

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

## Calendar

**August 2018**  
**No Regular Meeting**

**August 16, 2018**  
**Smith Garden Soiree'**  
**Setup 5:30 PM**  
**Dinner 6:00 PM**

**August 26, 2018**  
**Oxbow Pointe Summer**  
**Party**  
**Starts at 1:00 PM**

## 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



## President's Message for August

**By Caroline Enns**

The 'dog days' of August: so named by the Romans because they associated the hottest, most humid season with Sirius, the 'Dog Star'. A good friend of mine, a navigator, told me that Sirius is the brightest star in the earth's night sky, located just below a line extending left from Orion's belt.

August is perhaps best known among gardeners as the languid month when nothing much is going on, other than the hauling of hoses for those of us living in the Pacific NW.

Although the Chapter officially takes the summer off, there has been plenty of activity. David Anderson has agreed to be head of publicity for our chapter. Maria Stewart is the new keeper of the chapter archives and library. Dennis O'Malley has agreed to take on the significant task of leading the Spring Sales. After many years of service in the critical position on the nominations committee, Mike Stewart is stepping down and Brenda Ziegler, John Stephens and Steve Hall will continue his work. Mike Stewart, Karen Cavender and Linda Rumgay will be on the Awards Committee. And of course, there are new officers and members of the Board of Directors, elected at the annual meeting in April:

President:	Caroline Enns
Vice President:	Steve McCormick
Past President:	Dennis O'Malley
Newly-elected Director:	David Anderson

We welcome them all—and remember, there are many positions still open and opportunities to participate.

Plans for the coming year:

Plans for the 2020 Convention: Mike Stewart along with Harold Greer is moving forward in the extensive planning needed for the ARS Convention, now less than two years away.

Vice President Steve McCormick has been hard at work planning the programs for the coming year. He now has firm commitments for each of our monthly meetings with the exception of May. The list of speakers is posted on the Chapter's website ([http://www.rhodies.org/chapter/pdx\\_chapter.htm#chaporg](http://www.rhodies.org/chapter/pdx_chapter.htm#chaporg)) with the titles and descriptions for the first three months.

( Continued on page 3 )

## 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.

## Chapter Calendar through October, 2018:

**August, 2018**

**No regular meeting**

**August 16, 2018**

**Smith Garden Soiree**

**Set up 5:30 PM**

**Potluck Dinner 6:00 PM**

**August 26, 2018**

**Oxbow Pointe Summer Party**

**Starts at 1:00 PM**

**September 20, 2018**

**Regular meeting**

**Social time 7:00 PM**

**Meeting 7:30 PM**

**Program: "What's in a Name II"**

**Speaker: Bruce Palmer**

**\*\*\*\*\*and our\*\*\*\*\***

**Annual Cuttings Exchange**

**September 22, 2018**

**Autumn Begins**

**October 13, 2018**

**Smith Garden**

**Fall Work Day**

**Start 8:00 AM, Rain or Shine**

**Lunch provided!**

**October 18, 2018**

**Regular meeting**

**Social time 7:00 PM**

**Program: "Deerly Missed, a Pan-gram Garden"**

**Speaker: Dave Eckerdt**

**\*\*\*\*\*and our Annual\*\*\*\*\***

**Rhododendron Species Auction**

## Haiku

Raindrops on the pond  
Ever expanding circles  
striking one another

Raindrops on the pond  
From random dapples to  
random design

Yesterday's maple  
having lost its tangle has  
regained its structure

The seeming stillness  
of the bonsai, yet moving  
nonetheless

Giving direction  
to the growing branches —  
the warmth of the sun

Peter Kendall

## Don't miss the Perseid Meteor Shower!

**August 12 - 13, 2018 ( Night )**

**Midnight to dawn**

**No moonlight to interfere, and an  
opportunity to see Orion and Sirius  
the Dog Days Dog Star rising around  
4:00 AM.**

**Smith Garden Soiree:**

Please join us Thursday, August 16th to celebrate the beauty of the Smith Garden. Bring your favorite pot luck dish and join in an enjoyable meal with members of the Portland Chapter, the Tualatin Valley Chapter and the Willamette Chapter. Set-up is at 5:30 PM and dinner is at 6:00 PM. See you there!

