

October 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: Steve Drochek - 2028
814-937-2930
sdrochek@yahoo.com

Secretary: Kathy Bones - 2028
541-997-3082
kathybones@charter.net

Treasurer: Linda Farrald - 2028
541-305-1022
TreasurerSARS@gmail.com

Board Members:

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

Director: Garland Alston - 2029
530-919-0941
ga@therhodybrodee.com

Director: Janet Von Toussaint - 2027
925-285-3945
jfvonto@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

Chapter Meetings: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet at the Presbyterian Community Church, 3996 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.

Board Meeting: The next board board meeting will be held at Mike & Kathy Bones' house at 90379 Hwy.101 October 13th at 4:00pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Pre-Meeting Dinner: Our pre-meeting dinner will be October 20th at Ixtapa, 1015 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 October 20th will be on large leaf rhododendrons presented by Richard Flavell. Richard grew up in the UK and, since 1988, has been a science professor at Yale where he studies the immune system. You can find a lot more about him on Google. He has grown rhododendrons since the 1980s and is an active hybridizer, particularly generating big leaf rhododendron hybrids that are hardy enough for coastal New England, or inland Oregon. Since 2013/14, he has gardened in Florence Oregon and has built an impressive collection of newly discovered species as well as his own hybrids.

Cookie Team: The following people have graciously volunteered to bring cookies to the September 15th meeting: Lalena Goldberg, Enid Deibert and Garland Alston. We are always looking for volunteers to bring snacks to our meetings. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet located near the cookie counter.

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

President's Message: Dear Fellow Rhododendron Friends,

Fall has arrived, and the cooler nights are a welcome change. With the pleasant weather and lower temperatures, it is a great time to be in our gardens, tidying up from this past year and preparing for the next season.

Here are a few seasonal care tips for your gardens:

- Fertilizing: Our rhododendrons and azaleas should have already set their flower buds for the next flowering season, so fertilizing for blooms will not help at this point. However, if your leaves are light green or yellowish, you can fertilize them now.
- Pruning: This is not the time of year to trim your rhododendrons or azaleas. Trimming should be done right after they bloom. If you need to remove dead branches, cut them off and dispose of them in the garbage or burn them—do not add them to your compost, as they may carry disease. If you are creating a tree, you can cut limbs back at any time of year.
- Planting: Fall is an ideal time to plant. The ground is still warm and the upcoming rains will encourage root growth. Remember to research a plant's full growth habit before planting, as small plants will grow significantly over time.
- Sunlight & Watering: Ensure your plants receive adequate light to bloom by cutting back any overhead tree limbs if necessary. Continue watering until the regular rains begin.

Additionally, please consider bringing a friend to our upcoming meetings. If they join, they will receive a free plant at the following meeting.

Thank you for being a valued member of our community—we appreciate you!
If you have any questions or concerns, you can always reach me at rhodies@charter.net.
Thank you to everyone who helps make our chapter so fantastic.

~ Mike Bones, President

Membership Renewal: It's that time of year again to renew your membership and pay the dues. You may fill out this form online or print it and enter your information by hand. Your Member ID# is already on file, so you do not need to look it up. Please bring your completed form and dues to our October meeting. We are unable to accept cards at the meeting; payment can be made by check or cash.

~ Linda Farrald

Future Events:

November 17th - Propagation of rhododendrons and azaleas

December – Christmas dinner and gift exchange

Pictures from September meeting:

