

Portland Chapter, American Rhododendron Society

## Calendar

**March 19, 2020**  
**Regular meeting**  
**First day of Spring, as well!**

**March 21, 2020**  
**Spring Work Day at the Smith Garden**

**April 4th & 5th, 2020**  
**Early Show & Sale**  
**Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**

## 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



## MARCH 2020 PROGRAM

Another hero of the rhododendron world is gearing up to deliver our next guest presentation. Dr. Glen Jamieson will share with us his "Highlights of the Danish/Swedish/German 2018 ARS Tours."

Dr. Jamieson was a member of the U.S. contingent to the 2018 ARS Spring International Convention "North America meets Europe" in Bremen, Germany. He elected to travel to Denmark and Sweden with the group that chose that optional pre-tour, leading up to the convention start. Glen will share some sights and insights from the beautiful garden destinations and rhododendrons in bloom from this unique shared convention with the German Rhododendron Society (Deutsche Rhododendron Gesellschaft).

Glen achieved his B.Sc. in Agriculture from McGill University and a M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Zoology from UBC. He worked for Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) as a research scientist for 31 years, both in the Maritimes (5 yrs.) and at the Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo, BC (26 yrs.). He specialized in studying our northwest friend, *Metacarcinus magister*, a.k.a. Dungeness Crab. He retired from DFO in 2008.

Glen joined the ARS in 1995 and became editor of the Journal of the American Rhododendron Society (JARS) in 2009. Glen has explored for plants in Yunnan, China (2005); Borneo (2008); Ecuador and Peru (five trips between 2008-2014) and in Sikkim, India (2015). He has travelled extensively elsewhere as well and, with his wife Dorothy, lives and maintains a garden in Parksville that is periodically on his local chapter's (Mount Arrowsmith; MARS) garden tour, where he also has an extensive vireya collection, possibly the largest in Canada. He is currently in his third presidency of the MARS Chapter and was a member of the MARS committee which organized the Fall 2019 ARS convention, held in Parksville, BC. He is also the editor of the new online journal he created called "Rhododendrons International", which can be accessed on the ARS website.

We'll get together with Glen and other Chapter members at the Woodstock Wine & Deli, starting at 5pm. Doors open at All Saints at 6:30. We'll get our business done and get Glen on the mic to give us another sure-to-be satisfying feature talk on our favorite Genus, Rhododendron.

Steve McCormick

## 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 May, 2020

**March 19, 2020**

**Regular meeting**

**Social time 7:00 pm**

**Meeting 7:30 pm**

**Speaker: Glen Jamieson, Editor,  
JARS**

**Program: "Highlights of the Danish/Swedish/German 2018 Tours"**

**March 21, 2020**

**Spring Work Day,  
Smith Garden**

**April 4-5, 2020**

**Early Show & Sale  
Crystal Springs Rhododendron  
Garden**

**April 16, 2020**

**Annual Business Meeting  
Hybrid Rhododendron Auction  
Speaker: Ella May Wulff  
Program: "Heathers for Year-  
round Color"**

**April 29 - May 3, 2020**

**ARS 75th Anniversary  
Spring Convention**

**May 9th & 10th, 2020**

**Mother's Day Show and Sale  
Crystal Springs Rhododendron  
Garden**

**May 21, 2020**

**Regular meeting**

**Speaker: Jack Olson**

**Program: "Rhododendron Trivia"**

## Haiku

From a low-slung sun  
a shaft of light, painting  
a light-starved forest

The naked maple  
momentarily sparkling  
from sun-kissed raindrops

The ragged hydrangea  
and only yesterday —  
a standard of fall

The pine tree next door,  
among the many about —  
absolutely still

A break in the clouds  
sun, shadow brilliantly describe  
the distant mountain

By Peter Kendall



Glen Jamieson, PhD. Our speaker for the March meeting.

## The Rite of Spring

The premier of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* performed by Ballet Russe in Paris caused a riot. Pina Bausch's version had peasants arising from a stage of dirt. Mixed with water, chaos ensues. Both versions end in a young maiden dancing herself to death as a sacrifice to spring.

Here in Portland, the rite of spring takes on a different character. The *Camellia japonica* has supplanted the *Camellia sasanqua* in bloom. The witch-hazels are filling the air with their perfume. Buds on the trees are swelling. *Rhododendron moulpinense*, *Seta*, and *Christmas Cheer* are all in bloom in our garden.

The eruption has started, and I am not talking about St. Helens. As of mid-February, the winter has been mild. Every time I go out, something else is poking through the earth. Daffodils, iris, *Galanthus*, *Dodecatheon*, *Trilliums*, and tulips are emerging, much to my delight and the delight of the slugs. Our garden is filling with blossoms and a promise of more. The dissonance of Stravinsky's music is missing, but at least no maidens are harmed in the making of Portland's version of the Rite of Spring.

Caroline Enns

## From the Membership Committee:

Thanks for your renewals! We had a 94% carry-over of members for 2019 to our 75th Anniversary year of 2020.

