



Frank Kingdon-Ward: Connoisseur Plant Collector

Renowned plantsman Frank Kingdon-Ward (November 6, 1885 – April 8, 1958) spent the longest time in the field of any of the British collectors from Victorian times, working almost 50 years until two years before his death. He mostly collected in solitude, and in the most daunting, cold and wet terrain in southeast Tibet, Burma and Assam, India; he was indefatigable. He had a remarkable memory, a discerning eye and appreciation for the garden value of a new introduction, including many rhododendrons, the most famous of which is the lovely *Rhododendron wardii*. He also discovered and introduced many choice rock garden plants, some also being named for him. His first love, though, was geography, so it is not surprising that he was intrigued by, and almost solved the “Riddle of the Tsangpo Gorge”. This presentation will summarize his notable plant introductions and honor his significant contribution to horticulture.

--Elaine Sedlack

Elaine Sedlack is past President and Program Chairperson of the California Chapter of American Rhododendron Society. Other memberships include the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, the International Maple Society, the International Dendrology Society, the Herb Society of America, and the Heritage Roses Group. She has written articles and presented programs for many of the preceding organizations. After 31 years of maintaining and developing the Asian collection, she retired from UCBG (University of California Botanical Garden) in 2015. She currently resides in Oregon with her cat, Samara.

Join us February 9th at 5 p.m. before the meeting at

TA RA RIN Thai Cuisine in Eugene at 1200 Oak St.. You can view the menu at <http://tararinthai.com/>

Great opportunity to enjoy conversation with other members of our chapter.

RSVP for dinner by February 7th to Helen Baxter (541) 461-6082 or galen.baxter@comcast.net





Mike Bones

Bonsai - a plant in a container.

Rule #1 Have fun, because it is your creation!



Mike Bones lives in Florence, Oregon with his wife, Kathy, and their "kids." If you are headed over to Florence, Mike would love to show off his kids to you. (541) 997-3082 rhodies@charter.net



Mike Bones analyzing and pruning one of his “Kids.” Mike demonstrated the artistic elements of bonsai and how the result is whatever looks good to you, the gardener. Ed and I were sitting behind Sandi Olson listening to her get more and more surprised by how much Mike was trimming off. He’d say, “OK, that’s it!” and then go, “No, it needs a little bit more off here.” By the end of the trimming, I believe we heard Sandi say, “Oh my!” This is especially precious to me and Ed because we’ve had to stand back while Dena prunes with a similar enthusiasm. Ed and I are not three dimensionally gifted like Dena, so it is a bit intimidating to watch, even with the knowledge that Dena is great at the process of pruning.



Sandi Olson was the first person to win a door prize which allowed her to have first pick of one of the bonsai Mike Bones created during the presentation. After the stress of watching Mike work on his “kid”, Sandi deserved a big treat (or a small treat in this case). Sherlyn’s son was the second recipient of a bonsai door prize. Congratulations!

ARS Spring Flower Shows and Convention

Eugene Chapter April 8

Siuslaw Chapter April 22-23 & May 20-21

Willamette Chapter April 21-22

ARS National Convention April 27-30

Southwest Oregon Chapter May 6-7

Mark Your Calendar

O. HOWARD HINSDALE GARDEN SPRING, 2017

Searching for words, I gaze out the window at the snow and ice coating streets and sidewalks. Feeling a bit of cabin fever I conclude, albeit reluctantly, a mind-clearing walk would be a foolish risk. It's definitely not a day to test Luther Burbank's observation: "Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine to the mind." The late nineteenth and early twentieth century hybridizer, perhaps best known for developing the Burbank russet potato, went on to work with hundreds of food crops. Ornamental plants were also among his efforts, doubtless prompted by the quoted sentiment.

Despite today's gloomy outlook, the earth will continue orbiting about the sun. Longer daylight hours and warming will soon trumpet Spring's re-awakening, and our days will be cheery while enjoying fresh new growth and flowers. A not to miss place in that quest is the O. Howard Hinsdale Garden on the lower Umpqua River. Located a short five miles east of Reedsport on Scenic Highway 38, it's a pleasant day's outing from virtually anywhere in western Oregon

Mark your calendars now for April 15, April 29 and May 13, 2017. Yes, we know there will be many other garden events and visits competing for attention, but don't miss out because you overlooked the date. And we promise no hiccup as occurred last year, when unforeseen events led to cancellation of public open garden days. There's now both a footbridge to the east garden and an ADA path throughout, so everyone may enjoy the entire garden. Those who have visited before will also notice the former Hinsdale home has been removed. We're excited about the opportunities that will present in continuing improvements to the garden and facilities for visitors.

