

# JANUARY 2025

## MACROPHYLLUM



Siuslaw Chapter  
American Rhododendron Society  
P.O. Box 1701  
Florence OR. 97439-0111

### On the internet

- **Web site:** [www.siuslawars.org](http://www.siuslawars.org)
- Facebook Page :Siuslaw Chapter - Florence  
American Rhododendron Society



### UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

**Meeting topic:** Our meeting will be on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Our member Steve Drochek will be presenting a program on 'Rhododendrons on You Tube'.

**Board Meeting:** Board Meeting at the home of Mike and Kathy Bones at 90379 Hwy.101 January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30

**Chapter Meeting:** The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet at the Presbyterian Community Church, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, 6:30 for refreshments, 7:00 for the meeting.

**Pre-Meeting Dinner:** Our pre-meeting dinner will be at Driftwood Shores Dine-in Deli and Market 88416 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. in Florence at 5 on January 21<sup>st</sup> 2025 . Contact Janet Von Tousaint at 925-285-3945 or email her at [jfvonto@yahoo.com](mailto:jfvonto@yahoo.com) to reserve your place at the dinner table! Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

**Cookie team:** Enid Diebert, Tom Oshel, and Pam Guettler.



### Other Westcoast Chapter Meetings and websites

**EUGENE CHAPTER:** January meeting on January 15th- Keith White- A long time Willamette ARS chapter member, he will speak about his many travels abroad.

Website : [eugene-chapter-ars.org](http://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. Social gathering at 6:30 , the program begins at 7 pm. January meeting is on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> and will be Hugh Ferrar, Professional Gardner

Website : [rhodies.org](http://rhodies.org)

**WILLAMETTE CHAPTER :** CHAPTER MEETINGS: Our current chapter meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May at a local Salem restaurant. Gather for dinner at 5:00pm, meeting begins at 6:30pm, and the speaker and program at 7:00pm. Our meetings will be in person unless otherwise stated. [Arswillamette.org](http://Arswillamette.org)

**NOYO CHAPTER:** [WWW.noyochapterars.org](http://WWW.noyochapterars.org)

**EUREKA CHAPTER:** [eurekarhody.org](http://eurekarhody.org)

**MT. ARROWSMITH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY:** [marsrhodos.ca](http://marsrhodos.ca)

All other web sites can be found on [rhododendron.org](http://rhododendron.org) under chapters web sites.



At our Christmas potluck party there were a couple dishes that were very good ie Enid's cranberry lemon bars, and Day's gumbo. Enid has shared her recipe with Ken contributing a picture, and Day swears he will share his gumbo recipe...I haven't seen it yet. Also, I tried a new recipe called Lazy Girl Pecan Pie Bars which I LOVE! There were many other dishes that were very good, but I didn't chase down the makers, so this is all I have!

#### Lazy Girl Pecan Pie Bars

1 pkg refrigerated pie crusts(2 crusts); 1 cup light corn syrup  
1 cup packed brown sugar; ½ cup melted butter  
3 large eggs; 1 teaspoon vanilla extract; 1 ½ cups pecan halves

Directions: Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease 9x13" baking dish. Roll out the refrigerated pie crusts and fit them into the bottom of the greased baking pan, pressing down gently to cover the entire bottom.

Filling: in a large mixing bowl, whisk together the corn syrup, brown sugar, melted butter, eggs, and vanilla until smooth. Stir in the pecan halves until evenly coated. Pour the filling over the pie crusts in the baking pan and spread evenly.

Bake in the preheated oven for 30- 35 minutes, or until the filling is set and the top is golden brown. Allow to cool before cutting.



#### Cranberry-Lemon Bars

##### Cranberry layer:

I used a 2# bag of cranberries - original recipe called for 12 ounce bag but I think that would be too skimpy, although I ended up with left over sauce that can be used for other purposes or frozen - it's tasty. Make this first before other parts.

##### My proportions:

2# bag fresh cranberries; 2 cups granulated sugar  
1 cup water; Zest from 2 lemons

Mix all in large saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium high heat, stirring occasionally until berries burst and mixture is jammy, this will take 10 minutes or so. If you want it smoother, a suggestion was to use an immersion blender but I didn't do that.

