

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

Calendar

- April 5-6, 2014
Early Show & Sale
with the Daffodil
Society
Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden
- April 10, 2014
Annual Meeting
7:00 PM social time
7:30 PM meeting
Speaker: Peter Kendall
Program: One Man's Affection for Early-Blooming Species Rhododendrons & Their Companion Plants
Voting for Officers!
Rhododendron Hybrids Auction!

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



One Man's Affection for Early-Blooming Species Rhododendrons and Their Captivating Companion Plants

By Brenda Ziegler

Our speaker for the April meeting is Peter Kendall. Peter will present a slide show on rhododendron species that extend the growing season by coming into bloom earlier than you might expect, and their companion plants. An added bonus is Peter's knowledge of the botanical names of all of those plants.

Peter Kendall is a longtime member of the American Rhododendron Society and an accomplished photographer, writer and speaker. He received the Bronze Medal in 1992, which is the highest honor an A.R.S. chapter can bestow on a Chapter member.

As you can tell from the title, Peter has a great affection for plants. If you ever have the opportunity to visit his garden in person, I highly recommend taking him up on that offer. Peter's garden is perfectly landscaped - a photographer's dream! It is filled with species rhododendrons, their companion plants, and many additional trees and other plants. There are many "touches", such as stepping stones and carefully designed paths. Peter also has a new garden building that is both functional and attractive.

Peter was a landscaper in the Portland metro area for over 30 years and is now "retired", which means he has had more time to devote to perfecting his own garden and perfecting it is what he has done. Peter is amazing to watch pruning trees - with a chainsaw!

Peter is well-known as a haiku artist and has had 3 books of his poems published to date. His haiku is to be found in our Portland Chapter monthly newsletter, the Japanese Garden newsletter and the international A.R.S. Journal. In addition, Peter has had articles published in the A.R.S. Journal for over 20 years. Other publications that have carried his writing are Pacific Horticulture magazine and the Berry Garden Newsletter.

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 May, 2014:

April 5, 2014

First Smith Garden Open Day

11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

(See smithgarden.org)

April 5 & 6, 2014

Early Show & Sale with the

Daffodil Society

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

April 10, 2014

Annual Meeting !

7:00 PM social time

7:30 PM meeting

Program: Peter Kendall: One Man's Affection for Early Blooming Species Rhododendrons and Their Companion Plants
Voting for Officers!
Rhododendron Hybrids Auction!

April 22, 2014

Board Meeting

7:30 PM

Van Veen Nursery

May 10-11, 2014

Mother's Day Show and Sale

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

May 15, 2014

Awards Banquet

7:00 PM social time

7:30 PM meeting

May 20, 2014

Board Meeting

7:30 PM

Van Veen Nursery

Haiku

A winter's edge to
the morning air, yet nodding
about -- signs of spring

A day of cold rain
The lichen-studded maple
finding its element

Winter winding down
A turbulence of bushtits
in the old smoke tree

The maple drawn out
in the pattern of raindrops,
each, in pregnant pause

The fulsome rhythm
of drumming raindrops; yet one
more passing shower

Daylight savings time
This topsy, turvy weather
has flummoxed us all

By Peter Kendall

Our April Meeting:

Our April Meeting is on the 2nd Thursday, April 10th, this month. This is our Annual Meeting, when we vote for Chapter Officers.

It is also our Hybrid Rhododendron Auction; please bring plants to donate and don't forget to bring your wallets!

Nominations for Portland Chapter Officers and Board Members 2014-16

Submitted by Maria Stewart

The election will be held at our Portland Chapter Annual Meeting on April 10, 2014.

