

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

Calendar

- **June, 2015**
No regular meeting
- **June, 2015**
No Board meeting
- **June 20, 2015**
Almost Summer Solstice Potluck, Mike and Maria Stewart's Home and Nursery 1:00 to 4:00 PM Sandy, Oregon

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



You Are Invited to an *Almost Summer Solstice Potluck!*

Mark Saturday, June 20th, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, on your calendars to celebrate the second annual solstice party at Mike and Maria Stewart's home and nursery. **Portland Chapter members and members of all the Chapters in District 4 are invited.** Gathering time is 1:00 PM followed by meal time at 1:30 PM. We will supply the meat entrée, beverages, plates, cups and utensils. Please bring your favorite salad, vegetable or dessert to round out the meal.

You are welcome to walk through our greenhouses, nursery and garden after the meal. The rhododendrons and companion plants are labeled and we enjoy talking about our plants, too. Or you can relax with friends and conversation instead. Our home and Dover Nursery is located 5 miles southeast of the town of Sandy. We have plenty of indoor space for eating, so if the weather is rainy, don't let that keep you from joining in the fun. We are looking forward to having you as our guests on June 20th! ***Please RSVP to 503-668-3522, so we can plan food and seating.***

Directions to Mike and Maria's home, 42125 SE Kleinsmith Road, Sandy, OR:

From the last signal light in the city of Sandy, take U.S. 26 east out of town, for 2 miles.

Exit right onto Firwood Road. The landmark at this exit is a gas station/store combination called Shorty's. Go 3/4 of a mile on Firwood Rd, and then turn right at the 4-way intersection at the top of the hill. There is a Dover Nursery sign on a utility pole pointing right at this intersection. There is also a Dover Community Church sign pointing right at this intersection. This right turn will keep you on Firwood Road.

Go 2 1/2 miles further on Firwood Road until you get to a 4-way stop at the intersection of Wildcat Mountain Drive and Firwood Road. Cross over Wildcat Mtn. Drive and take the middle road which is Kleinsmith Road. It goes slightly to the left and down the hill. There is also a sign pointing to the Dover Nursery at this intersection. Our home and nursery is 8/10 of a mile more on Kleinsmith Road, on the left side, across from the Dover Community Church. **503-668-3522**

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 September, 2015:

June, 2015

No regular meeting

June, 2015

No Board meeting

June 20th, 2015

***Almost* Summer Solstice Potluck
Mike and Maria Stewart's Home,
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

Sandy, Oregon

July, 2015

No regular meeting

July, 2015

No Board meeting

August, 2015

No regular meeting

August, 2015

No Board meeting

August 20th, 2015

Smith Garden Summer Soiree

Set up 5:30 PM

Dinner 6:00 PM

Smith Garden House

St. Paul, OR

September 17th, 2015

Regular meeting

Social time 7:00 PM

Meeting 7:30 PM

Speaker: TBA

Cuttings Exchange

September 22nd, 2015

Board meeting

7:00 PM

Van Veen Nursery

Haiku

Coastal haze
The empty lighthouse offshore
takes another wave

The Spring sea
flashes many suns
below the cape

Every which way
the sandflies hop at ebb tide
leaving not a trace

Barnacles
on the dead crab's carapace--
high and dry

'Chickadee,
chickadee' in the willows
Summer picnic

Darkening skies
The woodpile cover
begins to flap

Winter winds
Above the dunes, a gull
tacks seaward

By Peter Kendall

President's Message for June

Brenda Ziegler

Thank you for coming to the May meeting, our last official meeting of the "season". We had our Awards banquet and ceremony. It was a very special meeting to me as I had the honor of presenting the Bronze Award and Medal to Steve Hall. He is a very deserving man who was surprised and appreciative. We value all he has done and continues to do for our Chapter. I also want to recognize Merilee Mannen for her beautiful calligraphy on the award. She is so talented. She has been our award calligrapher for MANY years! Thank you Merilee.

In addition, I presented two President's Awards. I awarded them to Bob MacArthur and Betsy Soifer, two of our hard-working garden chairs, board members, and show and sale workers.

Thank you again to Mike Domaschofsky for arranging the main courses and some side dishes for the banquet. Thank you to the entire Chapter for bringing delicious dishes.

The official elections were held for board members. Congratulations to Bill Zanze, Steve Hopkins, Steve Hall, Caroline Enns and Dave Collier. Thank you for your service.

Ann Clack announced the winners from the Mother's Day show. What an impressive group. Irv and Jan Snyder returned home from Florida just in time to groom their beautiful rhodies for the show and take home their share of trophies! They won the Most Points! Two other trophies that I would like to mention are: Best of Show - Species won by Peter Kendall and Best of Show - Hybrids won by Ann and Ray Clack. Congratulations to all.

I also want to thank two of our great Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden volunteers for coming to the meeting. They are Cheryl and Dixon Custer. They jumped right in and helped with setting up for the meeting. I hope you took the time to meet them. Our volunteers at CSRG are an excellent source for new Chapter members!

Special recognition also goes to Steve Krasik for "rescuing" us with his technology know-how and his computer accessories. This is not the first time he has rescued us. Thank you!

Our "almost Solstice" get-together will be on June 20th at Mike and Maria Stewart's. There will be more information in this newsletter as well as on our website as it gets closer to the date.