There is always room for new recruits, so please remember to invite friends to the meetings.

That's the best way to stimulate new interest from gardeners, whether they're experienced and in love with the genus *Rhododendron* yet or not.

Let's keep the ARS alive and well!

John Stephens & Steve McCormick  
ARS Portland Chapter Membership Co-Chairs

Urgent Request for Help received as we were going to press:

Help needed Saturday, March 7th, unloading 2 truckloads of rhodies for sale at the Early Show & Sale, at Crystal Springs . If you can help, please call Dennis O'Malley 503-243-4899 or [dennis@mathlaw.net](mailto:dennis@mathlaw.net). Please include a phone number where you can be reached late Saturday afternoon so the drivers can call you with a more accurate arrival time.

Help will also be needed for repotting those rhodies on Wednesday, March 11th.

Thank you for your assistance!

Dennis O'Malley

## FEBRUARY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

“The gang’s all here!” Whether it was the bright sunny skies, the promise of an excellent talk planned for the evening, or the chapter’s own local plant-hunters anxious to take advantage of both our speaker’s species for sale as well as the companion plants up for auction, the turnout on February 19 was exceptional. A big acknowledgement is accorded to so many of the group who made it to the meeting despite having to drive home in the dark and push through physical challenges to get there.

As expected, Bob Zimmermann gave a bright, eloquent, informative talk on the Arunachal Pradesh region of northeast India, with its long-disputed border on China. As his wife, Beth, reminded us at the conclusion of the meeting, Bob’s expertise in speaking skills were honed by his 25 years preaching as an ordained Lutheran minister (as is she!). His presentation of the botanical aspects of his plant-hunting expedition, just two years ago in 2017, was excellent as we expected. Bob’s companions on that trip included Andy Navage from Bloedel Reserve and Arlen Hill from Keeping it Green nursery in Stanwood. The bonus for those present was Bob sharing so many aspects, as promised, of the cultural, political and spiritual aspects of the inhabitants. The omnipresent leeches were on the agenda of the typically harsh conditions, which warranted “leech socks” along with consumption of the local beast (the takin) and the highly prized smoked squirrel. Yum.

When the door prize raffle tickets were pulled, Peter Kendall’s number was first, so he snagged the *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* ‘Red Candy,’ donated by Mike & Maria Stewart, which the rest of us all coveted. The annual companion plant auction, ably conducted by veteran Dick Cavender, drew some fierce competition and raised a few bucks for the Chapter: Steve Hopkins scored all three of the precious Japanese maples – ‘Shindeshojo’ ‘Ever Red’ and ‘Enril.’ Jay Lunn won the bid on the hotly contested ‘fuchsii’ and Dan McLaughlin paid top price for a special cyclamen.

Thanks again to Bob and Beth, who hit Portland after a three-night warmup at the Willamette, Siuslaw and Eugene chapters with this talk. And thanks to all members who shared their sweet treats with the group. The pre-gathering at the Woodstock Deli was relaxed and festive ahead of the busy curriculum on the schedule. We balanced our early departure in January with a meeting that went a little late—and it was time so well spent!

Steve McCormick

Images from Bob Zimmermann's Presentation:



Slogging through the mud



Trunk covered with epiphytic plant material



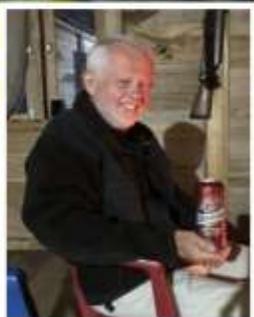
takin



*R. pruniflorum*



*R. hookeri*



Bob Zimmermann



Arlen Hill hugging *R. titipurens*

## A Delightful Dwarf with Vigorous Growth: *R. hanceanum* 'Nanum'

By Maria Stewart

In the month of March, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated and the dwarf rhododendron that blooms near that holiday is *R. 'Shamrock'*. One of the parents of that festive rhododendron is *R. hanceanum* 'Nanum'. The other parent is *R. keiskei* (dwarf form). This month, we will concentrate on *R. hanceanum* 'Nanum'. It is so handsome with its dark green leaves, compact habit and bronze new growth. Although it does not bloom until the middle of April, this dwarf welcomes Spring by covering the entire plant with yellow blooms.

Here is more about *R. hanceanum* 'Nanum':

**Classification:** *Subgenus:* *Rhododendron* *Section:* *Rhododendron* *Subsection:* *Tephropepla* It is a lepidote.

**Distribution in the wild:** central Szechwan at 5,000 to 10,000 feet in thickets and on cliffs.

**Its name:** named after H.F. Hance, a British Consul at Canton.

**Flowers:** faintly scented; funnel-shaped corollas: creamy white to bright yellow; many corollas in each truss.

**Foliage:** leaves are 3 or 4 inches long; dark green on top and lighter on the undersides; ovate-lanceolate in shape.

**Structure:** compact and attractive; 10 to 12 inches high (lower if in full sun); grows vigorously in width to 3 or 4 feet in 20 years.

