

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



Photo: Sandi Jensen

Macrophyllum

Upcoming Chapter Events: Board Meeting

The Siuslaw Chapter Board of Directors will meet on Tuesday, June 9, at 6:30pm to decide what happens next. The meeting will be held at Larry and Sandi Jensen's place, 20419 Highway 126 in Noti, on the deck to facilitate social distancing.

You already know this, but it definitely bears repeating. The ARS Spring Conference that was to have been held this Spring, has been rescheduled for April-May, 2022. Details on page 2.

Please keep reading for more good news.

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On the internet

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



A large R. ponticum in Gallagher Park.

Photo: Myles Swift

RESCHEDULED!

American Rhododendron Society
75th Anniversary
20/20
VISION
ARS75.org
Looking forward, reflecting back
Portland-Vancouver, April 29-May 3, 2020



April 27- May 1
2022

Our intention is to duplicate all elements of the 2020 convention, including the Pre-Tour (new dates: April 25-26) and Post-Tour (new dates: May 1-3), while including even more enhancements to the original features. Registration will open again on December 1, 2021. For convention updates, sign up at ARS75.org.

The 2020 ARS Convention Committee

June 2020 President's Message By Larry Jensen

I hope everyone is well. It has been very strange without flower shows and the Rhody Festival.

Our jungle bloomed fairly well but I really need to prune a lot of dogwoods as well as rhodies.

We are having a board meeting on the 9th of June. We need to work on several things: budget, meeting topics, and how we can get our club moving forward again. We also need to figure out if we are going to have a picnic, and how we are going to hold the election.

Candidates so far are Kathy Bones for secretary, Stephanie Almadora for treasurer, and Debbie Peterson for board member. Nominations from the "floor" will be accepted.

Sandi's compound is looking good for only being the first of June. We have the veggie garden in, and things are starting to come up. Now Sandi can water for the next four months. Speaking of watering, sometimes the soil gets sealed off and the water doesn't penetrate. I use a hose end sprayer with detergent in it. Just a weak dose will do the job.

As soon as your rhodies are done blooming, you need to consider spraying for azalea lace bugs. They are beginning to hatch out now, and also, you don't want to spray during bloom time because of the pollinators.

I look forward to the next meeting...whenever that can be.



This is a seedling that Larry crossed.



R. Frank Galsworthy'

Siuslaw Chapter ARS Election of Officers

We will be electing a Secretary, a Treasurer, and one member of the Board of Directors. Candidates so far are Kathy Bones for Secretary, Stephanie Almadora for Treasurer, and Debbie Peterson for Board member. Please get any other nominations to Bill Hennig (billhennig40@gmail.com or 541-997-2489) as soon as possible.

Secretary and Treasurer are two-year terms; Board members serve for three years. Kathy Bones is our current Secretary, and she may continue doing that. Pam Guettler is retiring as Treasurer, and Fred Guettler is retiring from the Board of Directors. Thank you so much for all you've done for our chapter!

Mineral Supplements

- **Aragonite** is a source of calcium that comes from mollusk shells. Since it's low in magnesium, it's good to use if your soil needs calcium but does not need any extra magnesium. Too much magnesium can "tie up" other nutrients, making them unavailable for plants to use. If your pH is low (acidic), aragonite has almost as much sweetening power as limestone.
- **Azomite** is a trademarked acronym for "A to Z Minerals Including Trace Elements." Mined in Utah, it's ancient volcanic dust that merged with sea water 30 million years ago. It contains over 60 minerals that are good for plant growth.
- **Bone Char** is burned bone meal that provides a readily accessible source of phosphorus.
- **Calphos Colloidal Phosphate** is a good choice if your soil is low in calcium and phosphorus.
- **Dolomitic Limestone** will not only raise your soil pH better than pure limestone, it also provides calcium and magnesium.
- **Granite Meal** is a rock powder that provides slow release potassium and trace minerals without changing the pH of your soil.
- **Greensand** is also called glauconite. It's high in potassium and iron and has small amounts of magnesium and other trace elements. Greensand is good for loosening clay soils and improving sandy soil.
- **Gypsum** is 23% calcium and 17% sulfur, which means that it can provide a source of calcium without raising pH levels. It helps improve drainage by aerating the soil, neutralizes plant toxins, and removes sodium from the soil. The sulfur reacts with water and forms a weak sulfuric acid that frees up calcium.
- **Hi-Cal Lime** is used to raise the pH and add calcium at the same time.
- **Sulfate of Potash** contains 51% potassium and 18% sulfur along with trace amounts of calcium and magnesium. It is mined in the Great Salt Lake Desert in Utah.
- **Sul-Po-Mag**, also called langbeinite, is used if you need magnesium and potassium but not more calcium. It does not raise pH.
- **Zeolites** are found in volcanic ash and can improve water and mineral retention in sandy soils.

