

# November 2025 MACROPHYLLUM

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



On the World Wide Web:

Chapter Website: [Siuslaw Chapter ARS](#)

Chapter Facebook Page: [Siuslaw Chapter - Florence - ARS](#)

## 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

### Chapter Officers:

**President:** Mike Bones - 2028  
541-997-3082  
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**Vice-President:** Cheryl Prchal - 2028  
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**Secretary:** Kathy Bones - 2026  
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### Board Members:

**Past President:** Day Farrald  
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### Committee Members

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## What's Happening

**Board Meeting: Due to the Veterans Day Holiday,** The next board board meeting will meet at Mike & Kathy Bones' house at 90379 Hwy.101 Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.

**Chapter Meetings:** The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet at the Presbyterian Community Church, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, on the third Tuesday of every month from September through May (except as noted) at 6:30pm for refreshments, 7:00pm for the meeting.

**Pre-Meeting Dinner:** Our pre-meeting dinner will be Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> at Clawson's Wheelhouse (820 US-101 Florence) at 5:00pm. Please contact Janet Von Toussaint 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!

**Next Meeting topic:** Our meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup> will be a presentation by Atsuko Gibson about the four seasons at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden (RSBG). Atsuko is the Nursery Manager/Assistant Curator at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden. She has been with the RSBG since 2010. Originally from Japan, Atsuko has a degree in horticulture from the University of Arkansas and has interned at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. She propagates species rhododendrons from seeds, cuttings and grafts, while managing the 2-acre nursery at the RSBG.



**Cookie Team:** The following people have graciously volunteered to bring cookies to the Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> meeting: Nancy Burns, Enid Deibert and Janet Von Toussaint. Thanks so much!

~ Janet Von Toussaint Please call 925-285-3945 if your schedule has changed

### **Upcoming Meeting Events:**

December 7 - Christmas Potluck and Gift exchange – 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, head south from Florence on 101 across across the bridge, turn right (west) on South Jetty Road 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! Everyone, please bring your own table service and beverages. (Coffee will be provided.) Anyone wishing to sign up on the potluck food list, please call Kathy Bones at 541- 997-3082.

**Presidents Message:** The Fall season is the best time to plant Rhododendrons, or to transplant them. The ground is still warm from the summer and the rains are warm, making those little roots take off.

Do you have any fall/winter color in your garden? It does not have to be the blooms. There are many plants, including Rhododendrons and Azaleas that would give you that color that your garden is lacking. For a tall grower, try *R. lutescens*, planted in the sun. The leaves are red, while in the shade they are still green. Nice yellow flowers when it blooms in the Spring.



*R. lutescens*

For a couple of good medium growers, try any of the PJM group for fall and winter color. They bloom at the same time as the yellow daffodils which is a great accent in the garden.

Then one of my favorites for year-round color is Rhododendron Wine and Roses. Take a look at that underside purple color!

Looking for some great low-growing Rhododendrons? Try Patriots Dream, with beautiful shiny green leaves and a dark red flower (this was named by Mike and Maria Stewart.) Mike was our dynamic speaker last month on the eastern native azaleas. They also named Yummy Yak, another low-growing plant that the Stewarts named.

Be sure to attend our next meeting to see color year-round.



*Wine and Roses*

~ Mike Bones, President.

**From the Editor:** Hi everyone! If you know of someone not getting the newsletter, please ask them to make sure they check their spam folder and change the email settings to accept emails from the following address: [siuslawars.news@gmail.com](mailto:siuslawars.news@gmail.com). If that doesn't work, please let me know at 814-937-2930, or have them send me an email from their correct address.

You can also direct people to the Siuslaw ARS website to see the latest newsletter.

We encourage members to submit articles! Please don't hesitate to send those to me at the above email address.

I'll be updating our website, so please send any suggestions or changes you would like to see.

Thanks,

~ Steve Drochek

### **A blast from the past:**

Here is a link to an article from the 100<sup>th</sup> [Rhododendron festival](#) in 2007.

**From the pictures on the next page, it looks like everyone enjoyed Mike Stewart's presentation.**



# Save the Date:

## *American Rhododendron Society 2026 Spring Convention Vancouver Island, British Columbia*

### *Rhododendrons & Companions in a Changing Climate April 21 - 25, 2026*

#### *Highlights:*

- *Garden Tours in Qualicum Beach, Parksville, Nanaimo*
- *Pre-tours of public and private gardens in Victoria and the Cowichan Valley*
- *Speakers, Plant Sales, Banquet in Qualicum Beach*
- *Partnering with the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden: Annual Meeting and Speakers from RSBG*

*Organized by the ARS Chapters on Vancouver Island,  
British Columbia*

#### **Here's some preliminary information:**

Tuesday, April 21, 2025 to Saturday, April 25, 2025

- Tuesday – Bus tour of gardens from Victoria to Sooke
- Wednesday – Bus tour of Victoria gardens  
- Tuesday & Wednesday tours organized by the Victoria Rhododendron Society
- Thursday – Car-pooling tour of country gardens in the Cowichan Valley put on by the Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society
- Friday – Welcome to all at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre – Speakers, plant sale, prizes, tour of Milner Gardens, plus the AGM of the Rhododendron Species Foundation, social time with friends, ARS Awards, Buffet Dinner at QBCC – all organized by MARS and the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society; Plant sale managed by North Island RS.
- Saturday – Bus tour of gardens from Qualicum to Nanaimo. Organized by the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society and dinner together in the evening at a local restaurant.

Each day of the convention is individually priced so you can do one or two or all of the days of the convention. Dinners are optional, but will be very reasonably priced. So please plan to join us! Every day will offer spectacular gardens and fun activities for participants.

Detailed information on each day is coming soon. We are working hard to keep the cost of this convention affordable for everyone, so.....

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES and join us for this fabulous 5-day event on Vancouver Island!!

## **Other Westcoast Chapter Meetings and Websites**

**EUGENE CHAPTER:** Meetings October-May, 3rd Wednesday of the month 6:00pm, The Springs at Greer Gardens 282 Goodpasture Island Road, Eugene OR. In the Chapel Room

**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

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

**WILLAMETTE 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

**Website:** [Arswillamette.org](http://Arswillamette.org)

**NOYO CHAPTER:**

**Website:** [www.rhodondrons-mendocino.org](http://www.rhodondrons-mendocino.org)

**EUREKA CHAPTER:**

**Website:** [eurekarhody.org](http://eurekarhody.org)

**MT. ARROWSMITH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY:**

**Website:** [marsrhodos.ca](http://marsrhodos.ca)

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