

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

Calendar

- **May 11 & 12, 2013**
Mother's Day Show
and Sale
- **May 16, 2013**
Awards Meeting and
Banquet
6:30 PM Set up
7:00 PM Supper time
Speakers: Irv and Jan
Snyder
**Topic: "How to take
Award-winning Photos
of Your Rhododen-
drons"**
- **May 21, 2013**
Board Meeting
7:30 PM
Van Veen Nursery

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 40th and Woodstock, Portland, Oregon



Our May Speakers

By Brenda Ziegler

Our speakers for our May Awards Meeting and Banquet on May 16th, 2013 will be our own Bronze Medal -winning Portland Chapter members Irv and Jan Snyder.

We have picked a fun topic for them - and are hoping to stimulate some friendly competition in the future. Their topic is: "How to Take Award-Winning Photographs of Your Rhododendrons".

Between Irv and Jan, they seem to win every time they enter a rhododendron photography competition, whether it is a local, regional or national meeting where the competition is held. They started entering ARS contests in 2007 and to date, they have each won two awards at Western Regionals and each won a first prize at the International ARS Convention in Vancouver in 2011. So far, they have limited their photographic entries to rhododendrons.

Irv and Jan will provide pointers, starting with what to photograph and moving on to what time of day proves to be the best for photographing rhodies and then how to display your photo to have the best chance of winning, without 'photoshopping' it.

Irv has used an 'old' Microsoft program called 'Digital Image Suite 2006' to crop photographs; he does not use that program to alter colors. He will show us examples of how he is using that program with his photographs.

This should be a fun and lively presentation. It's a great opportunity to get useful advice and just possibly take your rhododendron photography to a competitive level as a result.

See you at the meeting!

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.

Meeting Calendar through August, 2013:

May 1-5, 2013

**ARS Annual Convention
Seattle, WA**

May 11-12, 2013

**Portland Chapter Mother's Day
Show and Plant Sale
Crystal Springs Rhododendron
Garden**

May 16, 2013

**Awards Meeting and Banquet
6:30 PM Set up
7:00 PM Supper time
Speakers: Irv and Jan Snyder
Topic: "How to Take Award-
winning Photographs of Your
Rhododendrons"**

May 21, 2013

Board Meeting

7:30 PM

Van Veen Nursery

June, 2013 - No regular meeting!

June 20, 2013

**Annual dead-heading party,
Crystal Springs Rhododendron
Garden**

5:30 PM Meet at Cool House

6:30 PM Potluck supper

July, 2013 - No meeting!

August 15, 2013

Smith Garden Summer Soiree

5:30 PM Meet at Smith Garden

6:00 PM Potluck supper

Haiku

Flashes of lightning
Rumbles of thunder; the plum--
its bloom in top form

Full moon in the east
Within a night's fog, the breaking
magnolia

From blossom to hint
of purple leaf -- in the crook
of the crooked plum

Gurgle of the rill
Wisps of wind; a symphony
of light and shadow

Early spring; the warmth
A miscellany of bats
outdoing themselves

By Peter Kendall

Show and Tell

Please remember to bring a show and tell item from your garden to the meeting. We are establishing a new tradition, sharing information about our rhododendron companion plants with our fellow members. What's in your garden? Or greenhouse, for that matter, sharing space with vireyas and other tender rhododendrons, perhaps ?

From the President's Corner

By Maria Stewart

Yes, the weather could have been fairer, but our spirits were sunny during the Early Show and Plant Sale on April 6th and 7th. Under the able leadership of Linda Rumgay, Show Coordinator, and Mike Domaschofsky, Plant Sale Coordinator, the weekend was successful and rewarding. There were hundreds of daffodils displayed by the Daffodil Society and our members' early bloomers made a colorful display also. The red blooming rhododendrons were out in force, largely due to their *R. strigillosum* genes.

There were many members who helped to make our show a success. On the Wednesday before the show, Steve Vinisky and Master Gardener Terry Crandell set up the tables. On Friday, Linda Rumgay, Maria Stewart, Ray Clack, Dave Collier and Mike Stewart worked together on setting up the show categories and assembling the display containers. Around the corner from the Exhibit Hall, Mike Domaschofsky, Bob MacArthur, Ray Clack and others set up the plant sale. Before the show weekend, the Master Gardeners potted up many rhododendrons in preparation for the sale.

On Saturday, for the show, Kathy Van Veen and Maria Stewart worked on classifying the entries; Kath Collier made great signs to direct the public to our show; Jim and Katie Averill, and Steve Hall and Caroline Enns, placed the entries on the display tables; Dick and Karen Cavender, Ron Mapes, Peter Kendall and Ray Clack served as judges or recorders. Before the show, E. White Smith did us a big favor by making new class cards to show where to place the trusses. One of the biggest jobs for both shows is acquiring the trophies, running the judging and awarding the trophies. Ann Clack faithfully takes on this responsibility each year with cheerfulness. When it was time to take down the show on Sunday, Dick and Karen Cavender, Donna Giguere, E. White Smith, Ray Clack and Mike and Maria Stewart were there to help.