##### Make crust:

2 sticks (1 cup) melted butter (unsalted); 1/2 tsp salt; 2 cups all purpose flour; 1/2 cup confectioners sugar

Line 9x13 inch baking pan with aluminum foil, make sure there are no holes or gaps & it extends off the ends a bit, spray with cooking spray. Oven 350 \*F

Mix all in large bowl, press into an even layer in prepared pan, using fingers or flat bottom of glass, bake until golden brown around edges, 15-20 minutes

Let cool a few minutes, then carefully spread on cranberry mixture - if you used the 2# bag of berries you will use about half of the mixture. Wait a few minutes before adding the lemon layer.

Lemon layer: 1 cup sugar; 1/4 cup flour; 1/2 tsp baking powder

4 large eggs, room temperature; 1/3 cup lemon juice; 2 tsp or so lemon zest

Whisk together sugar, flour, baking powder, add eggs, lemon juice & lemon zest, whisk until completely combined.

Carefully pour over cranberry layer. I used a measuring cup so as not to stir up the berries into a red mess. A ladle might be good for this. Return to 350\* oven, bake for ~ 25 minutes until center doesn't wiggle.

Cool completely, then refrigerate at least 2 hours or overnight. Using foil ends, remove from pan, place on cutting board, can peel off foil, and cut into bars. Dust with powdered sugar if you want (I didn't.)

Pretty easy actually. Got recipe from NY Times & modified somewhat by Enid





We were all invited to Eugene's holiday wreath making event on December 7<sup>th</sup>. It was held at the shelter at Hendricks Park, and it was an enjoyable day. My wrists were being a pain or I would have been able to make some nice wreaths with the lovely greens and grapevines that were brought and shared. I would like to organize a similar event for the Siuslaw group maybe next November or December. Here are some of the lovely pictures that Esther McCallister, their event co-ordinator. SJ



On my walk about today, I found these blooming, one flower was already gone, It must have been blooming for Christmas. I also found lots of larger narcissus/daffodils with large flower buds. Yes, Spring is here, so are the slugs !  
Happy Spring.  
Mike



Linda Farrald, our treasurer and membership person wanted me to tell you all that if your membership dues haven't been paid by January, your name will be dropped from our roster. I wanted to tell you all that Linda fell and broke her arm right before Christmas and while she is beginning to heal, she says it's a slow process.





**American  
Rhododendron Society**  
Members Worldwide

## **Happy New Year from the ARS**

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On behalf of the board and staff of the American Rhododendron Society, I wish you the very best for 2025.

Our collective purpose is to encourage the culture of rhododendrons, and in so doing, we find that this beautiful and iconic plant brings us together with fun and friendship.

New growth is beginning in our early spring gardens in many parts of the northern hemisphere. Our hope for each of you is that nurturing rhododendrons will once again bring joy and hope and purpose in the coming year. How lucky we are to be gardeners and stewards of the land.

So now, as we launch into 2025, your board of directors wishes you the very best of camaraderie – with friends and the important plants that we all love.

**Happy New Year!  
Linda Derkach  
ARS President**

**Please share this with all of your chapter members**



## 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



Hello, Rhody Enthusiasts,

I sincerely hope you all had a wonderful holiday; visiting with family, eating meals that bring back wonderful memories, sharing gifts and stories, and of course, watching too many football games (one of which we don't want to talk about).

Since our last meeting we have had some great things happen to our group. Our Christmas Party was fun, as usual, with a fantastic array of culinary delights and some very nice gifts for the exchange. Santa even made a special early trip to help with the gifts.

The Chapter was the recipient of a most generous gift from Anita and Floyd Hutchins. The money may be used for any purpose to benefit the Chapter with the initial thought being to help defray the cost of bringing speakers from more distant places. This would give us a more varied speaker pool.

We have also received another substantial donation from an anonymous Chapter member. We truly have some wonderful Rhody lovers.

The future looks bright for our group. With the help and dedication of all the members we can continue to have one of the outstanding Chapters of the ARS. That being said, we need help. Our illustrious *Macrophyllum* editor, Sandi Jensen, needs a little aid with our monthly publication. After several years of writing articles and posting pictures of our meetings and escapades, it becomes more difficult to find things to write about. Please, if you encounter an article you think would be of interest to the group, submit it. Rhododendrons are our favorite genus, but we do realize companion plants do exist.

See you all soon at our January meeting.

Questions?

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!**

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These are just a few of the pictures I have of our great grandbabies in Hawaii where they went to celebrate Addison's 4<sup>th</sup> and Silas' early 2<sup>nd</sup> birthdays.



This was taken in the Species Foundation garden last May. The blue poppies were just beginning to bloom.



I was having a great time taking pictures of the bees enjoying the rhodies.



I wish I had recorded the names of all the bloomers I took. Unfortunately, I didn't.