Our Members' Rhody Pictures: Ken and Enid Deibert



Joan Leslie Hammond



Super Dog (hybridized by Dan Bones)

Black Eye



The Honourable Jean Marie de Montague

Decorum



Our Members' Rhody Pictures



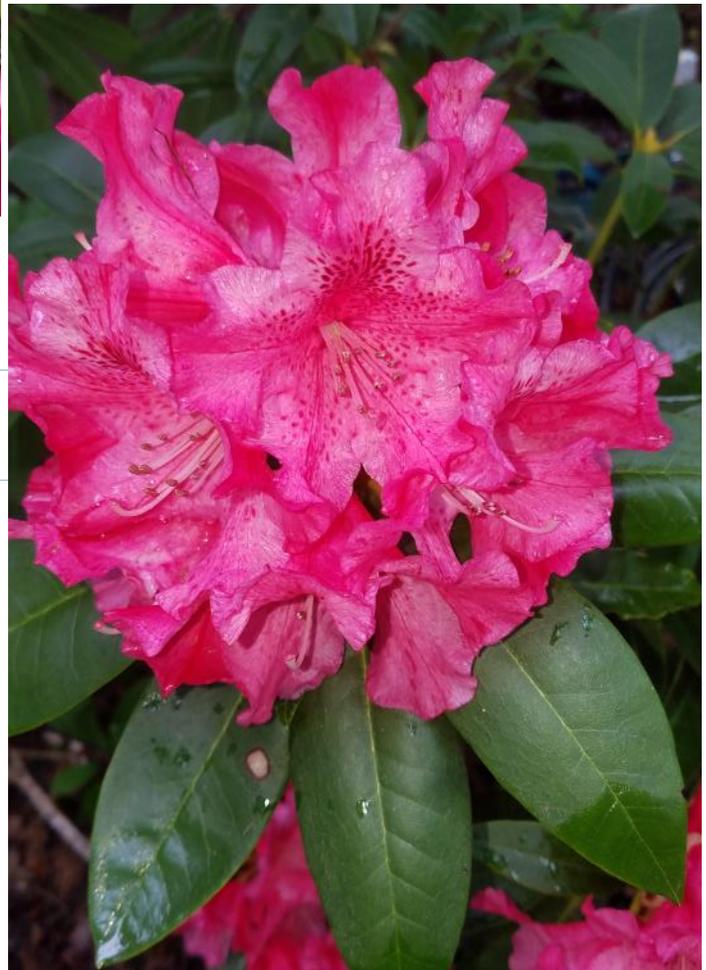
Jo Ann Wilson

Pinky-Purple People Eater

Floyd and Anita Hutchins

R. 'Kathy Van Veen'

Floyd got this from Kathy, who said sometimes there would be stripes. It is lighter than Jean Marie and has spots on all petals. ARS has it [listed](#) as a sport of The Honourable Jean Marie de Montague.



Our Members' Rhody Pictures: more from Anita and Floyd Hutchins



This is R. occidentale SM 502 medium which is now named Stagecoach picotee. A group was selling them at ARS convention, except what they were selling was SM 502 lite. The lite has only a trace of red on the edge of the petals. The 502 medium will always show some red pigment in the new growth which goes away as the leaf hardens. If there is lots of pigment the flower will have red through the petal and is called SM 502 dark and it grows slowly. We root the medium when the red is still showing. Our first SM 502 was the lite form, but after a number of years one branch showed the medium form and that's how we got started.



This is a seedling of R. occidentale DD12 x bakeri. It's surprisingly dark but still has delightful fragrance.

Our Members' Rhody Pictures: more from Anita and Floyd Hutchins

Anita's Angel: the plant...the dream...the story



Floyd writes:

We obtained the seed from the ARS's seed exchange. It was a number of years before these seedlings began blooming. When I saw the blooming I knew it was something special and brought home a truss to show Anita because she was still recovering from an operation, radiation, and was on a year-long session with chemo and the prognosis was bad. That night I had a dream and envisioned the truss just in front of me, I saw the image of an angel head and the wings to the side on each petal. Then all the "angels" flew away! In the morning I told the dream to Anita and she asked me what it meant. I am not good at this but out of my mouth came: "You don't need the angels any more and they have gone to help someone else." At the time I had doubts, but I knew thousands of prayers were sent up on her behalf. The dream and the words that came out of my mouth were not me, and I began to believe they came from higher up. After many years we are very sure it was the hand of God and his angels that spared her life. Each year when Anita's Angel blooms we are reminded, thank God, and we often pray that Anita's angels are helping others through the bad times.

(Note: Floyd used ARS seed from Mrs Furnival and crossed it with a hardy white with red flair.)