For the plant sale, we thank Ellen and Danielle Domaschofsky and Betsy Soifer for being our cashiers even when the cash register was not working! Helping Mike Domaschofsky and Bob MacArthur sell the plants were Joanne Turner, Ken Lister, Ray Clack, Dennis O'Malley and Jim Herz. The weather was not exactly friendly for selling plants, but everyone persevered and sales totals were very satisfying.

In attempting to thank everyone who helped to make our show and plant sale a success, there is always the danger of leaving someone out. Please realize that I am extending our congratulations and thanks to everyone who helped, whether you were mentioned or not in this message.

Coming Events

- Wednesday, May 1st: 2013 Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden's Annual Members Meeting. Highlights include a special guided tour, catered dinner and a lecture by Don Hyatt. Members and friends of the RSBG are encouraged to register directly with the RSBG through their website: www.rhodygarden.org. Cost for the entire event is \$20.00.
- Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 2nd-5th: ARS annual Convention at the SeaTac Marriott Hotel south of Seattle. For details, see the ARS Winter *Journal*.
- Saturday and Sunday, May 11th & 12th: ARS Portland Chapter Annual Mother's Day Weekend Truss Show and Plant Sale. Show opens at noon on Saturday and 10:00 AM Sunday and goes until 5:00 PM both days. Trusses are accepted on Friday from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM and on Saturday morning from 7:00 AM to 9:45 AM. Plant sale runs from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM both days. Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, 5801 SE 28th in Portland. For more information, see: www.rhodies.org
- Saturday, May 11th: ARS Eugene Chapter Plant Sale in conjunction with the WVHPG Annual Sale at the Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene, OR 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
- Saturday, May 11th: The Hinsdale Garden is open to the public, 10:00 AM to mid-afternoon.
- Saturday, May 11th: Oregon Plant Fair, sponsored by the Avid Gardeners and the Eugene Garden Club at Alton Baker Park, Eugene, OR.
- Thursday, May 16th: ARS Portland Chapter Banquet
- Saturday and Sunday, May 18th & 19th: ARS Siuslaw Chapter May Show in Florence, OR.

Portland Chapter Board Meeting Highlights: April 23rd, 2013

By Maria Stewart

We discussed the success of the Early Show, pointing out how the set-up and take-down went well, how despite the damp weather, the plant sale grossed over \$7,000.00 and how everyone involved pitched in to help. There was no time to rest on our laurels, however, because the Mother's Day Weekend Show and Plant Sale is fast approaching. Linda Rungay, Show Chair Coordinator, still needs some recorders and Mike Domaschofsky, Plant Sale Coordinator, still needs a few more helpers at the Plant Sale. Otherwise, the planning is complete for a smooth-running weekend. Next, we discussed the May Banquet and voted to have the Chapter supply two meats, a starch and cooked vegetables. We will ask our members to bring potluck side dishes or desserts, salads or breads. Another important subject was our goal of educating the public about the control of lace bug. Reports were given by Mike Stewart, who has passed out handouts at recent talks he has given and by Steve Hall, who has placed literature on our website about the lace bug.

Highlights of the April 18, 2013 Meeting

By Tom Hoffman

We enjoyed an interesting presentation by Carson Lord, President of the OAN, Oregon Association of Nurseries, on the current state of the nursery business in Oregon. The recession and slow recovery of the economy around the world definitely have hurt the industry. One aspect many of us had not considered is the effect of the economic slow-down on the production pipeline; the interruption in growing schedules due to lack of business at all levels means that surviving companies will be playing catch-up as demand rebuilds, and in an uncertain economic environment. Carson's discussion of the economic and political aspects of the nursery business dovetails neatly with Kathy Van Veen's presentation at the March meeting, "How to reduce, reuse and recycle in the nursery business."

We had a delightful range of flowers and rhododendron companion plants at our April meeting; Peter Kendall alone brought at least two dozen blooms of rhododendrons and a Viburnum, all carefully labeled.

Anne Clack gave us the rundown on awards at the Early Show; Dick Cavender came away with the most trophies.

Anne went on to give us a concise checklist on how to select a rhododendron truss for showing: pick from the top of the bush-it's the most even group of flowers; no bug bites, disease, spots; wash foliage with water; groom the flowers, picking off bud covers/scales, miscellaneous debris with tweezers; No bugs!; name the plant; make sure the bloom size is right for the plant, right for the type, right color. And, as always, Murphy's Law applies!

