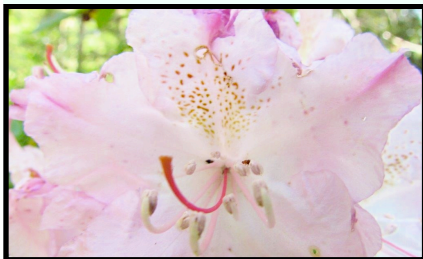




Eugene Chapter

American Rhododendron Society



R. macrophyllum photo by Ali Sarlak

END OF SUMMER CHAPTER PICNIC SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 13

Sherlyn and Cameron Hilton have invited us to picnic at their home and garden at **2825 Lydick Way in Eugene**. Some of you will recognize this as the former home and garden of ARS Eugene member Dr. David Williams and now the Hiltons are revitalizing the garden to fit their young family.

Come at noon to see the garden and to visit. The picnic will start at 1:00. Sherlyn will be serving a delicious turkey and brisket courtesy of the chapter so bring **a side dish, a salad, or a dessert** that will serve 10-12 people plus a **serving utensil**.

Though Sherlyn and Cameron will have some tables and chairs available, it might also be good to bring **a lawn chair** if possible. Also, bring your own table service (**plate, silverware, drinking gourd, and napkin**) as well as your favorite **beverage** to go in the drinking gourd. Feel free to bring a friend or neighbor who might be interested in joining our chapter.

Directions to the Hiltons:

- From the Ferry Street Bridge, take Coburg Road north to Harlow Road. Turn right on Harlow and then the first left on Lydick Way. 2825 Lydick will be on the left.
- From Beltline and Coburg Rd., take Coburg Road south to Harlow Road. Turn left on Harlow and then the first left on Lydick Way. 2825 Lydick will be on the left.
- From Gateway and Harlow Road in Springfield, take Harlow west to Lydick Way (just before you get to Coburg Rd.). Turn right on Lydick Way and 2825 Lydick will be on the left.

Officers, Board Members, & Committees

President	Ali Sarlak
Vice-President	Terry Henderson
Treasurer	Nancy Burns
Secretary	Sherlyn Hilton
Past-President	Ted Hewitt
Membership	Nancy Burns

Helen Baxter	2012-2015
Tom Beatty	2012-2015
Jack Olson	2014-2016
Gordon Wylie	2014-2017

Committees

- **Show:** Helen Baxter, Sherlyn Hilton, Please add your name.
- **Nominating:** Please volunteer
- **Welfare:** Nancy & Harold Greer
- **Hospitality:** Please volunteer
- **Programs:** Board of Directors

Newsletter

- **Editor (pro tem)**
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Don Hyatt to Speak in Portland

The Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is enormously pleased to announce that the featured speaker at our regular chapter meeting on Thursday, September 18, 2014 (7:00 - 9:00 pm) will be renowned azalea expert Don Hyatt. As most of you already know, Mr. Hyatt is recognized nationally and internationally both as an authority on azaleas and rhododendrons and as one of the most sought after and entertaining speakers you will ever encounter. Now that he has completed his long and successful career teaching math and computer science in the high schools of Fairfax County, Virginia, he has devoted more of his efforts to the preservation of our native azaleas, including the collection at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. In 2012, he was awarded the prestigious Gold Medal from the American Rhododendron Society. His skills as a photographer and botanical illustrator, his knowledge of his subject, and his delightful sense of humor have contributed to an extensive set of multimedia presentations and

engagements as a speaker on topics related to rhododendrons.

We are sure this is an event that you will not want to miss, so we are providing some advance notice to allow you to save the date and spread the word. The program on *America's Treasure - Our Native Azaleas* is open to the public at no charge and will be held at All Saints Episcopal Church at 4033 S.E. Woodstock Blvd. in Portland. There will also be a cutting exchange held at this meeting.

This information was supplied by Dennis O'Malley, the Publicity Chair for the ARS Portland Chapter. More details can be found on the chapter website at www.rhodies.org/chapter/pdx_chapter.htm#Sept19.

What a nice overnight excursion could be had with an afternoon visit to the nearby Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, dinner at a local restaurant perhaps in the Sellwood District, the Portland Chapter meeting, an overnight in a hotel, and a leisurely back-road drive down the Willamette Valley.

