

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

Calendar

March 17th, 2016

Regular Meeting

Social Time 7:00 PM

Meeting 7:30 PM

Speaker: Kathy Lintault

Topic: "Romantic Gardens of Portugal and Northern Italy"

March 19th, 2016

Spring Work Party at
Smith Garden

Start: 8:00 - 9:00 AM

End: Early Afternoon

Lunch Provided

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 March Program:

By Dennis O'Malley

The Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will hold its March meeting on March 17th, 2016 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Our program will be "Romantic Gardens of Portugal and Northern Italy" with speaker Kathy Lintault.

Kathy Lintault is a retired art librarian who has transferred her love of art into the garden. As many of you know, Kathy and her husband Roger maintain a 3.5-acre garden outside McMinnville, focusing on rhododendrons, camellias, Japanese maples and xeriscaped perennial beds. Kathy and Roger have visited and photographed gardens throughout North America, Europe, and Asia, finding inspiration and refreshing ideas for their gardening endeavors and ours. Kathy's presentation will focus on classical and romantic Portuguese gardens, as well as the extravagant gardens of the lake district of Italy, followed by gardens from Verona to Venice.

This is a program that will appeal to members and nonmembers alike. Please join us and invite all your traveling and gardening friends.

Free. Sponsored by the Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

Meeting place: All Saints Episcopal Church, 4033 S.E. Woodstock Blvd., Portland, Oregon.

PS: March 17th is St. Patrick's Day!

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, 2016:

March 17th, 2016

Regular Meeting

Social time 7:00 PM

Meeting 7:30 PM

Speaker: Kathy Lintault

Topic: Garden Touring

March 19th, 2016

Spring Work Party at Smith Garden

Start: 8:30 AM

End: Early afternoon

Lunch Provided

March 22nd, 2016

Board Meeting

7:00 PM

Van Veen Nursery

April 2nd - 3rd, 2016

Early Show and Sale with The Daffodil Society

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

April 21st, 2016

Annual Meeting

Social Time 7:00 PM

Meeting 7:30 PM

Annual Meeting Business

Hybrid Rhododendron Auction!

April 26th, 2016

Board Meeting

7:00 PM

Van Veen Nursery

Haiku

By Peter Kendall

That lingering leaf
atop a winter's maple
has seen better days

Lashing winter winds
Contrails bent this way and that
A mountain's repose

The broken down fern
by the weather wrought fence has
once more broken free

Meeting Calendar, continued:

May 7th and 8th, 2016

**Mothers' Day Show and Plant Sale
Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**

May 19th, 2016

**Portland Chapter Annual Awards
Banquet**

6:30 PM Set-up

7:00 PM Dinner

May 23rd, 2016

Board Meeting

7:00 PM

Van Veen Nursery

President's Message for March

By Brenda Ziegler

Happy Early Spring! It sure is beautiful outdoors! (perhaps a little wet...but we all know this is what keeps The Pacific Northwest green and fabulous!) It is amazing to watch the trees and flowers get their new growth, buds, and blooms! Looking off of our back deck last weekend, our Camellia is starting to bloom - always one pink flower blooms before the others, as if it is testing the weather. Driving up our driveway there are Rhodies starting to bloom too.

Thank you Volunteers! We are so fortunate to have many amazing volunteers. I know I say this to you all the time, however, I also tell other groups about you too! **I Appreciate You so Much!** The work, the details, the follow-through...I am impressed!

The Portland Home and Garden Show was last weekend, February 25th - 27th. Our Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society was invited to put a "Display Garden" in again this year. We had many volunteers setting up the garden, working the show, and tearing it down. THANK YOU all so much! One of the most common compliments was that the plants all had names on them - the next most common was that almost all of them were in bloom! We missed Dick Cavender coordinating this event, however, Mike and Maria Stewart and THE TEAM did an excellent job.

A little reminder - even when we have volunteers, we can truly always use more. If we ever forget to ask you to volunteer, please let us know!

Garden work days have started at both Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden and Smith Garden. The organized volunteer days are: **Wednesday mornings at CSRG and Monday mornings at Smith Garden.** Last week I received two wonderful emails telling me about Smith Garden's Monday. I can't wait to go there on **March 19th for the SMITH GARDEN "Work Party"**. Anne, Tom H, Herb and Tom G are putting together their "wish lists" right now. I am sure there is something on the list that each of you can do!

