

December 2023

Siuslaw Chapter

American Rhododendron Society

P.O. Box 1701

Florence OR. 97439-0111

On the internet

• **Web site:** www.siuslawars.org



Picture from the Prchal's garden



 **Siuslaw ARS Christmas Party!!! Sunday December 3rd**  **at the Jesse T. Jones Oddfellows Park at 4906 S. Jetty Rd. The big red ARS sign should be at the entrance to the park. Gather at noon, eat at 1 pm. Bring a garden themed gift to exchange. Choose something that you would like to receive, and mark it for a man or a woman if it is gender specific. To reach the party, cross the bridge heading south from Florence to South Jetty Rd. Turn Right (west), and drive roughly ½ mile to the Jesse T. Jones Oddfellows Park on the left. Look for the circular building. We hope to see you there! This year we will have a potluck meal. Everyone bring your own table service, and beverages, (coffee will be provided) and anyone wishing to add food items to the list given on the next page, please call Kathy Bones at 541- 997-3082.**



Other Westcoast Chapter Meetings and websites

EUGENE CHAPTER:

Website : eugene-chapter-ars.org

PORTLAND CHAPTER:

Meetings 3rd Thursdays, September-May . Chapter meetings will be held at: Reedwood Friends Church 2901 SE Steele Street Portland 97202 the program begins at 7 pm. Website : rhodies.org

WILLAMETTE CHAPTER : WCARS December Potluck Saturday, December 2 Redgate Winery Gather at 12:00noon Dinner at 1:00. Arswillamette.org

NOYO CHAPTER: WWW.noyochapterars.org

EUREKA CHAPTER: eurekarhody.org

MT. ARROWSMITH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY: marsrhodos.ca

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

Some of these meetings will have changed or relocated , but this is what I have at this time.

Turkey	Bones
Ham	Hennig
Gravy	Bones-Sylvia Smith
Gumbo	Day
Cranberries	
Mashed Potatoes	Sandi Jensen
Sweet Potatoes	
Hot Vegetables	1. Janet & Steve
	2. Rosemary
	3.
Rolls/Butter	
Dressing	1. Price (cranberry casserole dressing) 2. Cheryl B.
Salads	1.
	2.
	3.
	4.
Desserts	1. Enid -Cookies 2. Sandi Hennig- lemon bars 3. 4
Appetizers (horsd'oeuvres, yes it's spelled right)	1 Sandi Jensen pickles; Larry Jensen, salmon roll 2. Cheryl deviled eggs 3 . Bill Hennig- clam appetizer 4.

I hope all of you can come to the Christmas party, and fill in with the foods that have blank spots.

Remember you can call Kathy Bones at 541-997-3082 or email her at kathybones@charter.net

Have a Merry everything and a Happy always!



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



Dear ARS Portland Members and Friends,
It is with a very heavy heart that we share the passing of Maria Stewart earlier this morning.

You may have known Maria as a friend, a rhododendron expert, or by her monthly column in Rhododendron News. She has impacted all of our lives in one way or another. Our rhododendron community celebrates her life and legacy and mourns this tremendous loss.

Over the past weeks, Maria was surrounded by her family from near and far. We are grateful that they were able to have that time together.

We will share more details in the coming weeks about how we can best celebrate Maria's life. Please keep Mike and the Stewart family in your thoughts and prayers as they walk through this difficult season.



Thank You to Ali Sarlak for the November program! He brought along his lovely wife, Gloria, who accompanied him on the tours of the Willamette Valley nurseries that he showed pictures of. He began with Adelman's Peony Farm and went on to Schreiners Iris Nursery and Garden. They have a multitude of acres dedicated to the hybridizing of new varieties, and Ali said of the areas that they had access to, there was not a weed to be found! Then there were lovely pictures of Seabright Gardens, Miller Manor Gardens, and Amethyst Hill Nursery interspersed with pictures of Ali's and Gloria's garden.



I hope everyone will join us for the Christmas party on December 3rd. Gather at noon, eat at one. We always have wonderful food, and remember if you want to participate in the gift exchange, to bring one! It is a onetime only thing, not a steal away thing, and not a white elephant gift. Make sure that it is garden related, and something that you as a gardener would like. If you haven't signed up to bring any of the foods listed, please bring something that isn't listed, or if you're unsure, call Kathy Bones at 541-997-3082. I hope to see you all there for good food and a good time! Sandi Jensen



The Life & Death of Hirsutum Now its Resurrection as Rhododendra

Many of us couldn't believe the wealth of information and photos that became available on Hirsutum. It was too good to be true. It required a continuing web presence and constant maintenance. In 2021, it lost its web presence and had lost maintenance in 2015. It was just announced that Canadian web-guru John Verwolf has created [Rhododendra](http://www.rhododendra.com/) which is a functional replacement for Hirsutum. The new website is at <http://www.rhododendra.com/>



John Verwolf

On June 4, 2009, a website, Hirsutum.info, was created by Herman van Ree in the Netherlands. The goal of the Hirsutum project was to collect as much information and as many photos as possible concerning rhododendrons. This included species, hybrids, azaleas, vireyas and azaleodendrons. It was amazing how quickly this website grew. The actual ambitious goal of posting photos and information was being carried out by one person, Marjo Schlenker, Herman's wife.

It eventually grew to over 20,000 entries. I was skeptical at first that such a site would last for very long. However, it grew and grew and became the go-to site for rhododendron information. Finally, on July 19, 2012, after seeing Hirsutum grow, I made available to Herman and Marjo, 2,000 of my photos at <http://rhodyman.net/hirsutum.html>. Hirsutum listed over a 1,200 hybridizers and had over 10,000 photos contributed by over 150 photographers from around the world. The major contributors were Garth Wedemire from Canada, Everard Daniel from England, Herman van Ree, and Tijs Huisman from Holland. Valley Forge Chapter's Jim Willhite was also contributing photos and was the major contributor from the US.

Then in 2015, Herman van Ree announced he was discontinuing his involvement with the Hirsutum website. The website continued to be available, but with no new information. Then, in 2021, the website stopped working altogether. There were some archives of the Hirsutum site that saved some pages, but since Hirsutum was database driven, only a portion of the information was available in the archives.

Recently, on November 13, 2023, Ken Webb announced "they have a guy on Vancouver Island who is working on rebuilding the Hirsutum Website." His name is John Verwolf. Rhododendra is the name of his new website, <http://www.rhododendra.com/>. He still has to add information about hybridizers and botanists from the old Hirsutum website and he is going to build a public input system so that users can add information as they collect it. However, for all intents and purposes, Rhododendra is up and running and has most of the functionalities that Hirsutum had.

Thank you John Verwolf!

Steve Henning
ARS Dist. 8 Dir.



**NO CASES OF EYESTRAIN HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED
BY LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF THINGS**

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Beautiful Bloomer at Bill and Sandi Hennigs this fall. Bill says it's Honeybutter. This next one is also in their yard, and I was struck by the beautiful buds!



The bottom picture is my greenhouse in the cactus corner. Here's a couple pictures of Silas and Addison (she likes to be called Addy Now)



The nearly 3 year old attitude is showing!



We childproofed our house, but they're still getting in !



Dogs DO speak, but only to those who know how to listen.

