

January 2026 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
rhodies@charter.net

Vice-President: Cheryl Prchal - 2028
541-902-7637
rhodyholic@msn.com

Secretary: Kathy Bones - 2026
541-997-3082
kathybones@charter.net

Treasurer: Linda Farrald - 2026
541-305-1022
TreasurerSARS@gmail.com

Board Members:

Past President: Day Farrald
541-579-5544
day817@outlook.com

Director: Ken Deibert - 2026
530-919-0941
kenco.no1@gmail.com

Director: Steve Drochek - 2027
814-937-2930
sdrochek@yahoo.com

Director: Sandi Jensen - 2028
541-505-4246
sfuchsia@gmail.com

Committee Members

Sunshine:
Sandi Hennig
541-997-2489
flendish42@gmail.com

Publicity:
Day Farrald
541-579-5544
day817@outlook.com

Dinner & Cookie coordinator:
Janet Von Toussaint
925-285-3945
jfvonto@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor / Webmaster:
Steve Drochek
814-937-2930
siuslawars.news@gmail.com

What's Happening

Board Meeting: The next board board meeting will meet at Mike & Kathy Bones' house at 90379 Hwy.101 January 13th at 2:30pm.

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 January 20th at Ichiban Restaurant (1179 US-101 Florence) at 5:00pm. Please contact Janet Von Toussaint at 925-285-3945 or email her at 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 January 20th will be a presentation on Dahlias by our very own Dan Green. Dan was born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri. He was an Aerospace Engineer for years and then became a Construction Manager after obtaining his MBA.

His Dad was growing Dahlias in retirement in Seattle and got him started. He fell in love with them. At one stage in his life while unemployed he started Dan's Dahlia's while living in Cornelius, OR. Over 2 years he expanded to about 1/2 acre of Dahlias, about 2,900 plants. Advertised in Home and Garden Magazine and ended up selling and shipping several thousand tubers to customers in 29 states. He had to stop when he took a job in France.



After traveling the country and the world, he and his wife Jenny moved to Florence, their preference of all the places they have seen and lived in. He found the weather and soil conditions favorable to growing Dahlias and has taken that pastime up again. He loves Rhododendrons, which rival Dahlias; but, loves the more diverse colors, sizes and shapes and the long seasons of Dahlias. Dan and Jenny truly love and enjoy both the Rhododendron Society and the Florence Garden Club, their members and the learning experiences.

Cookie Team: The following people have graciously volunteered to bring cookies to the Jan. 20th

meeting: Jenny Green, 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:

Feb 17, Keith White, President of the Rhododendron Species Foundation
March 6 & 7, Home and Garden Show at the FEC, Mike Bones
Mar 17, Jack Olson, hybridizing for year around foliage
April 18 & 19, Early Flower Show, Day Farrald
April 21, Annual plant Auction
May Rhododendron Parade Float, Garland Alston
May 15 & 16, Rhododendron Festival and Flower Show Day Farrald
May 19, follow up on shows, and Bruce and Linda Cochran's trip to Holland
June 16 Picnic, Vote for one Board Member, get involved.

Presidents Message: Happy New Year to each and everyone of you.

Because of you, the Siuslaw chapter is now the largest Chapter in Oregon! We are regarded by the ARS as one of the best chapters in the ARS because of you and your actions in the chapter. Thank you!

Garden tips:

A little fertilizer will green up your plants.
Bait for slugs! They are everywhere due to our warm winter. The eggs are hatching and the slugs and snails are eating plants. Scatter pellets about sparsely, don't put them into piles that could more adversely harm your pets. Scatter pellets every couple of weeks, as those varmints are hatching out fast and at different times!

Thanks for helping out, being active and participating. Just by attending our meetings makes a big difference.

~ Mike Bones, President



Save the Date:

American Rhododendron Society 2026 Spring Convention Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

“Rhododendrons & Companions in a Changing Climate” April 21 – 25, 2026

From the pictures on the following pages, it looks like everyone enjoyed the Christmas Party. A good time was held by all. Lots of great food and some really nice gifts were exchanged.





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

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

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

NOYO CHAPTER:

Website: www.rhodondrons-mendocino.org

EUREKA CHAPTER:

Website: eurekarhody.org

MT. ARROWSMITH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY:

Website: marsrhodos.ca

All other chapter web sites can be found on: rhododendron.org