother Nature. Any open flowers turned brown over night, but they were nice just before the frost hit them, so I will be looking forward to next years' early winter blooms. I can quickly get these dead headed. If there was any new growth starting, it too is gone. Sure saves me the time of pinching to make the plants be bushy. If there is one new shoot



starting to grow and I want more, I go out and pinch that single shoot. Now, I must know that it's not a flower bud, so check your plant over really good to get to know the difference of flower buds and new growth buds. If I am planning on making a tree out of a plant, I don't want to take out that main growth but I want it to continue to grow up into a tree form.

These next three months of the year will be our busiest ones, Home and Garden, Early Flower Show (April 14th and 15th) and our main show over Rhododendron Festival week end (May 19th and 20th), Southwestern Chapter has their flower show on April 28th, and Eugene will be around that same time. As a group, we need your help to put on these shows, we need your time and energy, true, we could use monetary help too. Have you ever thought of sponsoring a Flower Show, or a guest speaker? Trophies are always needed at both shows.

I hear that Steve Hootman's talk was fantastic, with lots of guests and members in attendance. Thanks for letting your friends know when we have meetings. I felt so bad that had to miss it, but I do believe that I may catch it again over in Germany. Steve likes to come down to our area and see the more tender plants growing outside. IF you are ever up to Federal Way Washington, be sure to stop by the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden. Our Chapter helps support their efforts. Check out their website on the internet, rhododendrongarden.org/cms.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting, with Kirk and Tom from Sebright Nursery, from Salem, talking about two great companion plants for Rhododendrons, Hosta and Ferns.

Mike



Seabright Gardens is our program this month!

So you have lots of shade don't know what to grow, we can fix that. Hostas, Ferns, and Epimediums are just three groups of plants that will prosper under that Oak tree or in the shade of the neighbors house. Hostas are super hardy easy to grow shade plants that have so little care issues. Ferns come in some many shapes and sizes and add a peaceful and fresh look to the landscape. Epimediums are like little harbingers of spring, many shooting forth from the ground in February and immediately covering themselves with cute little columbine type flowers.

Thomas Johnson and his partner Kirk Hansen own and operate Sebright Gardens, a shade specialty nursery, near Salem. Sebright was born out of a splitting of another business, (Mid-America Garden), in 2002. Thomas started his plant crusade as a child selling bedding plants out of a greenhouse in Alberta, Canada when he was 8 years old. In 1994 he moved to Oklahoma City and joined Mid-America Garden. In 1998 Mid-America Garden and Thomas moved to the Salem area. Mid-America Garden still operates at the same location as Sebright Gardens but is primarily a mail order business specializing all classes of bearded Iris. Thomas is also an award winning Iris hybridizer and has lectured on them Across the US and in Australia and New Zealand.



IF NOTHING GOES RIGHT.... GO LEFT!



Dannon Farrald Is new to our group, but not new to rhododendrons, having grown up around them His family connections brought him here from Siltcoos, and now lives here in Florence with his lovely wife. He enjoys fishing, crabbing, and traveling. He would like to see programs about cultural relationships between rhododendrons and local populations.



We have been watching our r. ririei plants closely this year. As early bloomers go, this species is one of our favorites. We have a large plant in front of the house that had this year, maybe a hundred trusses. Then we have a medium sized one that is above the house that seemed to take the year off this year. These two are pretty much the same color, but oh wow, the new baby we got from the species foundation a few years ago bloomed for the first time this year! It is the darker purple-pink that had first drawn Larry into the rhododendron realm. In 1995 he was working on a house that was adjacent to Hendricks Park above the UofO campus in eastern Eugene when the old one (that I think they have since, unfortunately lost) began to bloom in February. He was intrigued, and began to seek a place to buy one. He had heard of Greer Gardens, but never been. He found one there, and so began



our involvement with the rhododendron society. We tried the Eugene Chapter first, but the timing was wrong for us. Then when we met Jim and Sylvia Smith, who were running their nursery 'Roadside Rhododendrons' and after buying several plants they invited us to a meeting of the Siuslaw group. Since the meeting date was a night we didn't have our grandchildren, we went, and the rest is history! Larry first caught the hybrid collecting bug, and then switched to species. Of course, there was a little hybridizing mixed in there too. SJ



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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here are a couple pictures from LAST years home show.



We stopped by Hendricks Park again today, and the edgworthia chrysantha is beginning to bloom....

The scent is like warm honey!



Plus the daffodils!



Huddling from the cold under a very nice 'Wine and Roses'



In my greenhouse the Amaryllis are beginning to bloom, the clivia are in full bloom, and the aloe are all done, but I did get a picture before they finished !



Clivia



Hedgehog Aloe