

Siuslaw Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
PO Box 1701
Florence, OR 97439-0111

March 2019

Macrophyllum

Upcoming Chapter Events: Meeting on March 19

Board meeting	Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30pm Sandi and Bill Hennigs' home 05638 Martin Rd., Florence
Siuslaw Chapter meeting	Tuesday, March 19 6:30pm for refreshments, 7:00 for the meeting The Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw 3996 Highway 101, Florence
Meeting topic	Tim Walsh on the Humboldt Botanical Garden Also, cuttings we made in October are ready.
Pre-meeting dinner	ICM at 5:00pm 1498 Bay Street, Florence Please call or email Sandi Hennig by March 15 at 541-997-2489 or flendish42@gmail.com to re- serve your place at the dinner table.
Cookie Team	Sandi Jensen, Patricia Swift
Hospitality Table	Board members
Coffee	Mike Bones
Gallagher Park Work Party	Saturday, April 6, 10:00am—2:00pm Rain or shine. Lunch will be provided. Bring loppers, rakes, and wheelbarrows.



Photo: Sandi Jensen

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On the internet

- Facebook:
[Coastal Rhododendrons](#)
- Web site:
<http://www.siuslawars.org>

Our March Meeting Program:

Humboldt Botanical Gardens

Tim Walsh

Tim and June Walsh have been very involved in establishing the Humboldt Botanical Gardens. Tim is currently a District 5 ARS director and a Rhody-holic.

After attending University of Southern California Tim became a sheep boy on the Southern Humboldt ranch of his dad's long time friend. He thought his prospects of making a living as ranch-hand were poor so he became a real estate broker and finally settled in as a Stock Broker and Certified Financial Planner for more than 30 years.

Tim had an epiphany in Hendrick's Park Garden in Eugene Oregon in the '80s when he discovered *Rhododendron* 'Loderi King George'. Before that he had grown up with the thousands of *Rhododendron* 'Countess of Derby' which in Eureka were planted by Cottage Gardens for the cut flower trade and sold as R. 'Eureka Maid'. As a little boy he would break off branches of the pink flowers and carry them up the street to sell for candy money (his dad was a dentist).



June and Tim Walsh Photo: Ali Sarlak

As the Rhodo-bug hit him hard he spent many Saturdays at Westgate Garden Nursery with Catherine Weeks who passed away January 12, 2015. One day she said that he needed to join the American Rhododendron Society to learn more about rhodos and meet other people who had the same affliction. Thus began a long relationship with the ARS, first as chapter President (an office he has reprised more than once), then treasurer, then Treasurer of ARS, and currently District 5 director where he sits on the Executive Board. He is thoroughly Rhodo-holic.

In 1991 a Eureka lady (Irene Van Natter) called all the garden/plant societies together to see if there were enough people interested in exploring making a botanical garden in Humboldt County. Tim was on the first board of directors for the newly formed Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation. Tim and his wife June have been very actively involved at all levels of the Humboldt Botanical Gardens, both at the board and at the "hands-in-the-dirt" levels. In 2014 they spent more than 600 hours volunteering. We hope you will enjoy Tim's program on the new Humboldt Botanical Garden, just possibly the best place anywhere to grow Rhododendrons (...and a few other special plants as well)!

Tim and other Eureka Chapter ARS members have been instrumental in developing, selecting plants and caring for the Moss Family Temperate Woodland Garden at Humboldt Botanical Garden.

Tim is a Master Gardener, too.

For more on the Humboldt Botanical Gardens visit www.hbgf.org

The cuttings that we stuck at our October meeting will be available to pick up at the chapter meeting on March 19.

