

Eugene Chapter

American Rhododendron Society

Officers, Board Members, & Committees

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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, Terry Henderson
- **Nominating:**
- **Welfare:** Nancy & Harold Greer
- **Hospitality:**
- **Programs:** Board of Directors

Newsletter

• Editor

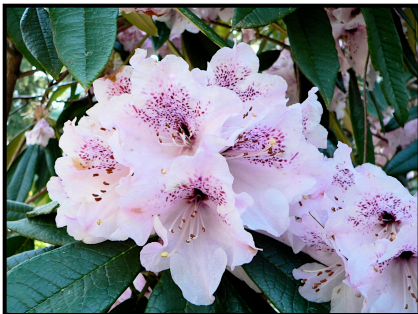
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R. coeleuron

Special May Program

Restoration of Older Scottish Gardens

Speaker: John Hammond

1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19

Program at 1:30

at the Summerfield Estates Clubhouse

Summerfield Ave. in Eugene

Driving Directions:

- Beltline to Barger Drive
- West on Barger to Terry St.
- South (left) one block on Terry to Summerfield Ave
- Right on Summerfield to the club house

John Hammond, an associate member of the Eugene Chapter and a member of the ARS Scottish Chapter, will present this program based on a lecture that he gave at St. Andrews University in Scotland last fall. There are many large rhododendron gardens on Scotland's rugged and mountainous West Coast and, surprisingly, among these are some that garden tours don't visit. His program will provide us an opportunity to see some very interesting and most unusual gardens. The program takes a look at the historical background, and the challenges faced by their founders around a century ago, to develop four major and very different gardens. He will discuss why they have become candidates for restoration, and then will outline some of the work that the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group is working on in liaison with the garden owners in terms of both restoration and conservation. We hope that you can join us for this interesting special program at a different time and place than we usually meet.

An Evening of Fun, Flowers, and a Little Competition

At the 2015 ARS Eugene Chapter Spring Rhododendron Show on April 25, trophies were presented in 7 categories and the winners were:

- **Best Azalea**, Jack Olson for R. 'Arnesen Gem'
- **Best Pink Elepidote**, Jack Olson for an unnamed seedling
- **Best Red Elepidote**, Jack Olson for R. 'Leo'
- **Best White or Yellow Elepidote**, Jack Olson for 'Icon'
- **Best Other- or Multi-Colored Elepidote**, Jack Olson for R. 'Seaview Sunset'
- **Best Lepidote**, Ali Sarlak for *R. augustinii*
- **Best Species**, Paula Hewitt for *R. benhallii*

155 entries were submitted by 11 people and we thank all those who contributed. The real winners were the 29 members who attended and enjoyed the colorful display of the entries, the friendship of our chapter members, good food, and a spirited and fun auction.

Many thanks to Harold Greer for the fine presentation on the *Early Days of the Rhododendron Species Foundation*.

Jack Olson was the lucky winner of the drawing for the free dinner. Jack also won the beautiful R. 'Pursuasion' hybridized and grown by Don Wallace in the plant raffle. In the Silent Auction, Sherlyn Hilton took home the interesting *R. cruentum*, a form of *R. bureavii*, and Frances Burns took home the intriguing new hybrid from Frank Fujioka, R. 'Cherries and Merlot'.



Special thanks to Terry, Tim, Paula, and Jack for Show set-up, to Helen and Nancy for entries and tabulation, to Harold for the program and auction plants, to Terry for plants and transport, to Nancy for table center pieces, to Jack for auctioneering, to Gordon for the raffle, to Ali and Gloria for picking up the loose pieces, to Sherlyn for doing so much, to Leonard for selecting plants, and to The Show Committee.

President's Message

My Favorite Rhodys in My Own Garden

In march, my wife, Gloria, and I had fun traveling for two weeks in South Korea and Japan. I could write an article or two about both countries and all the wonderful things we enjoyed and experienced but it has to wait and be shared with my friends and my fellow travelers. The one thing I will share here from the cultures of Japan and Korea is how hospitable the people are. I have not known any other nations that can match their kindness and I applaud them for it.

