

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

## Calendar

June, 2016

No Chapter meeting

No Board meeting

June 11 & 12, 2016

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Garden "Work" Party**

Bob & Barbara MacArthur's Home

June 18, 2016

*Almost* Summer Solstice Potluck

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

**Mike & Maria Stewart's Home**

## 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



## A Garden "Work" Party

For many years, **Bob MacArthur** used his own garden, storing plants for Mother's Day and Early Show plant sales. He put the Chapter's work and Crystal Springs Garden before his own. As a Chapter, we have a chance to thank Bob for his donation of time and garden space.

So, bring your tools for weeding and as a Chapter we can help Bob spiff up his own garden. This is a great way to thank him!!

**When: Saturday, June 11th, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM and Sunday, June 12th, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Come for both days or come for a few hours!

**Where: Bob & Barbara MacArthur's home  
11117 SE 19th St., Vancouver, WA 98664  
tel. (360) 256-2522**

**Who: All Chapter members and friends are welcome.**

**Cost: Just your time! We will provide hot dogs and ham-burgers, so RSVP by June 10th with the day/time you will be there.**

**Bring your own tools if possible. We will have a few on site.**

**RSVP: Mike Domaschofsky or Brenda Ziegler  
Mike: (503) 954-2174;  
domo2603@aol.com  
Brenda: (503) 314-5834;  
execugifts@live.com**

## 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, 2016:

**June, 2016**

**No Chapter meeting**

**June, 2016**

**No Board meeting**

**June 11 & 12, 2016**

**Garden "Work" Party, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Saturday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Sunday**

**Bob & Barbara MacArthur's Home, Vancouver, WA**

**June 18, 2016**

**Almost Summer Solstice Potluck 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**Mike and Maria Stewart's Home and Nursery**

**June, July, August, 2016**

**Watering, watering, watering**

**July, 2016**

**No Chapter meeting**

**July, 2016**

**No Board meeting**

**August, 2016**

**No Chapter meeting**

**August, 2016**

**No Board meeting**

**August 18, 2016**

**Smith Garden Soiree Potluck Supper**

**5:30 PM set-up;**

**6:00 PM supper time**

**Smith Garden House  
St. Paul, Oregon**

## Haiku

After the showers  
The pervasive inflections  
of a setting sun

Gusts of wind; the rain  
The old lantern gathering  
its cherry blossoms

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

By Peter Kendall

Photograph of *R. trichostomum* courtesy Jens Birck.



## President's Message for June

**By Brenda Ziegler**

Thank you for attending our May meeting, the last official meeting of the "season". We held our traditional Awards banquet and ceremony. May is my favorite meeting as we get to recognize people. This year, the Bronze Award was presented to Jim and Katy Averill and also to Tom Hoffman. Jim and Katy told me they were honored and that one of the positives to the Rhododendron Society is that the members are nice, genuinely nice people. Tom Hoffman, our editor of this newsletter, was also quite surprised. I always look forward to reading what he writes - and this story is well-deserved. Our recipients were very deserving of this honor. We value all they have done and continue to do for our Chapter. I also want to recognize and thank Merilee Mannen for her beautiful calligraphy on the awards. She is so talented and kind. She has been our award calligrapher for MANY years! Thank you Merilee.

One of the greatest things about our Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is the number and quality of volunteers we have. All members who were at the May meeting as well as additional persons who are devoted volunteers received a special gift from me. I had the artistic help of Merilee on drawing a special rhododendron and then had it made into gold lapel pins for each volunteer in attendance. The pins say: "The American Rhododendron Society" and "Valued Volunteer". For these past two years I have been contemplating what I could do for each volunteer. I wanted something memorable because each person is memorable and special to me. For those of you who were not in attendance due to a variety of reasons, I have pins for you and would love to give them to you.

