

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

## Calendar

- September 18, 2014  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 pm social time  
7:30 pm meeting  
Cuttings Exchange  
Speaker: Don Hyatt
- September 23, 2014  
Board Meeting  
7:30 pm  
Van Veen Nursery
- September 26-28, 2014  
ARS Fall Western Regional Conference.  
"Fall Into Rhodies"  
Everett, Washington

## 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



## “America’s Rhododendron Treasures - Native Rhododendrons And Azaleas”

Nationally and internationally renowned expert Don W. Hyatt will be visiting Portland and speaking on his favorite topic, America’s native azaleas and rhododendrons, at our Chapter meeting September 18, 2014. This is a special opportunity to hear an outstanding speaker who delights his audiences with his knowledge, humor and multimedia artistry, one we are sure you will not want to miss.

Mr. Hyatt is a past Director of both the American Rhododendron Society and the Azalea Society of America, and in 2012 was the recipient of the prestigious Gold Medal from the ARS. His private garden in the Washington, D.C. area has been featured on national tours and he frequently leads tour groups through the native azaleas of the Appalachian Trail. He is a botanical illustrator and watercolorist, a photographer, a hybridizer and an award-winning teacher. He is also a fine storyteller whose multimedia presentations are humorous and highly entertaining for both novice and expert. This is an evening that gardeners at any level will not want to miss.

We would like to fill our meeting hall for this program. Please assist us in providing Mr. Hyatt with a warm welcome and share this information with other ARS members and gardening friends you think would be interested in attending.

In addition to a terrific program, our September meeting features the traditional cuttings exchange. Here is an opportunity to acquire cuttings of all sorts of azaleas and rhododendrons, and share the bounty of your garden with fellow ARS members and friends.

Dennis O’Malley  
Publicity Chair  
Portland Chapter ARS

## ***Important Announcement!!***

The October Portland Chapter meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 9th**, one week earlier than usual. All Saints Episcopal Church has scheduled a meeting that conflicts with our regular meeting on the third Thursday of the month. Please mark your calendars now and we’ll see you on the second Thursday in October. Don’t miss this meeting because one of the highlights will be our species auction!

## 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 November, 2014:

**September 18, 2014**

**Regular Meeting**

**7:00 pm social time**

**7:30 pm meeting**

**Cuttings Exchange**

**Speaker: Don Hyatt**

**September 23, 2014**

**Board Meeting**

**7:30 pm, Van Veen Nursery**

**Autumn begins**

**September 26-28, 2014**

**“Fall Into Rhodies”**

**ARS Fall Western Regional  
Conference**

**Everett, Washington**

**October 9, 2014**

**Regular Meeting**

**6:45 pm social time**

**7:00 pm meeting**

**Species Auction**

**Program: TBA**

**This meeting is one week early**

**October 21, 2014**

**Board Meeting**

**7:30 pm, Van Veen Nursery**

**November 20, 2014**

**Regular Meeting**

**7:00 pm social time**

**7:30 pm meeting**

**Speaker: Harold Greer**

**Program: History of Rhododendron Species Foundation and Rhododendron Species Botanic Garden**

## Haiku

Moment to moment,  
but the measure of a moment,  
beyond measuring

Hanging on a word  
Hanging on a note -- it's all  
anticipation

Point to counterpoint  
-- not so much the destination  
as deft transition

This fleeting summer --  
the purl of crickets before  
the first chill of fall

A nearly full moon  
In a day or two, a night  
laced with meteors

By Peter Kendall

## Meeting Calendar Through November, 2014, cont'd:

**November 25, 2014**

**Board Meeting**

**7:30 pm, Van Veen Nursery**

## Portland Chapter Board Meeting Highlights: August 26, 2014

By Carol McCarthy

A warm summer evening compelled us to hold the August board meeting outside in the courtyard at the Van Veen Nursery. The light breeze flooded us in the sweet scent of Clerodendrum and, as in palaces of old, a four-legged feline stood guard as our sergeant at arms.