Officers:

President	Brenda Ziegler
Vice President	TBA
Past-President	Maria Stewart
Secretary	Carol McCarthy
Treasurer	Dick Cavender

Board of Directors:

Through June 30, 2015

Dave Collier
Caroline Enns
Steve Hall
Steve Hopkins
Bill Zanze

Through June 30, 2016

Bud Bowen
Ann Clack
Ray Clack
Dennis O'Malley
Kathy Van Veen

Garden Chairpersons:

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden: Bob MacArthur, Betsy Soifer, Dan McLaughlin

Cecil and Molly Smith Garden: Ginny Mapes

Portland Chapter Board Meeting Highlights, March 25, 2014

By Maria Stewart

Time is fast approaching for our Ealry Show and Plant Sale with the Daffodil Society on April 5-6, so we checked off the preparations for that event at Crystal Springs. Mike Domaschofsky has the plant sale set-up well organized and has hired the security for the two days. Brenda Ziegler has the signage, the plant coupons and the lace bug brochure well in hand. Linda Rumgay, who Chairs the Show, has organized the judges, recorders, coffee, doughnuts and will oversee the smooth running of the Show. Ann Clack, even though she is tremendously busy with another major event, has organized the trophies and the point system for the awarding of the trophies.

In other work, we discussed creating a separate annual fund for speakers to help our Chapter secure a broader range of speakers. We passed a motion to put \$2,500.00 into that Speakers' Fund each year. Also passed was a motion to form a 2-3 member committee (Continued on page 5)

From the President's Corner

By Maria Stewart

Spring brings flowers and flowers bring out lots of people to enjoy them. April and May are very busy with plant sales and events all over the Pacific Northwest. Our very own Early Show and Plant Sale starts off the month of April on the 5th and 6th. Along with the Oregon Daffodil Society, we will judge and display early-blooming rhododendron trusses and an amazing array of daffodils. Join in the fun by bringing in your flower trusses on Friday evening, April 4th, from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM, or on Saturday morning, April 5th, from 7:00 AM until 9:30 AM.

Please remember! Our Chapter meeting is on April 10th this year. This is our Annual Meeting with nominations, a program about early-blooming rhododendrons, presented by Peter Kendall, and our annual rhododendron hybrids auction--all special features of this meeting.

We have a one-day garden tour organized for you on Saturday, April 19th. There are places still available to join this tour of the Cloud Forest Garden, The Bovees Nursery, the Cavenders' Garden and the Cecil and Molly Smith Garden. See the itinerary in this newsletter.

To round out the month of April, The Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on April 25-26, with an evening welcome on the 24th. Please see: www.rhodygarden.org to register for this event featuring Douglas Justice from UBC, David Chamberlain from the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, Scotland, our very own Harold Greer, and, of course, Steve Hootman, the Director of the RSBG. Have fun celebrating rhododendrons in April!

April 25 to 26
REGISTER NOW
Early Registration \$65 / After March 1st \$75
Meals Additional
 Register at RhodyGarden.org

RHODOENDRON SPECIES FOUNDATION
50TH ANNIVERSARY

1964 TO 2014
Everyone Welcome

Speakers:
 David Chamberlain, Harold Greer, Steve Hootman, Douglas Justice
Garden & Nursery Tours, Reception & Banquet
 at the Hampton Inn & Suites &
 the Weyerhaeuser Corporate Headquarters

Gardening in the Hills Tour on Saturday, April 19th, 2014

By Maria Stewart

We're looking forward to a wonderful tour of the Cloud Forest Garden in Washington Park, and the Bovees Nursery in the SW hills of Portland, the Cavender Garden near Sherwood, and the Cecil and Molly Smith Garden near Newberg, on Saturday, April 19, 2014. There are 16 members signed up, with the possibility of a few more. We have rented a 15-passenger van which will be driven by Mike Stewart and we have a minivan available, also. The cost of the rental, including insurance, is \$12.00 per passenger. Please bring your own sack lunch. We will supply bottles of water.