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

The official elections were held for officers and board members. Congratulations to: Dennis O'Malley, President; Caroline Enns, Vice President; Dick Cavender, Treasurer; Carol McCarthy, Secretary; Brenda Ziegler, Past President. Board Members with terms through 2017: Bill Zanze, Steve Hopkins, Steve Hall, Dave Collier, and Maria Stewart. Board Members with terms through 2018: Ann Clack, Ray Clack, Kathy Van Veen, Mike Stewart, and Joanne Turner. Thank you for your service.

Joanne Turner "stood in for" Ann Clack and announced the winners from the Mother's Day show. Congratulations to all! Thank you, Joanne.

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 our meetings and special "events":

September: Cuttings Exchange

October: Species Auction; Halloween Potluck for Tricks or Treats!

November: Regular meeting

December: Christmas Party including slides from our members; Holiday Potluck

January: Regular meeting

Continued on next page

Highlights of our May Meeting

## By Tom Hoffman

First of all, my sincere thanks to the Portland Chapter for awarding me the Bronze Medal. That was completely unexpected and something I will treasure. Thank you!

Brenda has written a good account of both the election of new officers and Board members and the great food we enjoyed at our banquet; we have some really good cooks among us, providing delicious temptations. The dining hall at All Saints Episcopal Church was decorated with flowers on the tables, a cheerful tradition.

Brenda gave out gold lapel pins she had designed, to recognize our volunteers in attendance at the meeting. The pins read: "The American Rhododendron Society" and "Valued Volunteer". Thanks, Brenda!

Ken Lister, one of our stalwart volunteers, working on the plant sales, our teacher when it comes to potting up rhododendrons and general care of rhododendrons, gave a presentation titled "Other Gardens". Ken has invested over 50 years working in horticulture, starting when he was 15. His career has included a stint at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Edinburgh, Scotland, as well as 37 years at Klupenger Nurseries and to our good fortune, now Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. Ken gave us a slide show of some of his favorite gardens and talked about his experiences with those "Other Gardens" over his long career. Ken's presentation was most interesting; fun, educational, definitely a personal view of those gardens and their history and significance.

While we will not have a regular Chapter meeting again until September 15th, there are lots of opportunities to stay in touch and get together for some garden work:

Mondays: Work Day at Smith Garden, 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Wednesdays: Work Day at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

June 11 -12: Work "Party" at the MacArthur's

June 18th: *Almost* Solstice Potluck at the Stewart's

August 18th: Smith Garden Soiree

For more options, please contact the other ARS Chapters in our area to see what they are doing.

Continued from Page 3:

February: Companion Plant Auction; Sweets for the Sweet Potluck for Treats

March: Regular Meeting

April: Annual Meeting and Hybrid Auction

May: Awards Banquet, Dinner Potluck

June *through* August: Potlucks, Parties; no meetings

August: Smith Garden Soiree!

Thank you all for being so supportive of me through these past two years while I served as President. It has been an honor.

*See you all soon. Thanks for a great year!*

## A Dwarf Rhododendron With An Intriguing Name: *R. trichostomum*

By Maria Stewart

Sometimes it is fun to discover the meaning of the name for a rhododendron species. In this case, *R. trichostomum* translates to: “with a hairy mouth”. If you examine the tiny throats of the flowers of this species, you will find that the throats are shaggy. With this knowledge in hand, you will be able to distinguish *R. trichostomum* from other dwarfs, even if the colors of the flowers of some forms are white and others are pink or rose. Apart from identifying the species, however, experiencing the dense daphne-like flowers perched on the ends of twiggy branches with narrow, dark green leaves offering a contrast, is the best encounter to have.

Here is more information about *R. trichostomum*:

Classification: Subgenus *Rhododendron*; Section *Pogonanthum*; Subsection *Lanata*; Species *trichostomum*. This is a variable species that includes the *Ledoides* Group. Some introductions could be natural hybrids with *R. primuliflorum*. It is a lepidote (has scales.)

Distribution in the wild: North and Northwest, Yunnan, Southwest and Central Sichuan;  
Found at 10,000 to 13,000 feet in forest, scrub or open slopes, with habitats that are often surprisingly dry.

