

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

## Calendar

- **September 20, 2012**  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM social time  
7:30 PM meeting  
Cutting exchange  
Program: Introduction  
to Miniature Conifers  
Speaker: Larry  
Stanley
- **September 26, 2012**  
Board Meeting  
6:30 PM  
Ainsworth House,  
Oregon City
- **October 18, 2012**  
Regular Meeting  
Species Auction  
7:00 PM social time  
7:30 PM meeting  
Program: TBA

## 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



## An Introduction to Miniature Conifers

We are fortunate to have Larry Stanley, of Stanley and Sons Nursery, Inc., Boring, Oregon, for our September speaker. Larry has spent 36 years growing and propagating conifers and Japanese maples. Larry is a past president of the American Conifer Society and holds lifetime achievement awards from that society. Collecting plants has taken Mr. Stanley to Europe twice as well as to New Zealand. His connections with 'Broomers' all over the world helps in his knowledge of plants to grow. Larry will be speaking about the definition, uses, and care of miniature conifers. Plants will be exhibited as examples and discussed. Plants will also be available for purchase at the meeting. In addition, Larry has also provided a handout which will be available.



Larry Stanley

*Abies koreana* 'Kohout's Ice-breaker'

Photo: Larry Stanley



## 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, 2012:

**September 20, 2012**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**7:00 PM social time**  
**7:30 PM meeting**  
**Cutting exchange**  
**Program: Introduction to Miniature Conifers**  
**Speaker: Larry Stanley**

**September 26, 2012**  
**Board Meeting**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Ainsworth House,**  
**Oregon City**

**October 18, 2012**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Rhododendron species auction**  
**Halloween potluck treats and costumes**  
**7:00 PM social time**  
**7:30 PM meeting**  
**Program: TBA**

**October 23, 2012**  
**Board Meeting**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Van Veen Nursery**

**November 15, 2012**  
**Regular meeting**  
**7:00 PM social time**  
**7:30 PM meeting**  
**Program: TBA**

**November 20, 2012**  
**Board Meeting**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Van Veen Nursery**

## Haiku

Birch leaves on the wing  
 -- a gentle intimation  
 of tomorrow's rain

From the meadow grass  
 to a vine maple relic  
 summer's last junco

Swatches of color  
 in the wind whipped trees -- here today  
 gone tomorrow

By Peter Kendall

## Bonsai Society of Portland Hosts Pacific NW Bonsai Clubs Convention September 14th-16th in Vancouver, Washington

This year's convention features the theme "Imagine and Create".

The convention will be held in the Vancouver, Washington, Hilton Hotel.

Admission to the bonsai exhibit and marketplace is \$5.00.

For more information, please contact:

Ron Cascisa  
 (503) 777-0135  
 roncascisa@comcast.net

Or,

[www.portlandbonsai.org](http://www.portlandbonsai.org)

## From the President's Corner: Following in Rather Large Footsteps

By Maria Stewart

With humility, I accept the honor of serving as your President. As I write this first message to you, I am remembering the energy, passion and fortitude that Mike Domaschofsky gave to the Portland Chapter throughout the four years that he served as Vice-President and President before me. He initiated new activities and invigorated traditional activities, all the while having fun doing it. Mike will continue to be my mentor as Past President and we will all continue to benefit from his experience as he organizes and runs our plant sales. Thank you, Mike, for giving me rather large footsteps to follow.

Brenda Ziegler will be another asset to our Chapter as she serves as your Vice-President and program chair for two years. Her energy has already been evident as a board member working closely with our Events Coordinator at Crystal Springs. Brenda will continue that collaboration along with acquiring speakers for our meetings.

I was reminded, today at our Finance Committee Meeting, of the many tasks that Dick Cavender performs for the Chapter as our Treasurer. He is the Chairman on the Finance Committee. He constantly searches for the best way to manage our credit card usage, our reporting procedures and our bank accounts. He makes reports to the Board on a monthly basis. Dick is another member on whom we rely tremendously.

Carol McCarthy is our faithful board secretary. She sorts out the sometimes tortuous pathways that our Board discussions might take. She writes clear and detailed reports that give great accountings of our Board meetings.

Bob MacArthur and Donna Giguere are the Co-Chairs of Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. Both of them are dedicated to the Garden and we are fortunate that they work so well with the City of Portland and with the volunteers who maintain the Garden.

Often behind the scenes, but performing several important duties, is Kathy Van Veen. Sometimes, we wonder how she has time to run her nursery! She writes checks for Chapter expenses, is a member of the Board, is the Chairperson for the Friends of Crystal Springs, keeps the Chapter archives, is unofficially the Chapter historian, and on occasion is a member of a Board committee.

There are so many members to thank for their service to the Chapter that this page is only a start. As we launch into a new year of programs and activities, I hope we will once again experience the strength and energy that our members give so willingly.