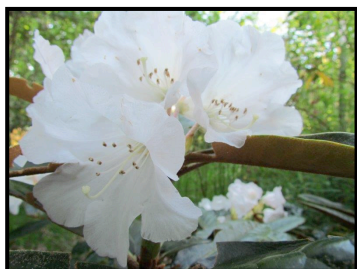
I received an e-mail from our editor and my friend, Ted Hewitt, asking for my monthly article for our newsletter. As I said, I was having fun and totally forgot that it is due so I started thinking what can I share with fellow gardeners and rhody lovers.

Suddenly I jumped into my backyard and started taking photos of some of my favorite rhododendrons to share with you.

Rhododendron 'Lamplighter' has been around for a long time, is red and salmon with a pink glow, and has medium size leaves. It is an elepidote and mine is now 7 feet high, more then some books suggest, but, of course, not everywhere has ideal conditions for rhododendrons as we have in Oregon.



R. 'Lamplighter'



R. 'Teddy Bear'

I took pictures of my R. 'Teddy Bear' (*bureavii* x *degronianum*). It is a nice color of flowers (purplish pink) and, at the same time, I love the foliage with

its indumentum. It is an average size plant.

Talking about beauty, here is another in my garden and that is R. 'While Pearl' with very attractive creamy white flowers on a large size plant. It is a cross of *griffithianum* x *maximum*.

After I saw Jack Olson walking home with a trophy for R. 'Phyllis Korn', it became one of my favorites. It is a large and very handsome rhody with very large, creamy yellow trusses. Its parents are 'Diane' x 'Gomer Waterer' .



R. 'Phyllis Korn'

Of course no yard should be without R. 'Loderi King George'. With parents *fortunei* ssp *fortunei* x *griffithianum*, it has nice sweetly fragrant, white flowers, and is a large 6-7 foot elepidote. Overall, it is a very lovely plant.



R. 'Loderi King George'

These are just a few rhodys that I mention from my garden.

My President's Message is that the board members are working hard to come up with nice plans such as garden tours, a pot luck picnic at a fellow rhody member's home, and we are lucky to have a well-known international speaker at our Spring Banquet. The national rhododendron convention is in Sidney BC for us to attend. Please take advantage and make sure to participate in as many activities as you can to keep our society going strong. Thank you all for any contributions to our society that you do.

Ali Sarlak

photos by Ali Sarlak

Chapter Field Trip and Garden Tour - Thursday, May 21

The first stop on this field trip will be the beautiful 2.5 acre garden of Cassandra and Bryan Barrett along Lost Creek south of Dexter. This 15 year-old garden is a wonderful display of Cassandra's professional skill as a garden designer as well as the hard work of two dedicated plants people. Throughout the garden, there are many garden rooms and styles that are all coordinated by paths that wind through the garden. Many of the rhododendrons are species and all are well placed to fit into the larger garden but there are many kinds of plants as this is the garden of two avid plant collectors. As we wander through the garden, we will see rock gardens, a lovely small front garden, the well-known heather hillside, the birch corner, a large vegetable garden and orchard, a formal area with two intersecting alleés, and a creekside dwarf conifer and rhododendron garden all enhanced with a variety of art work. The Barrett garden is located at 81518 Lost Creek Road just south of Dexter and we hope that many of you will be able to carpool arriving at the garden at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to carpool (i.e. have an extra seat or two in your car or would like to ride), it is suggested that you meet at 9:15 a.m. at the Campbell Center, 155 High Street in Eugene and leave at 9:30. To get to the Barretts, take I-5 south from Eugene to Exit 188 toward Oakridge; follow Hwy 58 for about 12 miles to Dexter; turn right on Lost Creek Road for 2.9 miles. Extra parking is along Lost Valley Lane adjacent to the Barrett property.



From the Barrett garden we will drive through Lowell, stopping for lunch at Armando's Mexican Restaurant for a no-host lunch, before continuing on to Fall Creek and the 2-acre garden of Jack and Sandie Olson. Sherlyn will have driving instructions for the drive from the Barretts to Armando's and from there to the Olson garden and finally from there back to Eugene. It is a beautiful drive but can be rather tricky. This garden is filled with rhododendrons as well as a large variety of other interesting plants and will be at its peak at this time. We will want to see Jack's new greenhouse and the propagation that he is doing. Return to Eugene will be about 5:00 p.m.