Here is the itinerary:

- 8:30 AM Be ready to board the van in the Reed College parking lot across from CSRG. Please arrive there before the boarding time so we can start the tour on time.
- 9:00 AM Arrive at Cloud Forest Garden in Washington Park. Enjoy the many species rhododendrons in a woodland setting.
- 10:00 AM Leave the Cloud Forest Garden and travel to Bovees Nursery.
- 10:30 AM Arrive at Bovees Nursery. Enjoy their vireya collection and many other rare plants.
- 11:40 AM Leave the Bovees Nursery and travel to the Cavender garden.
- 12:10 PM Arrive at the Cavender Garden. Enjoy their view of the Cascades and many mature rhododendrons . We will eat our sack lunches here.
- 1:50 PM Leave Cavender's and travel to the Smith Garden.
- 2:10 PM Arrive at Smith Garden. Enjoy early-blooming rhododendrons and beautiful companion plants.
- 3:10 PM Leave the Smith Garden and return to Reed College.
- 4:10 PM Arrive back at the Reed College parking lot.

Board Meeting Highlights, cont'd:

to work with the Vice President on programs for the Chapter.

We approved spending \$1,680.00 on advertising for the Mother's Day Show and Sale, just as we had for the Early Show and Sale.

Errata: please correct Paul Rogers' telephone number in your new membership directory. His number should be: 503-642-7187.

A Species to Treasure: *Rhododendron mallotum*

By Maria Stewart

It is hard to pass by a plant of *R. mallotum* without noticing its dark green foliage accented by its woolly, brownish-red indumentum. The combination of the deep green on the top sides and the striking indumentum underneath begs you to take a second look. Like frosting on a cake, the flowers are beautiful, also. They form full trusses of crimson, scarlet or cherry-red.

Here is more about *R. mallotum*:

Classification: Section: Hymenanthes Subsection: Neriiflora. *R. mallotum* is so distinct from the rest of the Neriiflora that it is one most easily recognizable of all the species in the subsection.

It is an elepidote, meaning that its leaves do not have scales.

Leaves: very thick and stiff, obovate, retained for 1 to 3 years, dark green on top and covered with a dense, woolly cinnamon-brown indumentum on the undersides.

Flowers: usually crimson, sometimes scarlet or cherry-red in trusses of up to 20 corollas; blooms late March to early April.

Placement in your garden: needs protection from frost because of its early blooms.

Its natural origin is NE Upper Myanmar and Western Yunnan at 11,000 to 12,000 feet.

Hardiness: + 10 degrees F.

Photo courtesy of Mike Stewart



March Meeting Notes

By Tom Hoffman

Our March meeting drew a good audience, easily 40 members and guests, in anticipation of a lively discussion around Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden and its future. As it turned out, one of our speakers, Jim Francesconi, could not attend and our new Parks Horticulturalist, Bill Alley, filled in and gave us a great presentation on the Integrated Pest Management Plan he has developed for Crystal Springs. Bill was followed by Betsy Redfearn, Parks Supervisor responsible for Crystal Springs, who gave an encouraging look at the future of Crystal Springs from her perspective. We really appreciate Betsy Redfearn and Bill Alley for making time for us out of their busy schedules and answering our questions regarding the issues facing Crystal Springs.

E. White Smith gave us a brief account of his trip to Hawaii to attend the Vireya Rhododendron Conference in February. Clearly, the Vireya Conference was an excellent reason to visit Hawaii in February, given our weather here. The endangered status of vireya rhododendrons in the wild highlights the importance of the RSBG and vireya growers worldwide in preserving the species.