We welcomed Brenda Ziegler as our new board President and Dennis O'Malley as our new Vice-President. Other familiar faces filled the remaining board positions.

Dan McLaughlin presented materials describing several projects that were approved for the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. We decided to purchase four light-weight ladders, for a total of about \$1,100.00. These 'wobble-free' three-legged ladders will make it easier and safer for the volunteers to do their work. We also approved spending \$9,600.00 to hire arborists to thin and deadwood plants in the fall. That will open the canopy and help fight lace bug and mildew. Finally, we approved a project to improve the stone wall at the duck-viewing area at the north end of the long bridge. The cost for that work is yet to be determined.

We are close to finalizing the Policies of the Board. A final draft was circulated to give the board members a month to review the Policies prior to voting on them next month.

And did I mention the peanut-butter brownies?

Fall is just around the corner!

Photograph of *Parrotia persica*, Persian Ironwood, courtesy of Mike Stewart.



## From The President's Corner

By Brenda Ziegler

Welcome! Wow - summer has gone by quickly! But you sure can't tell with the wonderful hot weather we are still having ( at least today when I am writing this! ) It will be nice to see all of you at our September meeting. It has been a great summer for seeing some of our "Rhodie" friends, between the party at Mike and Maria Stewart's, the Smith Garden soiree, and our party at Oxbow Pointe, we feel we haven't lost touch with everyone.

We have a lot to look forward to this coming year, the meetings, speakers and friendships. As you read over this newsletter, you will be informed of a lot of happenings. If you have any questions, or if you are willing to serve on a committee, please call and I will be glad to talk with you. My 'phone number is 503.314.5834.

Just a couple of notices - we are kicking off the **September meeting** with a nationally renowned speaker, Don Hyatt. We are also having a "potluck" for treats - so, please bring your favorite treat to share. We have found that the Rhododendron Society has so many creative cooks that it is hard not to take advantage of an opportunity to have a potluck.

The **October meeting** will be earlier in the month, the *second* Thursday, October 9th. We will start with our social time at 6:45 pm the meeting at 7:00 pm, and speakers at 7:15 pm. You are always invited to join members across the street at Wine and Deli as early as 5:00 pm for a meal or a beverage.

Also, if anyone has updates on people in the Chapter, please let us know. For updates on Mike Domaschofsky, please go to [www.caringbridge.org](http://www.caringbridge.org) and sign in as a guest. You may then type in Mike's name and will be able to see updates. He has had an "exciting" summer - and, we all want to wish him the best as he recovers. I hope Mike will be at the September meeting.

And, last - but not least, please remember to invite friends and family. We always like to meet and greet new faces.

See you Thursday, September 18th!

## Smith Garden Report 2014 -- Thank You All Who Volunteer

By Ginny Mapes

**Photo Thank You:** Received many new photos of the Smith Garden from members, thank you Brenda Ziegler, Don Patrick, Roger Lintault, Herb Spady and Tom Gressler, to be used in the slideshow creations and on the website. I also received many historical photos from Herb Spady, Jay Lunn and Al Smith..

**Smith Garden History Slideshow:** I have given three ARS Chapter presentations and have requests for more. Al and Sid Smith helped with the presentations. Projects: creating a Cecil and Molly Smith Garden book for the Chapter. This would be available also online for viewing. Also, working on a 'continuation' slideshow, showing the Smith Garden as the ARS Chapters maintain and extend the work of Cecil and Molly Smith.

**Grant's Getaways:** Supplied Grant McOmie with Smith Garden background and historical photos for Grant's Getaways television segment on rhododendron gardens in Oregon.

**Website:** Updated the website and answered many calls from viewers with questions about the garden. Each year, we are getting more inquiries--including directions for lost drivers. Wish: we need to purchase better signage for the future.

**Cecil and Molly Smith Garden flyer:** Created a new Smith Garden trifold color flyer to be given out at shows, Home and Garden Expo, Crystal Springs and to groups to encourage attendance.

**Publicity:** Roger Lintault's publicity was seen in many local papers and publications. It has brought in many new people to the garden. We created a "gift entry pass" paid for by a garden club. It was part of a basket drawing at an auction.