Flowers: white, pink or rose; daphne-like trusses with up to 16 corollas per truss; free-flowering.

Foliage: dark green, narrow leaves with recurved margins; aromatic; scaly on top and light brown with overlapping scales on the undersides.

Structure: upright growing and rangy in shade, but wide and compact in sun; 3 feet in 10 years.

Hardiness: -5 degrees F.

Siting in your garden: likes well-drained soil and can be a rock garden plant; likes some sun.

Photo of *R. trichostomum*

courtesy of Mike Stewart.



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

Mark Saturday, June 18th, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM on your calendars to celebrate the third 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

*Thanks to a very generous donation from Debra and Jeff Cheyne, a special presentation will take place at 3:00 PM. They have arranged for a Birds of Prey demonstration as part of the day's activities! This is a unique opportunity to experience raptors out in the open air. Please feel free to bring family members if you wish.*

You are also welcome to walk through our nursery and garden after the meal. The rhododendrons and companion plants are labeled and we enjoy talking about our plants, too. 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 18th! **Please RSVP to 503-668-3522, so we can plan food and seating.**

Directions to Mike and Maria's home, 42125 SE Kleinsmith Rd., 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 Road 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 Mt. 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 tenths of a mile more on Kleinsmith Rd., on the left side, across from the Dover Community Church. **503-668-3522.** Photos courtesy "Wings over Wine".



## Coming Events

### Western Regional Rhododendron Conference

#### Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Newport, Oregon

#### September 30th - October 2nd, 2016

An event is coming that you won't want to miss. It is *For the Love of Rhododendrons...and Other Good Friends*, the 34th Western Regional Rhododendron Conference in Newport, Oregon on the beautiful Oregon Coast. The dates to remember are September 30th through October 2nd. The Oregon Chapters of District 4 welcome you to a fun time at the Best Western Agate Beach Inn, a great place to meet.

The conference will feature outstanding speakers from across North America and the world. This event emphasizes learning about rhododendrons and companion plants for your garden. Additionally, this year it will be held in conjunction with the annual Fall Board meeting of the American Rhododendron Society, which will bring attendees from all over North America.

On the schedule for Friday evening, after the welcome and dinner, is a program which highlights rhododendrons growing around the world.

Saturday morning brings seminars that give many choices of educational subjects, from propagation of rhododendrons, to selection of rhododendrons, and a multitude of subjects on plants you might want to use as companions to make your garden sparkle. Saturday night will feature Don Hyatt, an outstanding and well-known speaker from Virginia, plus a sight and sound program called *Rhododendrons, Up Close and Personal*, which will make you look at rhododendrons in a different way. This promises to be a delightful and entertaining way to end the evening.

Sunday morning will bring more educational and fun seminars which then end with a continuation of Friday night's theme of seeing and learning about rhododendrons growing around the world. You would not want to miss these last programs, which complete our world tour of *For the Love of Rhododendrons...and Other Good Friends...*

Portland Chapter of  
the American  
Rhododendron  
Society

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

Web: [www.rhodies.org](http://www.rhodies.org)

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#### CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

#### BOARD MEMBERS

(Through June 30, 2017) **Caroline  
Enns, Steve Hall, Steve Hopkins, Bill  
Zanze, Dave Collier, Maria Stewart**  
(Through June 30, 2018), **Ann Clack,  
Ray Clack, Mike Stewart, Kathy  
Van Veen, Joanne Turner**

#### GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

#### Co--Chairs:

**Bob MacArthur**, 360-256-2522

**ltcmacret1@aol.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.

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Articles: Deadline is the chapter  
meeting. Send materials to either:

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mail.com** or via mail to: 4201 SE  
Franklin, PO Box 86424, Portland,  
Oregon 97286, or to Tom Hoffman,  
newsletter editor, at: **tjhoffman56@  
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38th Place, Portland, OR 97221

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7565.

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masters: **Steve Hall and Caroline  
Enns**

Membershi p Updates: John  
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