**Directions:*****From Portland:***

Take I-5 south to Exit 278 (Donald exit)  
Go West (right) at exit, onto Ehlen Road for 7 miles to end of road at Hwy 219.  
Turn right onto Hwy 219 for 3/4 mile and look for blue Heirloom Roses sign.  
Follow Heirloom Roses sign, going left onto Champoeg Road.  
Go straight onto Raybell Road at dairy barn where Champoeg Road turns to the right.  
Smith Garden is at 5055 Raybell Road NE, about 1/2 mile on right side .  
Parking and entrance are just past the house with the garden address.

***From 99W:***

Go north or south on 99W to Newberg.  
Turn south onto Hwy 219 just north of downtown Newberg.  
Go south for 3 miles to the Willamette River bridge.  
At less than 1/2 mile past the river, look for blue Heirloom Roses sign.  
Follow Heirloom Roses sign right onto Champoeg Road,  
Go straight onto Raybell Road where Champoeg Road turns to the right.  
Garden is at 5055 Raybell Road NE, about 1/2 mile on right.  
Parking and entrance are just past the house with the garden address.

**President's Message for August**

( Continued )

Plans for August: Party Time! *Two* Potlucks this month:

**Smith Garden Soiree'**, Thursday, August 16th. Setup starts at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6:00 PM . For those of you who only see the garden during the work-parties or when volunteering at the open-garden days during the spring, here is the chance to see it in another Season, and to come away with inspirations to implement in your own garden. Members from the Tualatin Valley and Willamette Chapters will also be there, providing the chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

**Oxbow Pointe Summer Party**, Sunday August 26th, hosted by Steve Hopkins and Brenda Ziegler. Starts at 1:00 PM. Directions on the flyer included elsewhere in this newsletter, and posted on the Chapter's website under Upcoming Events: (<http://www.rhodies.org/index.htm-eventlist>).

Certififiable that a good time will be had by all!

*To Our ARS Portland Chapter Members and Other Plant Lovers*

# *You Are Invited!!*



OXBOW POINTE

## *Summer Party 2018*

**When: \*\*Sunday, August 26th, 2018\*\***

**Time:** Party starts at noon; 1 P.M. Potluck

**Potluck:** Main course of salmon will be provided  
Bring your favorite side dish to share

**Beverages:** We will provide soda pop and water  
Bring your own alcohol

**Utensils:** We will provide plasticware, plates, etc.

**Where:** *Steve and Brenda's Home*

4450 SE Oxbow Parkway, Gresham, OR 97080

(We do not receive any mail at this address)

**Please refer to [mapquest.com](http://mapquest.com) or GPS**

If lost, Call 503-663-1500

**Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> to 503.314.5834**

or by email to [bzgift@aol.com](mailto:bzgift@aol.com) or [stevehopkins@prodigy.net](mailto:stevehopkins@prodigy.net)

If you prefer mail: 1490 NE Village Street, Fairview, OR 97024

Well-behaved children accompanied by responsible adults are welcome.

**Please come to enjoy the Food, the View,  
the Garden, and the Fellowship**

***Garden Tour available after lunch***



*We hope you can join us!*





Photographs courtesy of Mike Stewart.  
Locations: in the Himalaya, where these species are native.

Above: *R. arboreum* trunk

Right: *R. barbatum* trunk

Can we grow such grand Rhododendrons here?  
Probably. My hunch is, one person, one lifetime, isn't enough, but with a society and public and private partnerships, and all the complications of our modern lives for and against, there I think we have a chance. When you consider just our Chapter's involvement with the Rhododendron Species Foundation, Crystal Springs and Smith Garden, you can see the outline of what is needed locally. How can we insure the continuity or perpetuity of our gardens?  
(Ed.)

## R. pseudochrysanthum and a Hybrid That Retains Its Attributes

By Maria Stewart

When nature gives us a rhododendron species like *R. pseudochrysanthum* with its persistent silvery tomentum on the tops of its leaves, its attractive compact form and its neatly arranged foliage, hybridizers can only hope that some of those attributes will carry over to their hybrids. That hope was realized when Warren Berg created *R. 'Golfer'*. Furthermore, both the species and the hybrid have trusses worthy of being displayed on these fine foliage plants. Here is more about both of them:

Classification of *R. pseudochrysanthum*: *Subgenus*: Hymenanthes *Section*: Hymenanthes *Subsection*:  
Maculifera

About the name: Translates into “false *R. chrysanthum*”. Incidentally, *R. chrysanthum* is the former name of the current *R. aureum* which further confuses the meaning of this nickname.