**Hardiness:** -5 degrees F.

**Placing in your garden:** filtered sunlight is good; more sun gives more blooms.



*R. hanceanum* 'Nanum'. Photograph courtesy of Mike Stewart.



District 4 Chapters:  
As hosts of the  
ARS 2020 Spring Convention,  
let's show our support with  
strong member participation!



This is a rare opportunity to attend the ARS highlight event of the year in our own "backyard." You have probably already visited local gardens included on the tours. Consider, however, what a special opportunity it is to (1) see the Iseli Nursery, a world-renowned conifer nursery and display garden, not open to the public, included on Thursday tours (C & D), (2) explore the Stewart Garden, formerly Dover Nursery, where lunch will be served surrounded by a spectacular private rhododendron garden, (3) enjoy Mike Stewart and Harold Greer's introduction to the convention, including the history of the ARS and its origins in Portland, and (4) experience presentations from an impressive group of international speakers.

For just the registration fee of \$59, you're able to attend all speaker events, poster sessions, plant sales, photo exhibit/contest and more. You can pick and choose among the other tour and event options available to suit your interests—whether or not you use overnight accommodations. Join us! You can be proud of hosting an event for attendees from all over the world who will be forever grateful for the memories you'll share with them at this 75th Anniversary ARS meeting.

THANK YOU

The 2020 Convention Committee

**American Rhododendron Society**  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
**20/20**  
**VISION**  
ARS75.org  
*Looking forward, reflecting back*  
Portland-Vancouver, April 29-May 3, 2020



*You're invited to the celebration!*



**World-renowned Keynote Speakers**  
Kenneth Cox • Jens Nielsen • Steve Hootman • Juliana Medeiros  
Lionel de Rothschild • Steve Krebs • Valerie Soza • & more!

**Tours to the Northwest's  
Outstanding Gardens & Nurseries**

Register now: [ARS75](http://ARS75)

# RHODODENDRON & DAFFODIL SHOW AND SALE

AT CRYSTAL SPRINGS RHODODENDRON GARDEN



**SATURDAY, April 4<sup>th</sup> - SUNDAY, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**  
**5801 SE 28th Avenue in Portland**

will host the

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

**THE SHOW:** a judged flower show in the Exhibit Hall.  
**TO ENTER, BRING YOUR RHODODENDRON TRUSSES TO THE EXHIBIT HALL:**  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Friday night or 7:00 AM - 9:30 AM Saturday.

**THE SALE:** in the parking lot beyond the Exhibit Hall  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE GARDEN

More information: [www.rhodies.org](http://www.rhodies.org) or 503 771-8386

Presented by the Portland Chapter of The American Rhododendron Society

### Smith Garden 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 the 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 the 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.  
We hope to see you there March 21, 2020 for the Smith Garden Work Day!

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### Show-offs:

Members of the Portland Chapter, now is the time to show your stuff. The Early Show is upon us. You have heard the pleas for volunteers to conduct the Show. There is a greater need. We need flowers.

For all of you competitive gardeners, this is your chance to get the blood pumping. You can prove, to one and all, who is #1 ! (Or #2, or #3). There are prizes to be had, plus your name in lights, or at least posted on our website. Are your plants really as good as you have claimed? Prove it!

The Show also needs input from the rest of us, for whom gardening is a tranquil avocation that lowers rather than raises the blood pressure. Our plants have glorious blossoms. (And if, by some freak of nature, yours don't, you could volunteer to pick flowers from the Crystal Springs garden the night before the show). We have a new unjudged category showing off the beautiful flowers at the garden. We need to share rhododendron flowers with the public.

We all look forward to the Chapter showing its true colors: a Coolhouse filled with blooms!

Caroline Enns

Portland Chapter of  
the American  
Rhododendron  
Society

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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)

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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, 2020):**  
**David Anderson, Ann Clack, Ray Clack,  
Joanne Turner, Brenda Ziegler**

**(Through June 30, 2021):**  
**Betsy Soifer, John Stephens, Andrew  
Stern, Maria Stewart, Mike Stewart**

GARDEN INFO:

Crystal Springs Rhodo. Garden  
Chair:  
**Dan McLaughlin,**  
**[dvmclau@comcast.net](mailto:dvmclau@comcast.net)**  
Volunteering:

**[csrgvol@gmail.com](mailto:csrgvol@gmail.com)**

Gatehouse: Tours, Photoshoots:

**[gatehousecsrg@gmail.com](mailto:gatehousecsrg@gmail.com)**

**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: Dick Cavender**

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 board meet-  
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-

rected to: **Maria Stewart** at 503-668-  
**3522**

Website: **[www.rhodies.org](http://www.rhodies.org)**; web  
masters: **Steve Hall and Caroline  
Enns**

Membership Updates: John  
Stephens & Stephen McCormick,  
Membership Co-Chairs  
e-mail:  
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[ssmccormick@outlook.com](mailto:ssmccormick@outlook.com)