Event Calendar 2014 - 2015

- April 5, 2014** **First Smith Garden Open Day, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Every Saturday & Sunday through May 18th are Open Garden Days at Smith Garden, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (See smithgarden.org)**
- April 5 & 6, 2014** **Portland Chapter Early Show and Plant Sale with the Daffodil Society at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**
- April 10, 2014** **Portland Chapter Annual Meeting, Hybrid Rhododendron Auction**
- April 18-19, 2014** **Willamette Chapter Truss Show & Plant Sale, River Front Park, Salem**
- April 19, 2014** **Gardening in the Hills garden tour (see itinerary in this newsletter)**
- April 25-27, 2014** **TVARS Plant Sale at Washington County Fairgrounds, Hillsboro, OR**
- April 25-26, 2014** **RSBG 50th Anniversary Celebration in Federal Way, WA (see RhodyGarden.Org)**
- May 10 & 11, 2014** **Portland Chapter Mother's Day Weekend Show and Plant Sale at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**
- May 16 - 18, 2014** **ARS Annual Convention, Painesville (Cleveland), Ohio. See also the ARS website www.rhododendron.org and www.GreatLakesRhodies.org for more information. Early registration deadline is March 15, 2014.**
- Spring, 2015** **ARS Annual Convention, Victoria, B.C.**

Submitted by Maria Stewart

Fran Egan's Gift

By Bill Zanze

After reading Herb Spady's lovely memorial of Fran Egan in the March newsletter, it made me think about how fortunate we are to have had the opportunity to salvage some beautiful rhododendron specimens from Fran and Ed's garden. She generously donated these plants to the Cloud Forest Rhododendron Garden in Washington Park. The horticultural staff at Washington Park hopes to share the positive energy and interest in rhododendrons that the Egans gave to the Portland community. Many thanks.

Rhododendrons donated by Fran Egan to the Washington Park Cloud Forest Rhododendron Garden in 2013:

- R. balfourianum
- R. rubiginosum Desquamatum Group (large)
- R. intricatum
- R. 'Metternianum' x Exbury pseudochrysanthum (large)
- R. 'Lackamas Spice' x lacteum (large)
- R. 'Yellow Saucer' (large)
- R. 'Hansel' (large)
- R. 'Ernie Dee' (large)
- R. arborea subsection specimen (large)
- R. indumented specimen (large)
- R. Warren Berg hybrid
- R. silver-indumented specimen (large)
- R. 'Cinnamon Bear' (large)
- R. unknown lepidote specimen



Fran Egan

RHODODENDRON & DAFFODIL SHOW AND SALE

AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS RHODODENDRON GARDEN



SATURDAY, April 5th - SUNDAY, April 6th
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden will host the
Portland Chapter American Rhododendron Society's
and Oregon Daffodil Society's
Annual Show and Sale.

The garden is located at:
5801 SE 28th Avenue in Portland

\$4 admission refunded on purchase of a rhododendron

Show opens at 12:00 pm on Saturday

TO ENTER YOUR OWN FLOWERS in the show bring them to the exhibit hall
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Friday night or 7:00 AM - 9:30 AM Saturday.

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

Presented by the Portland Chapter of The American Rhododendron Society

Portland Chapter of
the American
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, 2015) **Caroline
Enns, Steve Hall, Steve Hopkins, Bill
Zanze, Dave Collier**

GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

Co--Chairs:

Bob MacArthur, 360-256-2522
Betsy Soifer, soiferb@hotmail.com

Dan McLaughlin

Tours/Volunteering:

csrgvol@me.com

Gatehouse:

Tom Hoffman, 503-452-0975

Rose Kress, 971-239-9016

Friends of Crystal Springs:

Kathy Van Veen, 503-777-1734

Events:

Rachael Moloney, 503-975-6743

Cecil & Molly Smith Garden

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

Newsletter, membership, and
ownership: The Portland Chapter is
a local Chapter of the American Rho-
dodendron Society. Combined annual
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Articles: Deadline is the chapter
meeting. Send materials to either:

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mail.com](mailto:vanveennursery@hotmail.com) or via mail to: 4201 SE
Franklin, PO Box 86424, Portland,
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newsletter editor, at: [tjhoffman56@
yahoo.com](mailto:tjhoffman56@yahoo.com), or via mail to: 4765 SW
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Delivery: Questions should be di-
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7565.

Website: www.rhodies.org; web
masters: **Steve Hall and Caroline
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