Our **EARLY SHOW AND SALE** is coming right up. It will be April 2nd and 3rd. In addition to the Daffodil Society continuing to be involved, we will also have artists from Cracked Pots participating throughout the front parking lot and garden on SATURDAY ONLY. We are NOT charging an entrance fee into Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden either day. **Our goal** is for the public to be "invited" and also to sell plants and art AND have a successful TRUSS show. We are currently organizing this event and need a lot of Chapter members and guests to help. Please contact Linda Rungay or Mike Domaschofsky if you are available. If there is a specific "job" you would like, please let them know. You are also welcome to email me at bzgift@aol.com and I will find a fun activity for you.

Please set aside these dates: Thursday, March 17th, 7:30 PM our Chapter Meeting; Saturday, March 19th, at 8:00 - 9:00 AM start time for the Smith Garden Work Party. There IS A FREE LUNCH for volunteers! April 2nd and 3rd: EARLY SHOW AND SALE 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. See you all soon.

Cecil and Molly Smith Garden Open Days

The Cecil and Molly Smith Garden will be open Saturdays and Sundays, April 2nd through May 22nd, 2016, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM on those days. The very modest entry fee is still only \$3.00. Because the Garden is on a steep hillside with gravel paths, it is not handicapped-accessible. For further information, please see the Garden website at: <http://www.smithgarden.org> or contact Dick Cavender at redsrhodies.com. Garden chair is Herb Spady, rhodophile@alum.wustl.edu.

The Smith Garden is world-renowned for its collection of species and hybrid rhododendrons. In addition to over 600 rhododendrons and azaleas, the three acre natural woodland setting also features choice trees, shrubs, wildflowers and bulbs, with large patches of Cyclamen, robust Trillium, Arisaema, Erythronium and Narcissus.

The garden is located at 5055 Raybell Road, St. Paul, Oregon 97137, 7/10 of a mile west of Highway 219 between St. Paul and Newberg. Turn west onto Champoeg Road (look for the blue Heirloom Roses sign) and continue straight on the Raybell Road to the Garden. Parking and Garden entrance are just past the house with the Garden address.

From Roger Lintault, Willamette and Portland Chapters, ARS

Highlights of Our February Meeting

By Tom Hoffman

Our February meeting featured speaker Truls Jensen, co-owner of Wild Ginger Farm in Beaver Creek, Oregon, sharing his knowledge about companion plants for rhododendrons, with a particular focus on mountain plants and how to grow them in our gardens here. Borrowing from rock gardening techniques, Truls showed us how sand beds, screes, berms and other sorts of raised beds, with the proper lean soil mix, can meet the needs of mountain plants for fast drainage, cool root-run and well-aerated soil, while still fitting in with the rest of a garden. Trough gardens are another option and a good showplace for smaller plants, which might otherwise be lost in among the larger plants. The one constant is the lean soil mix Truls has developed; instead of organic material, Truls uses up to 60% 1/4-10 crushed rock and builder's sand to provide the environment the roots of mountain plants require. As rhody growers, we use peat moss, fir bark and a modest amount of perlite and pumice for our rhododendrons, relying on organic materials to break up our native silt loam / clay soils and improve drainage. Could we use 1/4-10 crushed rock and builder's sand under the rhododendrons in our gardens? Would that help prevent root rots?

Truls brought plants from Wild Ginger Farm to sell at the meeting and they proved to be a fine complement to our Companion Plant Auction; together they presented too many temptations! Our regular auctioneer was travelling in China on February 18th, so Steve Hopkins and Dennis O'Malley stepped up and ran a great auction for us. Add to that the "Sweets for the Sweet," our Valentine's Day dessert potluck, and the result was a really enjoyable meeting.

A Statuesque Beauty: R. 'Muncaster Mist'

By Maria Stewart

When Spring arrives, there is a rhododendron that draws me nearer to admire its beauty both for its structure and its flowers. Even without the flowers, the dark green leaves and well-appointed branches of R. 'Muncaster Mist' draw your attention. In ample sunlight, this plant grows compactly, however in shade, it stretches out in all directions to grow into a stately focal point in your garden. Then, when it blooms, its light lavender blue flowers are like frosting on a cake. The foliage and flowers are a perfect complement to each other.