The ARS Eugene Chapter Mission Statement.

E*ncourage the culture and interest of rhododendrons.*

U*se our meetings for educational opportunities and building friendships.*

G*row both species and hybrid rhododendrons in our gardens.*

E*ducate ourselves and the community about the world of rhododendrons.*

N*urture the idea of garden design with rhododendrons.*

E*xhibit our knowledge and the beauty of rhododendrons to the community.*

From the President

Looking Back at the Last Year and Ahead to the Next

It was a good year in which we have had a number of events. Our Rhododendron Show in April went well and many of us celebrated the harvest with a glass or two at the cozy bar. In May we had an interesting garden tour along the coast and those of us who made the trip enjoyed the gardens and, of course, the coast atmosphere! Over all, we had interesting programs at our meetings and I always looked forward to each. Of course, another highlight before the meetings was going to interesting restaurants with friends to talk about what we love most - the rhododendrons.

I am sorry to say that we lost a few members during the year and they are missed.

As you have noticed, you will still have me as your next president for two more years, so, perhaps, I did well enough to be continuing for the second round. But, at the same time, any society will not function well without members' contributions.

I have several agendas for us for the next years:

- find ways for our chapter to gain more exposure in the community
- continue having more garden tours
- find ways to attract new members
- sponsor short seminars in the public parks on how to grow and choose rhododendrons
- encourage membership in our society
- encourage our members to attend our meetings more often

If we all share these common goals and participate in more activities, our chapter will continue to be successful.

Looking forward to the second term as your president,

Ali Sarlak

Want to volunteer???

We need someone to coordinate a cookie and coffee team for our meetings. This means making coffee, getting volunteers to bring goodies (cookies, fruit, finger food), and to clean up the kitchen afterwards.



new foliage color in June at Elisabeth Miller Garden

Want to bring the cookies for the October 9 meeting? Let Ali know.

Help Wanted:

Want to help organize some events this year?

- *Holiday Potluck Coordinator*
- *Member of the Show Committee*
- *Member of the Nominations Committee*
- *Be a Board Member*
- *June Picnic Coordinator*

We need your help so please see Ali or any Board Member to offer your help. Thanks.

Our June 29 Picnic

by Ali Sarlak

On Sunday, June 29, we were lucky to get a break from the needed rains for our picnic at my house. The rains made our garden much happier so nature knows it's best.

This year we had a rather small group at our potluck so there was plenty of salmon and other delicious foods to go around. I could not count how many times Leonard went back for more food, but, I should add, he is quite a cook and brought a lovely cheese cake that was so delicious.

The people who came had a great time and enjoyed themselves. We had a few visitors including a couple, Joann and Larry Turner, from the Portland Chapter. They brought various garden plants to share with us so our thanks also goes to them for their contributions.

I think everything went well and everyone enjoyed her or his time. My last comment is please, in the future, make sure to attend our chapter events. There is a fair amount of work and preparation involved and we do that because of our friendship and common interests.



Photos by Ali Sarlak

Thank you Ali & Gloria for hosting another wonderful picnic in your beautiful garden.



2015 ARS Convention - May 6 - 10, 2015 ***Sydney-by-the-Sea, British Columbia***

Terrific Speakers: Lionel de Rothschild, Jim Barlup, Hartwig Schepker, Kenneth Cox,
 Marc Colombel, Harold Greer, Guan Kaiyun, Dr. Ben Hall

Many wonderful open gardens. Plant Sale.

YouTube Video for Convention: www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQO0M8oEMcY&feature=youtu.be

Convention Website: <http://2015rhodo.ca/>

Ted's Notes

- One of the enjoyable aspects of the ARS is the social interchange at meetings, picnics, conferences, or garden tours. Along these same lines, I would like to see more of our members share ideas about gardening in the Newsletter so would like to encourage each of you to submit some thoughts about rhododendrons or gardening in general. This might be a paragraph or a whole page on a favorite rhododendron or companion plant, a garden that you have visited, a poem that you have written, observations that you have made over the years, propagation techniques, hybridization successes (or failures). A number of years ago, study groups in the chapter met to discuss a particular rhododendron species and did some research to learn more about a subsection. If you would like to share what you have learned about a particular species or hybrid rhododendron, I think an article in the Newsletter would be of interest to many of us. Please do not feel that your writing would not be good enough since one of the jobs of an editor is to polish up an article by improving spelling, grammar, punctuation, or sentence structure. (Oops, that was a double negative that snuck in there.) It is the ideas and the sharing that are important. If each member submitted an article as little as once every two years, it would be a significant contribution.