Ted's Notes

- What a nice chapter activity we had on April 16 when 10 of us gathered at Log Cabin Nursery to pot up the rooted cuttings for the Hinsdale Estate Garden. It was a time to learn while enjoying social time and time to meet our new members Grace & Ed Gore and Dena Fowler from Cottage Grove. Many thanks to Terry for organizing this and for arranging for the beautiful, sunny afternoon.
- Though it is well before Mother's Day, Hendricks Park is awash with color and many people are enjoying walks through the Rhododendron Garden. The renovation of the rock garden is in its final stages with the planting of many new dwarf rhododendrons, dwarf conifers, and a variety of other plants that will add to the texture, color, and structure of the garden. A thorough weeding of the garden has returned the large rocks to their prominence and the central path as well as the lower main path offer good views of the textural interest in the garden.
- If you have attended the annual Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group Plant Sale before, you know what a fine opportunity it is to purchase interesting and unusual plants for your garden from vendors from throughout the Willamette Valley as well as rhododendrons from our booth. This is our largest fund raiser of the year so make sure your friends know that we will have a large assortment of rhododendrons for sale. From other vendors you might find beautiful new hostas, exotic arisaema, richly bronze-colored Rodgersias to add great texture and color among your rhododendrons, or dwarf conifers as well as many other plants to enhance the interest of your garden. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Lane County Fair Grounds. Or, if you are volunteering at our booth, you may shop on Friday when the selection

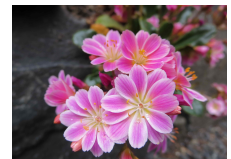


is at its best.

- When you enter the Rhododendron Garden at Hendricks Park from the main parking lot, you will notice the new sign framed by bright red azaleas. The old sign was in need of replacing due to rot that could not be repaired so in January 2015, the chapter board approved the allocation of \$100.00 to help pay for the new sign since our name is mentioned on it. The sign is certainly a handsome introduction to the garden and is a worthy note of history.



- In our garden, the rock plant wall comes into its own in mid-April as the color of the plants is the most vivid. Though we have lost a few of the lewisias tucked between rocks (they are often short-lived plants), the others have dainty, bright colored blossoms on the ends of long stems. The *Penstemon rupicolus*, natives of the Cascades echo the lewisias with their own bright pink flowers and the *Sedum spathulifolium* 'Cape Blanco', a native of Oregon's south coast, drapes its silvery gray foliage down the face of the rocks.



Lewisia cotyledon hybrid

Azalea Lace Bug Information

As the weather warms this spring, the Azalea Lace Bug eggs that have spent the winter on the undersides of the leaves on azaleas, rhododendrons, and other plants will be hatching into the nymph stage and then into the adult stage both of which suck the fluids from the leaves causing the leaves to appear mottled or chlorotic.

Earlier this spring during the warmer weather, some nymphs were already found on the undersides of leaves in



© Robin Rosetta

Hendricks Park so it would be wise to start inspecting the leaves on your azaleas and rhododendrons as control is considerably easier before the problem becomes too extensive. The tops of leaves will appear as in the above photo while the nymphs on the

bottom of the leaves will be very tiny and appear as in this photo that is highly magnified.

Adult lace bugs are about 1/16" and can be seen fairly well with the naked eye. It should be noted



© Robin Rosetta

that other insects also live on the bottoms of the leaves so look carefully.

After a trial program of three sprays with Safer brand insecticidal soap last year on a small area, Emily

Aune, main gardener at Hendricks Park, was encouraged and this year all rhododendrons in the rhododendron garden were sprayed in February with a dormant horticultural oil and will be sprayed four times with the insecticidal soap during the warmer months.

At a March meeting of all six chapters of ARS District 4, a discussion was held about how the Azalea Lace Bugs are being treated in gardens around the state. This is a very new problem and many solutions are being tried, including the Safer insecticidal soap, the controversial neonicotinoid insecticides such as Adonis 2F, rose food that contains a systemic insecticide, a spray made from magnesium sulfate and kelp, Bug-Be-Gone, and a mix of water, dish soap, and ammonium. With most of these, it is important that the leaf undersides be hit well.

The following is reprinted from the Siuslaw Chapter March newsletter (with the editor's permission) about Larry Jensen's recipe for an ALB spray.

In 2013 I noticed some lace bug damage in one area. In 2014 I decided to experiment with a non-toxic control. There were still blooming plants when I started. I filled the hose end sprayer with dish detergent and ammonia in equal parts, and set the sprayer on 1 oz. per gallon and sprayed the underside of the foliage. I did this once a week for a month with good results. As well as washing the bugs off, the detergent releases surface tension on the ground to allow water to penetrate. The ammonia gives the plant a small amount of foliar fertilizer.

