

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

## Calendar

- Nov. 17 — O. Howard Hinsdale Garden Fall 2010 Planting **10:00 AM 'til done;**
- Nov. 18—Chapter Meeting  
Speaker: Kath Collier  
Topic: Companion Plants for Rhodies;
- Nov. 23—Board meeting @7:30 pm, Van Veen Nursery;
- Dec. 16—Christmas Party  
Program: Slides by Members, decorations, Lots of cookies!
- Dec. 21— Board Meeting??

## Meeting Info

Regular chapter meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month (except in June, July, and August which have other events).

Meetings start at 7 pm with a social half-hour preceding the main meeting. We clean up and exit by 9:30 pm.

Location: All Saints Episcopal Church - At the corner of SE 40<sup>th</sup> and Woodstock, Portland, Oregon



## Companion Plants for the Rhododendron Enthusiast

Maria Stewart

## November 18th Program:

On November 18th, our very own Past President, Kath Collier, will present an enticing program on companion plants for rhododendrons. The landscape principles and the plants she discusses are relevant to situations in our own gardens. It's fun to ponder whether this plant or that plant could find a place in our gardens. Some of us had the

pleasure of hearing Kath speak at the Western Regional last month and now we can all enjoy her talk.

Besides being Past President, Kath is the current ARS Secretary. Kath and Dave have been members of the Portland Chapter for 19 years. They own and operate Collier Azalea Nursery in the Boring/Sandy area.

At the conclusion of her talk, there will be a surprise. Shhhhhhhh—to the members who might

know what the surprise might be!

## Christmas Party

Please contact Barbara MacArthur, 'phone 360-256-2522, if you want to assist in decorating the tables for our December meeting.

## October 21st Chapter Meeting

Maria Stewart

Thank you all for your flexibility! Our October 21st regular meeting gave us a perfect opportunity to show how congenial we all are: when we arrived to set up for the meeting, we found another group had rented our space! Undeterred, we met in the chapel annex. Everyone pitched in to move furniture, set up tables and make the chapel ready for our speaker. Our hero was Peter Kendall, who drove quickly home to get his portable screen. Special thanks goes to Barb MacArthur, who served treats in the foyer but had to make the coffee in the kitchen.

Halloween costumes: a mysterious black rhody weevil crept into our midst, and President Mike Do-

maschofsky wore orange and black (of course) with a football head to complete the effect.

Throughout, our speaker, Dennis Bottemiller, from the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, remained calm. He treated us to a thorough and thought-provoking talk about the variables involved in rooting cuttings. Dennis explained that good record-keeping, the sharpness of our tools, the timing of taking cuttings, the medium for sticking cuttings and other variables have positive results when attempting to root the more difficult ones. In addition, Dennis showed us great photos of the construction of the Rutherford Conservatory, from groundbreaking to grand opening at the RSBG. After the talk, Dick Cavender auctioned off a large group of species rhododendrons, to the benefit of our general fund!

## Purpose

To encourage interest in and disseminate information and knowledge about the genus *Rhododendron*.

To provide a medium through which all persons interested in the genus may communicate with others through education, scientific studies, meetings, publications, and other similar activities.

The Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is registered in Oregon as a 501 (C)(3) non-profit organization. Dues and donations are qualified charitable tax deductions.

## Smith Garden Volunteers

Maria Stewart

Ginny Mapes, Smith Garden Chair, emphatically says, "It takes many hands to make the Garden Work Days and the Open Garden Dates work."

As we approach the late fall and winter season, this is a perfect time to think back to all the contributions that the Smith Garden volunteers have made this year. A garden never remains static, so no matter how large or small the job a volunteer does, that job is necessary to the well-being of the garden. With the "Fabulous Four" heading the list, here are all of the Smith Garden volunteers:

Herb and Edie Spady; Anne Gross; Bob Grasing; Tom Gressler and Jane; Ginny and Ron Mapes; Don and Dorothy Patrick; Dick and Karen Cavender; Dallas Boge; Steve Kaminski and Donna Sell; Peter Kendall; Roger and Kathy Lintault; Dick and Carol Lundin; Wally and Kathy Reed; Bruce Duffy; Sharon Leopold; Don and Syd Wermlinger; Tom and Merilee Mannen; Anya Averill and Stewart Celarier; Jim and Katy Averill; Carol McCarthy; Bob and Barbara MacArthur; Brenda Ziegler and Steve Hopkins; Toshie Unrine; Joseph and Tiffany (Smith) Larson; Carol Barrett; Harol Kreuger, Jr. and Alden; and Bill Hilands.

We thank you for your contributions in making the Garden a beautiful and serene haven for both plants and people.