Other Western Chapter Meetings

Other Chapter Websites

Eugene Chapter:

www.eugene-chapter-ars.org

Portland Chapter:

<http://rhodies.org>

Tualatin Valley Chapter:

www.tualatinvalleyars.org

SW Oregon Chapter:

<http://sworegon-ars.org>

Web site inactive

Willamette Chapter:

<http://arswillamette.com>

Eureka Chapter:

www.eurekaarhody.org

Noyo Chapter:

www.noyochapterars.com

Pilchuk Chapter:

www.rhododendron.info

All other web sites can be found at:

<http://rhododendron.org>

under chapters web sites

Eugene Chapter

Meetings are usually on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at The Springs at Greer Gardens, 1280 Goodpasture Island Road, Eugene, Oregon, at 7:00pm. On Mar 20, Don Wallace will talk about Some Extraordinary Gardens of Seattle.

Portland Chapter

Meets at All Saints Episcopal Church, 4033 SE Woodstock Ave, Portland, OR, on the 3rd Thursday of each month, September through May. The program begins at 7 pm. On Mar 21, Steve Hootman of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden will talk about Rhododendrons on the Edges.

Tualatin Valley Chapter

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:45 pm at the Washington County Fire District 2, 1370 NW Commercial Street, North Plains, OR 97133.

Southwestern Oregon Chapter

Meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 pm. The meeting on March 21 is at the North Bend Senior Center Meeting Room. Tim Walsh will speak about Northwestern Wales and Bodnant Garden.

Willamette Chapter

Second Wednesday of the month, Sep thru May, at 7:00pm. On March 13, Ella Mae Wulff will talk about Heather for Year Round Color.

Eureka Chapter

Meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. On Mar 28, James Cassidy will speak on Exploring Soils.

Noyo Chapter

General meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday at the Presbyterian Church in Fort Bragg. On Mar 27 the speaker will be Don Wallace.

Pilchuk Chapter Marysville, WA

Meets the first Thursday of each month, September thru May.

February 2019 Siuslaw Chapter Meeting



Photos: Myles Swift

President's Message

By Mike Bones

Our blooming season is upon us. The early flowers are always my favorite as there are not as many of them and I can really appreciate the early color.

I don't believe that it got cold enough to cause flower damage to us here on the central Oregon Coast. Even my maddenii, which are more tender, seem to have survived. Some had snow that broke some limbs, I believe that all of my hot air helped keep it mild here at our place. But that early morning frost did a little damage to the early flowers when the sun shined on them. Those in the shade were not affected. IF you don't have early bloomers and want to get some, just remember to plant them in a spot where that early morning sun doesn't shine.

Our February meeting was Steven Krebs, the Easter Vice President of the ARS, he again reminds me as to why I like living here in our mild climate. His study and research for cold hardy Rhododendrons and plant disease was very interesting. When we go out and purchase a plant, we really don't realize the extensive trials that plant has gone through to have it on the market, or the time that it has taken to have that plant available for us. We just get to see the finished product. We should be more thankful to those people who work in those fields.

Gene Cockeram had nice words to say about our new members getting involved in the Chapter and joining in, becoming involved. It is how we learn and it grows friendships. Making cookies for the meetings or flower shows, signing up to sit the hospitality tables, judging, helping out at the plant sales. I remember way back.... i knew what a rhododendron (Rho doe den drun) was but that was all. I didn't know what they needed to grow, how to plant them or what to do with them after I purchased one. I didn't learn overnight and I am still learning, thanks to many other rhododendron enthusiasts.

Our next meeting on March 19th, We will have Tim Walsh from Eureka California on the Humboldt Botanical Garden, Tim is a great guy, fun speaker and he brings with him his wonderful wife, June. Great guy, fun, educational, wonderful wife oh...and he is a Rhododendron enthusiast...what more can a person ask for! See you at the meeting. Bring a friend.



Photos: Mike Bones

Root weevil damage in Gallagher Park. Notice the darkness around the bites, showing that it was from last year. It only seems to be in a couple of places.

Gene Cockeram says this is very effective against the root weevil. Mike dropped some around the plant.