Rhododendrons International Volume 5 is Available Now

"Rhododendrons International" volume 5 has been published. RI is an online journal distributed free to everyone that contains articles of broad interest. In this issue find articles from "Rhododendron Species 2018," the Journal of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden; "Rhododendrons, Camellias & Magnolias" 2018 and 2019, from the Royal Horticultural Society Group; and from the "Journal American Rhododendron Society."

You can find RI Vol 5 -- and earlier volumes -- at: <http://rhododendron.org/ri-index.htm>

*Our tireless Mike
Bones was a one-man
Rhody Parade in
Florence this May!*



Photo: Mark Brennan, Siuslaw News

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.

Our Members' Rhody Pictures: Ron and Cheryl Prchal



Wild Ginger



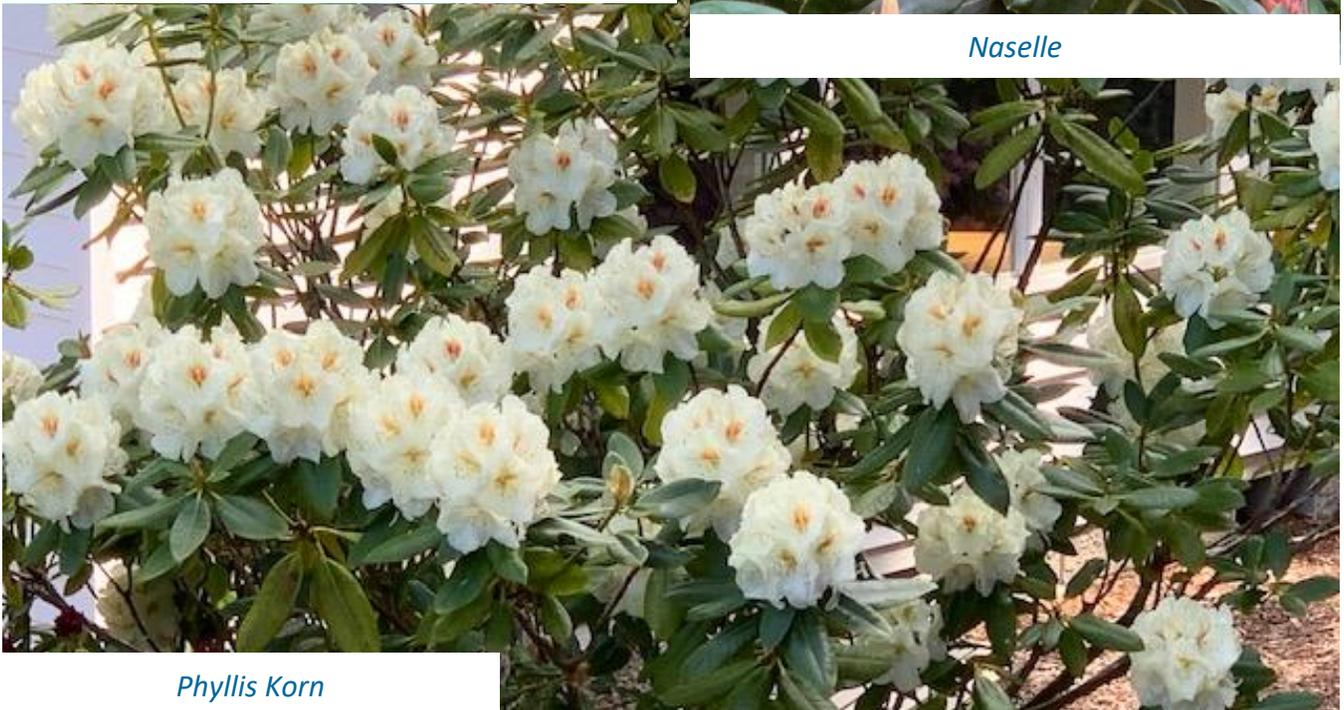
Glowing Gold



Blue Peter



Naselle



Phyllis Korn

Our Members' Pictures: Species Rhodies from Ron and Cheryl Prchal



Above: R. kendrickii



Below: R. sargentium 'Maricee'
Below: R. augustinii
was developed at Oregon State University



R. macrophyllum in white!



Our Members' Rhody Pictures: Azaleas from Ron and Cheryl Prchal

Exbury (deciduous)



Peggy Ann



Nancy of Robin Hill



Picotee



Purple Splendor

Pruning Info from University of Minnesota Extension

Timing is an important factor when pruning plants in the nursery or the landscape. The late dormant season is best for most pruning, with some exceptions noted below. Pruning in late winter, just before spring growth starts, leaves fresh wounds exposed for only a short length of time before new growth begins the wound sealing process. Another advantage of dormant pruning is that it's easier to make pruning decisions without leaves obscuring plant branch structure. Pruning at the proper time can avoid certain disease and physiological problems:

To avoid oak wilt disease DO NOT prune oaks from April to October. If oaks are wounded or must be pruned during these months, apply wound dressing or latex paint to mask the odor of freshly cut wood so the beetles that spread oak wilt will not be attracted to the trees.