**Plant Identification:** Herb Spady has cleaned and re-labeled all the rhododendron plant ID rings; formerly only the plant number was on the ID ring. Being able to see specific rhododendron names makes for faster and easier identification when visitors inquire about the plants.

**Smith Garden Rhododendron Lists by Plant Name, Plant Bed, Plant Number, Trees, Ground Covers and Companion Plants:** This huge undertaking has been years of work for Herb Spady. As Herb is re-labeling the rhododendrons, he is also updating the beds. So the Master 2015 Plant Bed Plan will be more up-to-date and accurate. Thank you Herb for your dedication and all the years of work. Over the years, rhodies have been lost and replaced and in the past, a few of the choice, rare plants went missing, having been taken from the garden by unknown persons.

**Plant Sale Area:** We need to consider having a covered area for the plant sales, not just a tent with a mop holding up the top. As I was reading through Cecil's notes, one of his suggestions was to have a really nice area to sell the plants.

**Events:** Created a Summer Soiree Smith Garden Party slideshow with an invitation at the end to "save the date" for the Fall Work Party.

**Summer Soiree:** Was a success with perfect weather for friends gathering.



Photograph courtesy of Linda Eggiman.

Here's a photograph taken by Linda Eggiman at the Abkhazi Garden in Victoria, B.C. It resembles the Smith Garden and Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden in its subject, a mature rhododendron, pruned to expose the main trunks, and underplanted with perennials. For more information on the Abkhazi Garden, visit the website, [www.tourismvictoria.com](http://www.tourismvictoria.com) or search under Abkhazi Garden online.

Abkhazi Garden  
1964 Fairfield Road  
Victoria, B.C. V8S 1H4  
Canada

## A New Hybrid to Appreciate: Rhododendron 'Invitation's Gift'

By Maria Stewart

It is always fun to be introduced to the new hybrids created by Jim Barlup. He has given us many beautiful rhododendrons to enjoy. In the last two years, Mike and I have been watching one in particular with handsome, dark green foliage. This spring, we saw the flowers, too, and they are like frosting on a cake. Their clear medium yellow corollas perfectly compliment the lush foliage.

Here is more about R. 'Invitation's Gift':

It is an elepidote. It has no scales on its leaves.

The cross is: ('Invitation' X {(R. yakushimanum x R. lacteum ) x 'Powder Snow'})

Flowers: medium clear yellow with a small red flare at the base of the corolla; the medium size truss is full and displays the corollas nicely.

Leaves: Dark green and of good substance; there is a very thin layer of indumentum covering the undersides of the leaves.

Structure: a fully-clothed plant that is wider than tall at the age of about 5 years.

Height and width in 10 years: probably about 4 feet x 4 feet

Placement in the garden: filtered sunlight

Hardiness: Unknown; however, R. 'Powder Snow' has survived our hard freezes down to 7 degrees F.

Hybridized by Jim Barlup. Photograph courtesy of Jim Barlup.



Portland Chapter of  
the American  
Rhododendron  
Society

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CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: **Brenda Ziegler**  
Vice President: **Dennis O'Malley**  
Past President: **Maria Stewart**  
Secretary: **Carol McCarthy**  
Treasurer: **Dick Cavender**

BOARD MEMBERS

(Through June 30, 2015) **Caroline  
Enns, Steve Hall, Steve Hopkins, Bill  
Zanze, Dave Collier**  
(Through June 30, 2016) **Bud Bowen,  
Ann Clack, Ray Clack, Mike Stew-  
art, Kathy Van Veen**

GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

Co--Chairs:

**Bob MacArthur**, 360-256-2522  
**Betsy Soifer**, [soiferb@hotmail.com](mailto:soiferb@hotmail.com)

**Dan McLaughlin**

Tours/Volunteering:

[csrgvol@me.com](mailto: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  
dues to both the national society and  
local chapter are \$40. Membership  
benefits include nine or more newslet-  
ters, discounts, and activities.

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