Cecil and Molly Smith Garden Open Days this Spring

The Cecil and Molly Smith Garden, world-renowned for its collection of species and hybrid rhododendrons, will be open during the blooming season, Saturdays and Sundays, April 6 through May 19, 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM. This three-acre natural woodland setting also features choice trees, shrubs, wildflowers and bulbs, including Cyclamen, Trillium, Erythronium and Narcissus, which complement the over 600 rhododendrons and azaleas. Established in the early 1950's, the garden contains many rare species grown by Cecil Smith from seeds imported from China and cuttings from England, as well as hybrids he developed. The Portland Chapter of the ARS purchased the garden in 1983 and, along with the Willamette and Tualatin Valley Chapters, now manages and maintains it. A selection of plants featured in the garden is available for purchase. There is a modest entrance fee of \$3.00. Due to the sloping site, the garden is not considered handicap accessible. The garden is located at 5065 Raybell Rd., St. Paul, OR 97137, 7/10ths of a mile west of Hwy. 219 between St. Paul and Newberg. Turn west on Champoege Rd. (look for the blue Heirloom Roses sign) and continue straight on to Raybell Rd. to the garden. Parking and entrance are on the right just past the house with the garden address. For more information, call Ginny Mapes at 503-647-2896; www.smithgarden.org. This spring, don't miss this hidden gem which has been featured in *Horticulture* magazine.

It's Time to Celebrate the Blooming Season! Join Us for the May Banquet on the 16th.

By Maria Stewart

Get ready to enjoy our May Banquet with good food, conversation, speakers and award presentations. On May 16th, we will gather at All Saints Episcopal Church, our usual meeting place, to celebrate rhododendrons, our gardens, and our accomplishments this year. **We will gather at 6:30 PM and eat at 7:00 PM.** Our Chapter will provide two meats, a potato dish and cooked vegetables from a caterer for everyone. What can you do?

Please bring a side dish of your choice, such as a dessert, a salad or a bread. Coffee will be provided. Plastic silverware will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own silverware. We're looking forward to having a great time!

A Small-Growing Rhododendron for Just the Right Place In Your Garden: *R. glaucophyllum*

By Maria Stewart

This dwarf rhododendron almost begs for attention. Not only does it show off with its dainty little bells for flowers, *R. glaucophyllum* may catch your eye with the glaucous undersides of its leaves. Then, you may notice that its bark is peeling in an attractive manner. If you look closely at the corollas, you will notice a leafy green and hairy calyx on each one that reminds you of a jaunty cap. If *R. glaucophyllum* var. *glaucophyllum* pleases you, you may want to search out the white form named *R. glaucophyllum* var. *album*, or the more tubular flowers of deeper pink of *R. glaucophyllum* var. *tubiforme*. Whatever your choice, these dwarfs are fun to grow.

Here is more information about *R. glaucophyllum*:

Its native region: forest clearings and rocky slopes in eastern Nepal, India, Bhutan and southern Tibet at 9,000 to 12,000 feet

Flowers: pink, white, rosy pink or pinkish-purple

Leaves: very glaucous with dense brown scales on undersides of leaves; strongly aromatic

Bark: peeling

Height in 10 years: about three feet

Hardiness: 0 degrees F.



Photograph courtesy of Mike Stewart

Mother's Day Show and Sale

Saturday, May 11th and Sunday, May 12th,
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

*****Show Opens 12:00 PM Saturday*****

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden will be at peak bloom time. Come and join us to view the garden.

There is a Judged Flower Show in the Exhibit Hall and a big Plant Sale in the front parking lot on S.E. 28th Ave.

The garden address is: 5801 SE 28th Ave. in Portland

Questions about rhododendron care and culture? Ask the Master Gardeners who will have a table in the sales area.

To enter your own flowers in the show, please bring them to the Exhibit Hall 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Friday night or 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM Saturday.

More information: www.rhodies.org or call 503-771-8386

Presented by The Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society

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Rhododendron
Society

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CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: *Maria Stewart*
Vice President: *Brenda Ziegler*
Past President: *Mike Domaschofsky*
Secretary: *Carol McCarthy*
Treasurer: *Dick Cavender*

BOARD MEMBERS

(Through June 30, 2014) **Ann Clack,**
Ray Clack, Bud Bowen, Kathy Van
Veen, and Betsy Soifer
(Through June 30, 2013) **Caroline**
Enns, Steve Hall, Steve Hopkins,
Mike Stewart, Dave Collier

GARDEN INFO:
Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

Chair:
Bob MacArthur, 360-256-2522
Tours/Volunteering:
csrgvol@me.com
Gatehouse:
Tom Hoffman, 503-452-0975
Rose Kress, 503-654-4318
Friends:
Kathy Van Veen, 503-777-1734
Events:
Rachael Moloney, 503-975-6743

Cecil & Molly Smith Garden
Chair: **Ginny Mapes**, 503-647-2896

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