To avoid increased likelihood of stem cankers, prune honeylocusts when they are still dormant in late winter. If they must be pruned in summer, avoid rainy or humid weather conditions.

Prune apple trees, including flowering crabapples, mountain ash, hawthorns and shrub cotoneasters in late winter (February-early April). Spring or summer pruning increases chances for infection and spread of the bacterial disease fireblight. Autumn or early winter pruning is more likely to result in drying and die-back at pruning sites.

Some trees have free-flowing sap that "bleeds" after late winter or early spring pruning. Though this bleeding causes little harm, it may still be a source of concern. To prevent bleeding, you could prune the following trees after their leaves are fully expanded in late spring or early summer. Never remove more than 1/4 of the live foliage. Examples include: all maples, including box elder; butternut and walnut; birch and its relatives, ironwood and blue beech.

Trees and shrubs that bloom early in the growing season on last year's growth should be pruned immediately after they finish blooming:

apricot	clove currant	lilac
azalea	flowering plum or cherry	magnolia
chokeberry	forsythia	early blooming spirea
chokecherry	Juneberry	

Shrubs grown primarily for their foliage rather than showy flowers should be pruned in spring, before growth begins:

alpine currant	dogwood	purpleleaf sandcherry
barberry	honeysuckle	smokebush
buffaloberry	ninebark	sumac
burning bush	peashrub	

Shrubs that bloom on new growth may be pruned in spring before growth begins. Plants with marginally hardy stems such as clematis and shrub roses should be pruned back to live wood. Hardier shrubs such as late blooming spireas and smooth (snowball) hydrangeas should be pruned to the first pair of buds above the ground.

Pruning (*continued*)

Use the right tools for pruning

The right tools make pruning easier and help you do a good job. Keeping tools well-maintained and sharp will improve their performance. There are many tools for pruning, but the following will probably suffice for most applications:

A good pair of pruning shears is probably one of the most important tools. Cuts up to 3/4 inches in diameter may be made with them.

Lopping shears are similar to pruning shears, but their long handles provide greater leverage needed to cut branches up to 1 1/2 inches in diameter.

Hedge shears are meant only for pruning hedges, nothing else. They usually cut succulent or small stems best.

Hand saws are very important for cutting branches over 1 inch in diameter. Many types of hand saws are available. Special tri-cut or razor tooth pruning saws cut through larger branches – up to 4 inches in diameter – with ease.

Pole saws allow for extended reach with a long handle, but they must be used carefully as it is difficult to achieve clean cuts with them.

Small chain saws are available for use on larger branches. Operators must wear protective clothing and exercise caution when using them. Never use chain saws to reach above your shoulders, or when you are on a ladder.

Source: University of Minnesota Extension



This shot of the Prchal garden features a tall purple R. augustinii next to a dark pink evergreen Azalea Coral Bells, with a light pink R. 'Ken Janacek' (an R. yakusianum cross) in the foreground. Our Chapter member Jack Hackett built the birdhouse.

Our Members' Rhody Pictures: Mike and Kathy Bones

Right: R. yakushimanum

Mike writes: I purchased this R. yakushimanum back in 1965, it was already 5 years old and was grafted onto an R. ponticum. The purple ponticum used to try to grow, but I kept breaking off the little shoots. It is a round ball about 6' X 6', it has never been pruned. My daughter always comes home and dead heads it for me as my father's day present.



R. odoriferum is now lumped into maddenii and is really fragrant. It's somewhat tender but worth growing for the few years before the cold knocks it back to a small plant. It's just now starting to bloom.



Elizabeth is a good plant to have. After the red blooms fade, the new foliage comes out red.

Other Chapter Websites

Eugene Chapter:

www.eugene-chapter-ars.org

Portland Chapter:

<http://rhodies.org>

SW Oregon Chapter:

Web site inactive

Willamette Chapter:

<http://arswillamette.com>

Tualatin Valley Chapter:

www.tualatinvalleyars.org

Eureka Chapter:

www.eurekarhody.org

Noyo Chapter:

www.noyochapterars.com

Mt. Arrowsmith

Rhododendron Society:

<http://marsrhodos.ca>

All other web sites can be found at:

<http://rhododendron.org>

under chapters web sites



The Prchals' R. maddenii 'Mi Lady'

Shop online at the ARS Store

You can benefit the ARS by using Amazon Smile. Whenever you shop at Target, Walmart, or Amazon, please start here:

ARSStore.org

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