## HAI KU

**Peter Kendall**

*On the horizon,  
Autumn's crescent moon spilling  
Its fill of sunlight.*

*The capricious turns  
Of October's winds have swept  
away its colors.*

*A morning beyond  
A tumult of wind and rain—  
Not a single sound.*

*The scatter of leaves  
The call of a lone robin  
A night's storm long gone.*

## December 1st December 1st December 1st Dues are due

Kath Collier

### November vote on Chapter bylaws

Just about the time you're glad that all of the political issues and voting is over, another vote rolls around, but, this time, move over congresspersons, it has to do with Rhododendrons.

Recently a chapter back east dissolved and there were questions about how to dot all of the 'I's' and cross all the 't's' in the process. Based on that, new wording needs to be added to our chapter's bylaws, and to do that, we must vote on it, hence the need for a vote in November. Per the recent board meeting in Florence, the additional wording covers an important IRS requirement for all ARS chapters. The following wording needs to be added as quickly as possible:

***"In the event of the dissolution of the Portland Chapter, any ARS property in possession of said Chapter shall be promptly returned to the Society. Any other monies and property of the chapter shall be disposed of in the manner specified in the Chapter bylaws in a manner which is approved by the United States Internal Revenue Code for U.S. Chapters.**"*

The actual disposal of the property would be determined by each Chapter. In our case, the Finance Committee is going to review our major possessions and make recommendations to the Board regarding their disposal if such an unfortunate event should happen to us. Based on the recent experiences of that Chapter back east, this bit of prework will help those who are trying to do the right thing in a very difficult situation.

Be ready to vote yea or nay in November — your vote counts here, too.

## Other News Shorts

O. Howard Hinsdale

Garden Fall 2010

Planting Work Party

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2010

Time: 10:00 AM until done.

Where: **The garden is approximately 5 miles east of Reedsport on the north side of Hwy 38, opposite the elk-viewing area. Participants may be dropped off at the new entry road to the main garden; car parking will be in the lot reached by driveway immediately east of the garden.**

Queries: Gordon Wylie, 541-895-2864 or e-mail: [lgwone@gmail.com](mailto:lgwone@gmail.com)

Hot soup and snacks will be provided. Join in to support the ARS Endowment Grant funding plant purchase and restoration of this historic garden and, best of all, make short work of the task while enjoying the camaraderie of fellow enthusiasts.

Sending your Newsletter

**If you told us that you are willing to receive your newsletter by e-mail, we will send it that way, starting in December, 2010.**

**If this is catching you by surprise, and you wish otherwise, please let John Welsh know. John's e-mail address is: [jlwelsh26@yahoo.com](mailto:jlwelsh26@yahoo.com).**

December 1st:

ARS dues are due December 1st!

## ARS Western Regional Fall Conference 2010

### Irving G. Snyder, Jr.

The Siuslaw Chapter put on an excellent Western Regional Conference in Florence, Oregon on October 8, 9 and 10, 2010. The Tree Rivers Casino in Florence had fine hotel rooms and the conference facilities were very adequate.

Harold Greer spoke on Friday evening on the tried and true hybrids. I realized how tried and true, or maybe old-fashioned, my rhodie garden was when I discovered our garden included all of the list of Greer's old time, tried and true hybrids. On Saturday evening, Steve Hootman, the Director of the Rhododendron Species Foundation in Federal Way, Washington showed us some exciting new species. The final principal speaker on Sunday morning was our own Mike Stewart, who spoke on the innovations in rhododendron hybrids which will be entering the marketplace. This was a most interesting presentation on how the marketplace is expecting new and "fancy" rhododendrons. You are missing a lot of fun and a whole lot of good information if you do not attend these conferences.

Jan attended a session by Lee Cheatle on how to make a rhododendron bonsai. Each class participant prepared their own bonsai in a container and the results were spectacular. If you get a chance to attend one of Lee's classes, be sure not to miss it. I ventured into a class on growing seeds by Gordon Wylie. I went to that class expecting to find that it was very difficult to propagate rhododendrons from seed and went home with two containers with seeds all planted and ready to grow.

It is now two weeks later and the seeds are sprouting. This was an excellent session to increase your knowledge, which then increases your confidence to grow seeds.

I attended a presentation by Loretta Downs on building and maintaining small ponds. I learned that I have 'way too many fish in my ponds and my filter throughput is too low. Loretta also had some very good suggestions on how to build ponds and how to size and operate pumps and filters.

I also learned a great deal about heathers from Ella May Wulff. If you want something blooming year around, think about heathers. I realize now I am not trimming our heathers correctly, or at the proper time of the year. I had no idea there were so many varieties of heathers.