- In June, Paula and I participated in a very special garden and nursery tour in the Puget Sound area that was organized by Roger Gossler for Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group members. Though each participant furnished their own transportation and arranged for their own hotels and meals, Roger prearranged the visits for a 4-day tour. On the first day, Richie Steffen, the curator of the Elisabeth Miller presented an outstanding tour of this hard-to-visit garden and we had a good tour of the nearby Dunn Gardens in North

Seattle. On the second day, we visited the exceptional Swanson's and Welles Medina Nurseries, the Bellevue Botanic Garden, and the Rhododendron Species Botanic Garden, which proved to be a real hit with the HPG members. On the third day, we had an exceptional tour of the Lakewold Garden in Lakewood before continuing on to the wonderful Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island and ending the day at Dragonfly Nursery. The final day was rather a coup d'état with the morning at the incredible nursery and display garden, Far Reaches Farm, in Port Townsend and the afternoon at Heronswood Garden where Dan Hinkley shared with us the changes that he and the current owners are making in restoring this iconic garden.

- Lastly, I would like to nominate chapter president, Ali, for the Celebrator of the Year award. Last spring he attended the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the RSF and I have heard that in October he will be participating in the 70th Anniversary of the New Zealand Rhododendron Society in Dunedin, New Zealand. (I am envious.) I won't be surprised if he will also celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the American Rhododendron Society in Sydney, British Columbia, next May. You, too, will want to attend this convention.



View from the lower part of the Elisabeth Miller Garden

*In Memoriam***Barbara Novak**

by Ted Hewitt

ARS Eugene Chapter member Barbara Novak passed away on May 21 just as many of us were getting to know her better but we enjoyed her wit, her intellect, and her enthusiasm about gardening. Recently, I had a nice visit with her long-time partner, Keith Lochhoven, who shared some information about Barbara from before she joined the chapter and I would like to pass it on to you so that you might realize what a wonderful person we had amongst us.

Barbara grew up near Cleveland, Ohio, attended Ohio University (that's different than The Ohio State University), and received a degree in psychology from Boston University before migrating to the west coast, first Seattle and then Portland. While working in the insurance industry, she also enrolled in the Lewis & Clark Law School from which she received her law degree in 1989. While working in tax law and municipal law at Stoel Rives LLP in Portland, her interest in gardening struck and she transformed the half acre lot where she and Keith lived in the Burlingame neighborhood into what Keith describes as a "gorgeous garden" and completed the Master Gardener program.

In about 1996, they moved to Eugene where she worked in the government law section of Harrang Long Gary Rudnick PC specializing in contract law while she and Keith looked for a larger piece of property on which to build a new home within easy reach of the city. In about 2000 they found just such a site on the south side of Spencer Butte off of Fox Hollow Road and the development of a new garden began while Barbara designed the house that she had been wanting. By 2005 the house was ready for move-in and she retired from her law

career. When I visited Barbara there after she had agreed to become the chapter newsletter editor, I got to see part of the large timber frame construction house that she had designed with views of the garden from large windows in every room. As with many a gardener, she wanted to have the garden become an integral part of the living space of the house.

With a six acre property, there are places that fit many garden requirements from deep shade to light shade to some sun to full sun and enough space to garden with trees and shrubs as well as perennials, large and small. As you may have noticed from her editor's columns she had the scientific mind and interest to want to know how and why plants grow the way they do and she talked easily about how she was developing the garden in different areas. There are big-leaved rhododendrons here and there (though it sounds as if not so much after the December of 2013) and many rhododendrons with interesting foliage as well as a wide variety of other plants, many of which were chosen for their form, fragrance, and wildlife value. Barbara's sense of esthetics comes across in both the garden and the house.