Florence Home & Garden Show Florence Events Center

Friday, March 1st: 2pm—6pm
Saturday, March 2nd: 10am—6pm
Sunday, March 3rd: 11am—3pm

Our chapter has a booth at this year's Florence Home & Garden Show. We'll be selling No. 1 Rhododendron plants for \$20. The booth will be staffed with volunteers from the Rhody club. What better place to pick up a Rhody or two for your garden? You can visit their web site at florencehomeshow.com



*Pam and Jay Guettler
saw rhodies all over
the woods when they
were snowshoeing the
other day.
Photo: Pam Guettler*



*The R. macabeanum are starting to bloom in Gallagher
Park. These are seedlings of Dr. Gerdemann.
Photo: Myles Swift*

Gallagher Park Work Party: April 6th from 10am—2pm

By Steven Price

Please bring one or all of the following: loppers, pruners, a rake and a wheelbarrow. This is our pre-show park clean-up and a light lunch will be provided.

Since 1974, the Rhododendron garden has been a project of the club. The Siuslaw chapter was involved in the design, plant acquisition and installation of the Rhododendrons in the park. Since that time the club has taken the responsibility of keeping the Rhododendrons pruned, fertilized and visible to the public.

This year we will start at the front corner and shape the current Rhododendrons while removing all invasives so the garden will remain healthy and visible from Highway 126.

Gerdemann Garden Preserve Tour on March 5th

By Sandi Jensen

Join us for a wonderful garden tour to experience the fantastic plants in the Gerdemann Garden Preserve. We will be caravanning from the Fred Meyer parking lot in Florence at 9am Tuesday March 5th. We will proceed north to Yachats where we will park at the bottom parking lot and walk the trails up through the beautiful species that Jim Gerdemann planted to test their hardiness beginning in the 1980s.

In 1981, Jim and Janice Gerdemann purchased an acre of property on the edge of the Siuslaw National Forest in Yachats. Thickly forested with spruce and hemlock, but on a sloped site adjacent to the ocean, it was the perfect place to test the hardiness of rare and unusual plants from all over the world. For almost thirty years, Jim (a retired University of Illinois plant pathology professor) and Janice (a retired teacher) collected and planted unusual specimens — most of which they grew from seed -- on the wooded hillside with its myriad microclimates. Over the years, the site grew into a unique, 3.5-acre, richly-planted botanical preserve. The Gerdemann's world travels, as well as Jim's research into mycorrhizal fungi, informed their intense interest in growing seemingly challenging plants and helped them succeed with plants often deemed tender. Today, the Preserve contains many unusual plants, from southern hemisphere shrubs and trees to significant collections of magnolia, camellia, and rhododendron species and hybrids -- including Jim's hand-crossed tropical vireya rhododendrons, in a glasshouse -- all nestled amid a vibrant native coastal habitat. In 2008, the property was purchased by Jerry and Kathleen Sand, who shepherded the garden with care for nearly eight years. As of the summer of 2015, the property is under the care of Andreea Ghetie. Plans are being developed to increase the garden accessibility to visitors; meantime, many beautiful plants can be enjoyed while wandering the public footpath leading from the road to the entrance to the Siuslaw National Forest. The Gerdemann public trail passes through a wooded hillside facing the Pacific Ocean, bordered by the Siuslaw National Forest in Yachats, Oregon.



Rhododendron 'California Gold'
Photos: Sandi Jensen

Hinsdale Garden Open Days for 2019

By Gordon Wylie

More information

Questions? Feel free to contact Gordon at 541 895-2864 or lgwone@gmail.com

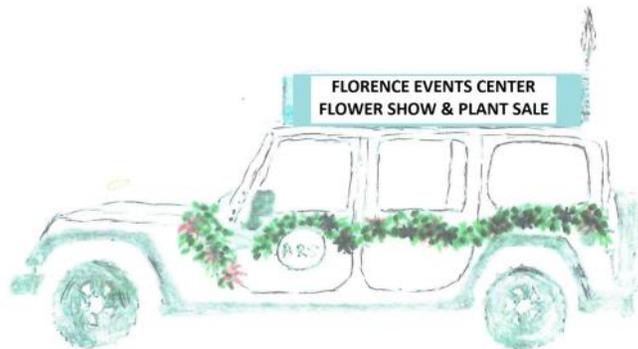
Visit the Friends of Hinsdale Garden web site at www.hinsdalegarden.com