## Greetings from the Dutch Chapter of the ARS

By Kathy Van Veen

Amelita Doornick and 3 members of the ARS Dutch Chapter visited the Pacific NW in 2009 and met with some of our members. This year Amelita and 2 of those same members went to Chuxiong, China for the 50th birthday of the International Camellia Society and sent us an account of their adventures: "In February, Rinus, Lou and I went to the Camellia congress in China. Golly they made a real happening of this congress near Kunming. Everywhere we were received as guests of honor. All the minorities in this region were present wherever we went; they greeted us with song and dance. For the occasion, the typical minority dresses were all newly embroidered with camellias." Amelita reports that there were 10 tour buses with police escort and ambulance. "There was a wonderful camellia park, that was designed specially for this congress. We went once on a tour to see a 600-year-old camellia tree. The road to this mountain where the camellia tree was growing was specially designed for the occasion."

## **A Rhododendron For All Seasons: R. 'Blaney's Blue'**

**By Maria Stewart**

We are fortunate to have a plant like R. 'Blaney's Blue' because it is so versatile. You can place it in your garden to be a stand-alone specimen as shown in the photo below. Or, you can mass it in groups to make a striking color statement. Or, you can make a hedge of 'Blaney's Blue'. Whether it's winter when the leaves have a bronze tone, or summer when the buds completely cover the plant, or spring when the buds explode into a huge mass of blue-purple, this rhododendron is one you will treasure in your garden. Thank you, Dr. L.T. Blaney and Dr. Robert Ticknor, for giving us R. 'Blaney's Blue.'

Here is more information about this choice rhododendron:

It is a lepidote.

The parents are: R. *augustinii* 'Towercourt' X 'Blue Diamond'

It was hybridized by Dr. L.T. Blaney of OSU and then extensively tested by Dr. Robert Ticknor before it was introduced in 1978.

Medium blue-purple flowers will cover the plant and it buds at a young age.

The leaves are forest green in summer and change to a bronzy tone in winter.

Depending on where it is placed, it will grow vigorously to 4 or 5 feet in 10 years.



Photograph courtesy of Harold Greer.

## **August 21, 2012 Board Meeting Highlights**

### **By Maria Stewart**

We met outdoors at Van Veen Nursery by the magnificent Clerodendron tree. It was a lovely night, with the perfume of the Clerodendron occasionally wafting through the air. Too bad that we had to discuss some serious subjects like getting liability insurance for our board members and officers. Our next board meeting will be held at the Ainsworth House in Oregon City, where we will be treated to a tour of the gardens by our new board member, Bud Bowen.

## **Generous Gift Given to Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**

### **By Mike Stewart**

This past month, I received a call from Mike Darcy, offering the Portland Chapter the opportunity to have, free of charge, one ton of fertilizer from the Black Gold Company in Aurora, Oregon. With thanks to Mike for making the arrangements, I hauled it to Crystal Springs where Bob MacArthur and Mike Domaschofsky helped unload and store it for future use. I cannot thank Mike Darcy and the Black Gold Company enough for thinking of us. This donation of fertilizer saves the Chapter a good sum of money and will be put to good use fertilizing the rhododendrons at Crystal Springs. Come enjoy the fruits of this donation this spring when the rhododendrons at Crystal Springs bloom.

## **Update on Eleanor Stubbs**

### **By Mike and Maria Stewart**

Dear Portland Chapter Members,

We have some sad news about Eleanor Stubbs' health. She has leukemia and is currently at Providence Hospital for a few more days. Then she will go to Holiday Park Hospital. After that stay, she will return to Calaroga Terrace where she will go into hospice care.

We talked to her today ( 8/31/2012 ) and she would really appreciate more calls. Her 'phone number at Providence is 503-413-1386.

## **Smith Garden Soiree Cancelled**

Due to the very hot weather in mid-August, the Smith Garden Soiree was cancelled this year. Originally scheduled for August 16th, the Smith Garden Soiree by tradition takes the place of an August Chapter meeting on the third Thursday of the month. Unfortunately, this year the weather turned out to be too hot and sunny on that date.

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

Post Master: Time sensitive  
mail; please deliver before  
September 13, 2012

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: *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, 2013) **Caroline**  
**Enns, Steve Hall, Steve Hopkins,**  
**Mike Stewart, Dave Collier**

GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

Chairs:

**Bob MacArthur**, 360-256-2522, and  
**Donna Giguere**, 503-777-1177

Tours/Volunteering:

**csrgvol@me.com**

Gatehouse:

**Rose Kress**, 503-654-4318

Friends:

**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.

*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** or via mail to: 4201 SE  
Franklin, PO Box 86424, Portland,  
Oregon 97286, or to Tom Hoffman,  
newsletter editor, at: **l.hemingway@**  
**comcast.net**, 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  
master: **Steve Kaminski**

Membershi p Updates: John  
Welsh, Membershi p Chair, e-  
mail: **j.l.welsh26@yahoo.com**;  
503-663-6987