Parentage of *R. 'Golfer'*: ***R. yakushmanum* x *R. pseudochrysanthum***

Both of these parents are in the *Subgenus* Hymenanthes and *Section* Hymenanthes but *R. yakushmanum* is in the *Subsection* Pontica and *R. pseudochrysanthum* is in the *Subsection* Maculifera as noted above. Both are elepidotes which means that they do not have scales.

Distribution in the wild: *R. pseudochrysanthum*: Taiwan at 6,000 to 13,000 feet  
*R. yakushmanum*: Yakushima Island, Japan.

Flowers: *R. pseudochrysanthum* has light pink or white, usually spotted, corollas held in loose trusses of 9 to 15.

*R. yakushmanum* has pink, fading to white over time, corollas held in full trusses of 10 or more.

*R. 'Golfer'* has light pink, faintly spotted, corollas held in dome-shaped trusses of 13.

Leaves: *R. pseudochrysanthum*'s new growth has silvery tomentum that persists through the summer. After the tomentum disappears, the thick and rigid leaves are glossy and dark green in maturity with indumentum only along the midrib on the undersides.

*R. yakushmanum*'s new growth is furry and gradually matures to glossy, dark green leaves which have a thick covering of beige to tan indumentum on the undersides.

*R. 'Golfer'*'s new growth has silvery tomentum that persists through the summer. Mature leaves are glossy and dark green with a layer of light beige indumentum on the undersides.

Structure: *R. pseudochrysanthum* grows compactly to about 3 feet in 10 years.

*R. yakushmanum*, depending on the form, grows compactly to about 4 feet in 10 years.

*R. 'Golfer'* grows to about 4 feet in 10 years.

Hardiness: *R. pseudochrysanthum* is hardy to about -5 degrees F.

*R. yakushmanum* is hardy to about -25 degrees F.

*R. 'Golfer'* is hardy to about -15 degrees F.

Siting in your garden: *R. pseudochrysanthum* and *R. 'Golfer'* need partial shade/sun.



R. pseudochrysanthum. Photographer: Stuart Imrie



R. pseudochrysanthum. Photographer: Mike Stewart.



R. 'Golfer'. Photographer: Mike Stewart

Portland Chapter of  
the American  
Rhododendron  
Society

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CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: *Caroline Enns*  
Vice President: *Steve McCormick*  
Past President: *Dennis O'Malley*  
Secretary: *Steve Hopkins*  
Treasurer: *Dick Cavender*

BOARD MEMBERS

**((Through June 30, 2019) ,  
David Anderson, Steve Hall, Steve  
McCormick, John Stephens, Maria  
Stewart  
(Through June 30, 2020)**

Ann Clack, Ray Clack, Betsy Soifer,  
Mike Stewart, Joanne Turner

GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden

Chair:

**Dan McLaughlin,**  
[dvmclau@comcast.net](mailto:dvmclau@comcast.net)  
Tours/Volunteering:  
[csrgvol@gmail.com](mailto:csrgvol@gmail.com)  
Gatehouse:

**Stephanie Kress, 503-267-7509**  
Friends of Crystal Springs:

**Dan McLaughlin,**  
[dvmclau@comcast.net](mailto:dvmclau@comcast.net)

Events:

**Rachael Moloney, 503-975-6743**

Cecil & Molly Smith Garden

Chair: Open

Newsletter, membership, and  
ownership: The Portland Chapter is  
a local Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Combined annual  
dues to both the national society and  
local chapter are \$40. Membership  
benefits include nine or more newslet-  
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ing. Send materials to newsletter edi-  
tor, at: [tjhoffman56@yahoo.com](mailto:tjhoffman56@yahoo.com), or  
via mail to: 4765 SW 38th Place,  
Portland, OR 97221

Delivery: Questions should be di-  
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masters: **Steve Hall and Caroline  
Enns**

Membershi p Updates: John  
Stephens & Stephen McCor-  
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