The dates are all confirmed for next year's meetings. They will be the third Thursday of each month and will be held at our "normal" location, All Saints Episcopal Church, 4033 SE Woodstock, Portland, OR. Each meeting features a program about rhododendrons or related topics. Several of the meetings also have a special "event". Here is a quick recap of those special "events":

September: Cuttings Exchange

October: Species Auction

December: Christmas Party including slides from our members

Continued on next page

You are invited to the Annual Smith Garden Summer Soiree!**When: August 20th, 2015****Where: Cecil and Molly Smith Garden House, 5055 Raybell Road NE, St. Paul, OR****Time: Set-up 5:30, dinner at 6:00 PM. Please bring your favorite potluck snack, appetizer, main dish, salad or dessert to share. Bring your own drinks and chairs.****Members from the Portland, Tualatin Valley and Willamette Chapters of the ARS and their friends are welcome.**

Directions:

From Portland:

I-5 south to Exit 278 -Donald/Ehlen Rd. exit.

Right at the exit onto Ehlen Rd for 7 miles (Ehlen becomes Yerger then McKay.)

Turn right onto Hwy 219 for 3/4 mile - look for blue Heirloom Roses sign.

Turn left onto Champoeg Road NE.

Go straight ahead on Raybell Road at the 'Y' (Champoeg Road NE bears right.)

Garden is at 5055 Raybell Road NE about 1/4 mile on right.

Parking and entrance are just past the house.

From the south via I-5:

I-5 north to Exit 278 - Donald/Ehlen road exit.

Turn left onto Ehlen Road, pass under I-5 and continue on Ehlen Road for 7 miles (Ehlen becomes Yerger then McKay.)

Turn right onto Hwy 219 for 3/4 mile - look for blue Heirloom Roses sign.

Turn left onto Champoeg Road

Go straight ahead onto Raybell Road at the 'Y' (Champoeg Road NE bears to the right.)

Garden is at 5055 Raybell Road NE, about 1/4 mile on right.

Parking and entrance are just past the house.

From 99W:

South on 99W to Newberg.

Turn left (south) at light onto Springbrook Road.

Turn left at the intersection with Hwy 219.

Drive south for 3 miles, over the Willamette River bridge.

Watch for a blue Heirloom Roses sign.

Turn right onto Champoeg Road; go straight ahead onto Raybell road at the 'Y' (Champoeg Road NE bears right.) Garden is at 5055 Raybell Road NE, about 1/4 mile on right. Parking and entrance are just past the house.

For Fabulous Foliage: *R. campanulatum* ssp. *aeruginosum*

By Maria Stewart

During our recent journey with members of the RSF to experience species rhododendrons in northern India. We had the pleasure of seeing hillsides of *R. campanulatum* ssp. *aeruginosum* at an elevation of about 12,000 feet. In such an environment, this species was very compact, reaching only about 18 inches tall and growing more wide than tall. We were already familiar with two selected forms of *R. aeruginosum* at home, so to see large numbers of this species in the wild was fascinating.

Here is more about *R. aeruginosum*:

Classification: subsection Campanulata, subspecies *aeruginosum* (Some consider it to be a stand-alone species and not a subspecies of *R. campanulatum*.)

Distribution in the wild: Kashmir, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan at 9,000 to 14,000 feet.

Foliage: striking blue-green leaves, when new, with smooth cinnamon indumentum below

Flowers: white or pink and it blooms in early May

Structure: compact-growing, usually wider than tall, to 4 feet in 10 years

Hardiness: -5 degrees F.

Siting in your garden: some light shade is fine.

R. campanulatum ssp. *aeruginosum*: photographer unknown.



Portland Chapter of
the American
Rhododendron
Society

PO Box 86424,
Portland, OR 97286-0424
ADDRESS SERVICE
REQUESTED

Phone: 503-777-1734 for
meeting cancellations due
to weather

Web: www.rhodies.org

Post Master: Time sensitive
mail; please deliver before
June 15, 2015

U.S. Postal Service statement of
Ownership, Management, and Cir-
culation (as per 39 U.S.C. 3685)

Publication Title: *Rhododendron News*
Total number of copies mailed per is-
sue: **225**

Owner: **Portland Chapter of the
American Rhododendron Society**,
PO Box 86424, Portland, OR 97286-
0424

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, 2017) **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
Dan McLaughlin,
dvmclau@comcast.net

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: **Herb Spady**, 503-874-1445

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.

Rhododendron News is mailed by first
class postage (permit #1134, Port-
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Articles: Deadline is the chapter
meeting. Send materials to either:
Kathy Van Veen, veteran Proofread-
er, at: (email) [vanveennursery@ hot-
mail.com](mailto:vanveennursery@hotmail.com) or via mail to: 4201 SE
Franklin, PO Box 86424, Portland,
Oregon 97286, or to Tom Hoffman,
newsletter editor, at: [tjhoffman56@
yahoo.com](mailto:tjhoffman56@yahoo.com), or via mail to: 4765 SW
38th Place, Portland, OR 97221

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

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

Membershi p Updates: John
Wel sh, Membershi p Chair, e-
mai l: jlwelsh26@yahoo.com;
503-663-6987