As most readers know, the O. Howard Hinsdale Garden is located on Oregon Highway 38 about five miles east of Reedsport. It's an easy day trip from anywhere in western Oregon. Blooming season for the rhododendrons, magnolias and camellias is going well by March, and continues through April, May and into June.

The open dates set for this year are April 13, April 27, and May 11. Parking will be at the Elk Viewing Kiosk about a mile west of the garden, with shuttle service to the main garden. The local Friends of Hinsdale Garden organization will host a greeting area in the garden, where maps and other information will be provided.

Rhododendron Parade 2019

Dawn Carmody is heading up an effort to have an ARS float in this year's Florence Rhododendron Festival Grand Floral Parade on Sunday, May 19, 2019.



Dawn has been working on the trimmings and signage for the Jeep float. She asks that we bring extra rhodies for the Jeep float directly to Dawn's home at 864 Kingwood Street or to the Florence Events Center when we bring in entries for the May flower show. Please bring flowers and greenery such as pine, magnolia, and cedar boughs (no holly, please).

You can contact Dawn at 541-991-3818 with your ideas.

Rhododendrons of the Year 2020-2024

The Siuslaw Chapter has nominated the following Rhododendrons for ROYs over the next five years.

Elepidote	Rubicon Honey Butter Viennese Waltz Leo Chemainus	Deciduous Azalea	schlippenbachii Klondyke austrinum Fragrant Star Washington State Centennial
Lepidote	Crater Lake oreotrephes campylogynum Coastal Spice dahlhousiae var. rhabdotum	Evergreen Azalea	Hino-crimson Vuyk's Scarlet Hardy Gardenia Pearl Bradford Sport

Along with other ARS chapters in Oregon, our chapter submitted these recommendations to ARS District 4. A list of District nominees will be chosen and sent along to ARS. Their Plant Award Committee will ultimately choose the ROY for the North West region, which includes chapters in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. We'll wait and see how many of our nominees make it all the way to ROY!

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.

Calendar of Events 2019

March 1-3	Florence Home & Garden Show 2019 Florence Events Center
March 12	Board meeting
March 19	Siuslaw chapter meeting 7:00pm Speaker: Tim Walsh Pre-dinner meeting at ICM
April 6	Gallagher Park Work Party 10:00-2:00 Rain or shine Bring loppers, rakes, and wheelbarrows
April 8	Rhododendrons 101 Steven Price at LCC Florence
April 13-14	Siuslaw ARS Early Rhody Show Florence Events Center
April 13	Open Garden Day Hinsdale Garden, Reedsport
April 16	Siuslaw chapter meeting Auction. Pre-dinner meeting at Ichiban
April 26-27	2019 Rhododendron Species Symposium Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden Federal Way, WA. Details here
April 27	Southwestern Oregon Chapter Rhody Show and Sale
April 27	Open Garden Day Hinsdale Garden, Reedsport
May 4-5	Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens Annual show and plant sale
May 11	Open Garden Day Hinsdale Garden, Reedsport
May 14	Rhododendrons 101 Steven Price at LCC Florence
May 15-19	ARS Annual Convention, Malvern, PA The Philadelphia Story 2019. Details here .
May 18-19	Siuslaw ARS Late Rhody Show Florence Events Center
May 21	Siuslaw chapter meeting Flower Show wrap up
June 18	Summer picnic
July 20	Gallagher Park Work Party 8:00-12:00
September 27-29	ARS Fall Conference, Parksville, BC, Canada

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