Here is more about R. 'Muncaster Mist':

It is an elepidote, which means that it does not have scales on the undersides of its leaves.

The cross is (R. campanulatum x R. floribundum) The handsome foliage of R. campanulatum and the fine branch structure of R. floribundum explain why the hybrid resulting from them looks so good.

Leaves: Oblanceolate in shape; dark green on top; creamy-fawn colored indumentum on the bottom; about 5 inches long and 2 inches wide.

Flowers: light lavender blue corollas with darker purple markings inside; conical trusses; blooms between mid-April and the first of May.

Height in 10 years: 4 to 5 feet, depending on the amount of sun it gets.

Hardiness: -5 degrees F.

Placement in your garden: filtered sun to full sun.

Photo of R. 'Muncaster Mist' courtesy of Jeannie and Calvin Parsons:



RHODODENDRON & DAFFODIL SHOW AND SALE

AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS RHODODENDRON GARDEN



SATURDAY, April 2nd - SUNDAY, April 3rd
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

will host the

**Portland Chapter American Rhododendron Society's and Daffodil Society's
Annual Show and Sale**

The garden is located at:

5801 SE 28th Avenue in Portland

Free Admission

Sale starts at 9:00 AM on Saturday and Sunday
Show opens at 12:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday

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.



Garnish Your Garden!

This year, Saturday only, artists from Crackedpots will be there to sell garden art made from upcycled materials. Reuse is at the heart of what we do. Come check them out from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM April 2nd.
crackedpots.org

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

Presented by the Portland Chapter of The American Rhododendron Society

Coming Events

April 21st, 2016 : Hybrid Rhododendron Auction

A great opportunity to purchase some choice plants!! Bring your check books! Members and Non-Members are WELCOME!

We will also need plants! Bring those extras that are taking up space in your shadehouse or greenhouse. All plants are welcome, but the focus will be on hybrid Rhododendrons. Remember these auctions are what pays for our hall rent, newsletter printing and mailing, and other Chapter activities. Your auctioneer would really appreciate if you would put 'pants', bags, on all plants as that helps keep both the auctioneer and the floor clean. Dick Cavender

April 27th - 30th, 2017: Eureka Chapter will host American Rhododendron Society 2017 ARS Spring Convention "Rhododendrons in the Redwoods"

Mark your calendar now for April 27th-30th, 2017 for the American Rhododendron Society's annual Spring Convention. The Eureka Chapter will host the convention, which will bring visitors to world-famous Humboldt County, California from across the nation, Canada, and around the world. For many, seeing the Redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) is high on the must-see 'bucket list', as is the rugged North Coast of California with its *Rhododendron macrophyllum* and Stagecoach Hill, the home of the Smith/Mossman expedition *Rhododendron occidentale* azaleas.

The Red Lion, <http://www.redlion.com/eureka>, will be our host hotel with a wonderful rate of \$99 per night per room for the duration of the convention with that rate being extended for visitors coming before, or staying after, the convention. The rate will include airport shuttle and breakfast. In addition to the hotel's restaurant there are many restaurants within easy walking distance.

The new Sequoia Conference Center, three blocks from the Red Lion Hotel, will be our meeting and banqueting venue. Visitors can walk to the conference center or drive, as there is plenty of off-street parking.

The Convention Committee is working on getting world-class speakers and having tours to highlight the natural beauty of Eureka and Humboldt County as well as public gardens, private gardens and nurseries.

We hope to welcome all of our Rhodo friends to our piece of heaven with the world.

For more information call or email June Walsh, ph. 707-443-0604 or rhodyhostel@suddenlink.net or on the web at: <http://www.eurekarhody.org>. June Walsh

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, 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

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Bob MacArthur, 360-256-2522

ltcmacret1@aol.com

Dan McLaughlin,
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Gatehouse:

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Rose Kress, 971-239-9016

Friends of Crystal Springs:

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Rachael Moloney, 503-975-6743

Cecil & Molly Smith Garden
Chair: **Herb Spady**, 503-874-1445

Newsletter, membership, and
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meeting. Send materials to either:
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