Another of Barbara's real loves was her dogs. Any visitor was greeted by three very lively and friendly large setters - one Gordon Setter and two smaller Irish Setters - another reason to have a 6-acre property.

When Barbara and her good friend, Nancy Burns, started attending the Eugene chapter meetings, little did we know how involved they would become and how much they would contribute. Barbara's sparkle and humor at the Board meetings and the fine newsletters that she produced will be missed.

Fall into Rhodies

ARS Western Regional Conference

September 26-28, 2014

Everett, Washington

ARS District 2 is hosting this year's Fall Western Regional Conference at the Holiday Inn in Everett, Washington, and has arranged an excellent program of speakers, some well known while others offer new topics for us. Full information including a registration form is available in the Summer ARS Journal or on the conference website, <http://fall2014.arscascade.org/index.htm>. As usual there will be a good plant sale offering many new items for your fall planting.

A sample of the topics on the program include:

- Lois and Roy Blackmore's Victoria, BC mountainside garden surrounds the house on several levels. Their woodland garden is

enhanced with several ponds and waterfalls, and a large deck below the house displays many rhododendrons in containers. In 2006, a huge windstorm knocked down a logging truck full of large Douglas firs. These were removed from the property and a new sunken garden was established. A collection of special rhododendrons is planted in this newer garden.

- Steve Hootman takes us *Down Under— Tasmania and a bit of SE Australia* - Enjoy the land down under with the Rhododendron Species Foundation's Director as he takes his first trip to this area. See his adventures in the outback and the gardens of this great part of the world.
- *Evolutionary history within and between Rhododendron species in Asia and North America* with Dr. Ben Hall.
- *Digital Photography in the Garden* with Don Hyatt

ARS Membership Renewal Time

In the near future, you will be receiving your ARS membership renewal forms in the mail. The cost for a regular membership that includes membership in the Eugene Chapter remains at \$40.00 including the ARS quarterly Journal and the chapter Newsletter. Please return the completed forms to Membership Secretary Nancy Burns as soon as possible by mail or in person at the September 13 picnic or the October 9 chapter meeting.

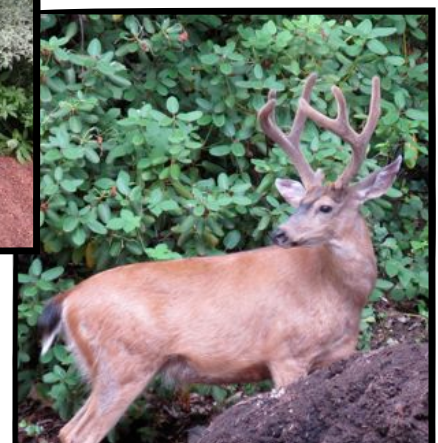
Newsletter Editor

Are you looking for a way in which to help the chapter, use your creative editing talents, sharpen your computer skills, and learn more about publishing software? If so, you might be interested in becoming the chapter newsletter editor. Please contact Ali or any Board member to let them know.



Shade Garden at Far Reaches Farm

Unless otherwise indicated newsletter photos are by Ted Hewitt



Look who came to help spread the mulch for Ted & Paula.

2 0 1 4

EVENT CALENDAR

2 0 1 5

CHAPTER EVENTS:

September 13	Potluck Picnic at home of Sherlyn & Cameron Hilton, (Details on p. 1 of this Newsletter)	Noon to 3:00 p.m.
October 9	Chapter Meeting - Mark Bloom, topic TBA	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
November 13	Chapter Meeting - program TBA	
December 11	Holiday Potluck Dinner & Members' Slide Show	6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
January 14, 2015	Chapter Meeting - program TBA	
February 12	Chapter Meeting - program TBA	
March 12	Chapter Meeting - program TBA	
April 25	Spring Rhododendron Show and Banquet, Hilton Garden Inn,	3:00 - 9:00 p.m.
June ??	June Picnic, details TBA	

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Eugene Chapter
PO Box 7704
Springfield, OR 97475

ARS Western Regional Conference
Everett WA - September 26-28

*August / September 2014
Newsletter*