If you have other solutions that appear to work, please share them with others. Certainly the toxicity of the chemical sprays must be a consideration in the solution but we do need to try to find an effective control for these little critters on our rhododendrons.

photos by Robin Rosetta, www.oregonstate.edu

June 28 - Chapter Picnic - Mark your calendar.

Linda and Gordon Wylie have invited us to come for a potluck picnic at their home and garden in Creswell at noon on Sunday, June 28. Please bring a main dish, a side dish, a salad, or a dessert to share that serves 12. Don't forget a serving utensil. Also, bring your own place setting, utensils, drink and glass, napkin, and chair. This is a late breaking item so more details will be in the June newsletter along with directions for getting there.

Places to Go and Things to Do

May 2 Rhododendron Tour on the Long Beach Peninsula. See information below.

May 5, 12, 19, & 26 9 to noon FoHP volunteer work party in the Hendricks Park Rhododendron Garden.

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

May 8 10:00 -3:00 Set-Up for the plant sale at the Fairgrounds. You may also shop today.

May 9 9:00-2:00 Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Sale at the Lane County Fairgrounds. We are a vendor at this sale and earn a large part of our chapter budget here

May 9 10:00-2:00 Hinsdale Open Garden Day. Umpqua River east of Reedsport

May 12 6:30 p.m. Hardy Plant Group Meeting; *Cut, Clipped, & Cubed: The Art and Practice of Pruning Shrubs* with Robert Harold: Campbell Community Center, 155 High St in Eugene

May 16-17 ARS Siuslaw Chapter Rhododendron Flower Show, Florence Events Center, Florence

May 17 7:00 a.m. Hendricks Park Birding Walk with Dan Gleason

May 19 1:30 p.m. ARS Eugene Program - Restoration of Older Scottish Gardens by John Hammond. Summerfield Estates Clubhouse. See p. 1 of this newsletter for more information.

May 21 Chapter field trip to the gardens of Cassandra & Bryan Barrett and Jack & Sandie Olson.

June 7 10 am - 4 pm 2015 Symphony Guild Garden Tour. Info at www.eugenesymphonyguild.org

June 28 Noon - 3ish Chapter Picnic at Linda & Gordon Wylie's, 307 Ironwood Loop, Creswell

First Annual Rhododendron Tour on the Long Beach Peninsula, May 2nd, 2015

You're invited to a first annual Rhododendron Tour on the Long Beach Peninsula, Saturday, May 2nd. Included among the properties on the tour will be the former Clarke Nursery, founded by former ARS Gold Medal Winner and past President, Dr. J. Harold Clarke, and now the residence of Portland Chapter members John Stephens and Steve McCormick. You'll see many historic species and hybrid rhododendrons along with newer specimens displayed in handsome residential garden settings. The day will be highlighted by an optional breakfast to be held at the historic Shelburne Inn in Seaview, featuring a talk by Dr. Clarke's grandson, Steve Clarke, owner of the continuing Clarke Nursery landscape business. The event is produced by the Water Music Festival, which benefits music education in the Ocean Beach school district.

Details and ticket information are posted at [Water Music Festival | Water Music Festival](#)

Tour tickets are \$10.00 and breakfast will start at 10:00 am; breakfast cost is estimated to be \$8.00.

The Shelburne Hotel's owner, David Campiche, has offered a special room rate for any visitors coming in for the Rhody Tour who might like to stay overnight. They have limited accommodations, of course, so this would be pending availability. At the time we spoke with him, there were just a couple of rooms remaining.

For a single night: \$139 (discounted from their regular queen bed room rate of \$159).

For two nights: \$250 (\$125/night) -- either Fri/Sat, or Sat/Sun

Callers would need to mention the Rhododendron Tour for the special offer. Call 360-642-2442

Sunday, June 7 is the Eugene Symphony Guild's annual Music in the Garden tour to benefit the Eugene Symphony. Six wonderful and varied gardens are on this year's tour. The tour will include plant & garden art sales, refreshments and exciting raffle prizes. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 day of the event. Garden locations and ticket outlets are listed on the poster on the *Eugene Symphony Guild* Facebook page or on the website: eugenesymphonyguild.org.