Finally, I attended a session by David Grantham on azaleas. David is from Dallas, Texas, an unlikely residence for an azalea enthusiast. From early childhood in Louisiana he has been interested in azaleas and has studied and absorbed information on azaleas for the past 40 years. Trying to impress David, I asked him if he had heard of the rhododendron species *chapmanii*, the one rhododendron that is native to Florida. Not only had he heard of it, but he went on to explain the type of soil they like and how they could be found in the wild north of Tallahassee. He was a most interesting person.

There were several other interesting presentations, including one by our Kath Collier on 'Companion Plants for the Rhododendron Enthusiast'. All in all, it was a great session and the Siuslaw Chapter deserves lots of praise and thanks for their hospitality, organization and incredible table favors for each attendee. Mike Bones' energy and enthusiasm radiated throughout the entire session.

## ARS Annual Meeting - 2011

Pull out the calendars and mark the date: May 11-16, 2011 for the next ARS National Convention. The convention will be held at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, Wash. just off of I-205, near the Vancouver Shoppingtown Mall.

The Heathman is a beautiful facility and the

room price for those of you traveling is very reasonable. The restaurant there is excellent, and of course the shopping around the corner provides an alternative destination.

**Harold Greer** and **Mike Stewart** along with a cast of others from across the District have

done a great job getting the accommodations and speakers lined up. This meeting is hosted by ARS District 4 Oregon Chapters. Be sure to be ready to register and get rooms when the ARS Convention announcement comes out.

Membership  
Renewals Start in  
October!  
The gift of  
membership is a  
gift of fun and  
friendship year  
around!

## October Board Meeting

Maria Stewart

On October 26th at 7:30 PM, the Board met at the Van Veen Nursery.

The Board spent about 40 minutes interviewing a candidate for an events coordinator at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. We voted to form a committee to write the contract for the Coordinator and to define what is needed for personnel in the next 2 years. The members of that committee are Carol Barrett, Kath Collier, Mike Domaschofsky, Donna Sell and Brenda Ziegler.

Please note that the deadline for submitting articles to the Chapter Newsletter is the day of the Board meeting.

The CSRG Maintenance Committee reported on the bids that have been submitted for a renovation project in the Garden. Board members will vote on the project by e-mail in order to keep the project moving forward.

The estate of Betty Sheedy has donated 4 silver pieces to

be used as awards for the volunteers at CSRG. Betty's name is engraved on each piece of silver.

Dick Cavender will investigate installing a new heating system in the house at the Smith Garden.

Steve Kaminski reported on the improvements he has made to the Chapter website. Viewers can now find Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden and event information on the website.

It was good to see both Bev Watkins and Carol Barrett at the meeting.

## Newsletters: Paper or e-mail?

*Would you like to help the Chapter save money on postage? Would you enjoy seeing the newsletter photos in color instead of murky black and white? Consider this:*

If you are willing to receive your newsletter by e-mail, please send an e-mail to John Welsh saying that you do want your newsletter sent by e-mail starting in December, 2010.

(j1welsh26@yahoo.com)

If you would rather receive your newsletter in paper form, please send a note to Maria Stewart, saying that you prefer the paper newsletter. Address:

42125 SE Kleinsmith Rd.

Sandy, OR 97055

*Thank you! We really need to know your answer in order to make the correct decision about sending our newsletters.*

Portland Chapter of  
the American  
Rhododendron  
Society

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#### CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: *Mike Domaschofsky*  
Vice President: *Maria Stewart*  
Past President: *Kath Collier*  
Secretary: *Carol McCarthy*  
Treasurer: *Dick Cavender*

#### BOARD MEMBERS

(Thru June 30, 2011) **Steve Hopkins,**  
**Brenda Ziegler, Donna Sell, Ray**  
**Clack, and Carol Barrett.**  
(Thru June 30, 2012) **Ann Clack,**  
**Dave Collier, Kathy Van Veen, Mike**  
**Stewart, and Steve Kaminski**

#### GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

#### Chairs:

**Bob MacArthur**, 360-256-2522, and  
**Donna Giguere**, 503-777-1177

#### Tours:

**Barbara Keller**, 503-775-5205

#### Gatehouse:

**Rose Kress**, 503-654-4318

#### Friends:

**Kathy Van Veen**, 503-777-1734

Events: **Rita Knapp**, 503-256-2483

Cecil & Molly Smith Garden

Chair: **Ginny Mapes**, 503-647-2896

#### Newsletter:

Articles: Deadline is the chapter  
meeting. Send materials to either:  
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Membership: Membership chair

Dick Cavender

Membership Updates: John Welsh  
**503-663-6987** e-mail:

[jlwelsh26@yahoo.com](mailto:jlwelsh26@yahoo.com)

Delivery: Questions should be di-  
rected to: **Maria Stewart** at 503-668-  
7565.

Website: [www.rhodies.org](http://www.rhodies.org); web  
master: **Steve Kaminski**

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