The open hours will be from about ten in the morning until two in the afternoon. Parking will be available at the Elk View Kiosk about a mile west of the garden, with complimentary transportation to and from the garden. That service is provided by the Friends of Hinsdale Garden, who will also man an information booth in the garden. Your voluntary donations to their generous support of the garden will of course be welcome. Visits by groups of perhaps ten or greater on other than these dates may also be possible by prior arrangement.

The O. Howard Hinsdale Garden, likely the oldest rhododendron centric garden in the State, contains a stunning collection of rhododendrons intermixed with many fine magnolias, camellias and other companions. Publicly owned and maintained via the Bureau of Land Management, that agency's assistance also plays a vital role in making open garden days possible.

Do take time to enjoy this very special "...food and medicine to the mind."

Gordon Wylie

Grant McOmie of Travel Oregon covered Hinsdale Garden on:

Grant's Getaways: Oregon's Secret Garden @ <https://youtu.be/Ey0OaCZVi1Q>

BLM also has a little video about Hinsdale Garden @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YlZJ0uugqJ8>

Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area 48819 OR-38, Reedsport, OR 97467

Website

www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/res/Education_in_BLM/Learning_Landscapes/For_Travelers/go/wildlife_viewing/dean_creek.print.html

Greetings – All well here in New Zealand. Finally getting good summer weather. 30 degrees Celsius (about 90 degrees for us) here today, so rather hot and have the hoses going in the garden.

We have had a very wet spring and early summer here and has been a pain for keeping the garden tidy, but that’s life. We are busy cutting hedges at present, but it is good as the days are long; still light here til about 9:30 p.m.

We have had great new growth on the rhododendrons this season as there has been so much moisture, so hoping for a good spring flowering in October.

I was awarded a Queens Honour in the New Years Honours List 2017. A Queen’s Service Medal for Horticulture QSM So quite cool!

Cheers, Alan Trott (Information from January 15th e-mail)



Jack’s Colorful Foliage — About twenty years ago, I started growing rhododendrons from seed. I had made three crosses, one being that of R. ‘Sunspray’ x R. ‘Lems Cameo’. I put the pollen from ‘Lems Cameo’ on ‘Sunspray’. The seed pods grew easily, so I was very excited when I collected the large pod in October, with plenty of seed inside. At that time I was not sure how to grow seed, but I had heard how some started seed in dampened peat moss. Seventy degree temperature was the desired temperature for germination. I put the damp peat in a cottage cheese container, and placed it on the television (It was not a flat screen). The seeds germinated then started to grow. I planted them in a flat after they started to grow leaves. I grew the plants up to about a foot high. I brought

about twenty plants of this cross and planted them in my landscape. As they grew, I became very excited when they grew beautiful trusses, each being different. In this cross, I named two plants and registered them after winning trophies with both. The reason I am giving so much history of my efforts is because of something I noticed and liked. My plant R. ‘Kahlua’ had very dark brown new foliage. And R. ‘Mead’ had a golden brown foliage, which I really enjoyed. From these plants, I have raised many new seedlings with this fabulous new foliage. They all come out colored from brown to red green, all shades and colors.



This has been fascinating me for the last twenty years. I have hundreds of these hybrids and I cross some plants to get good trusses and colored leaves. This year I found out from the article by Bruce Palmer, that the color is due to the anthocyanin in the plant. I now have three plants (elepidotes) that change to a maroon in the fall. – Jack Olson



Mark Your Calendar

February 23-26, 2017

Spring Home and Garden Show Portland Expo Center, Marine Drive Portland.

<http://expocenter.org/events/portland-spring-home-garden-show>

Portland ARS Chapter will have a booth.

April 8, 2017

3:00-9:00 ARS Eugene Chapter Spring Rhododendron Show &
Banquet Hilton Garden Inn, Springfield

Speaker Mike Stewart - "Asia Hunt for Rhododendrons."

February 14, 2017

Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group at 7:00 PM, doors open at 6:30 PM

"Plant-hunting in the wilds of Asia and beyond: Highlights of over 20 years in the field" with Steve Hootman

Please join us on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 for our speaker program presented by Steve Hootman, curator and Executive Director of the Rhododendron Species Garden (RSBG) in Federal Way WA. Steve will show images and discuss highlights of some of his most interesting experiences in some of the wildest places still left on the planet, with a focus on exciting new plant introductions.

The Rhododendron Species Garden, located between Tacoma and Seattle, specializes in rare and endangered rhododendron species. Mr Hootman has traveled extensively to China, Borneo, Vietnam and other exotic locales to locate, document, and conserve many of the rapidly disappearing populations of species rhododendrons.

In addition to the 700 species of rhododendrons at RSBG the Garden includes the world's largest Stumpery with its extensive collection of ferns, a magnolia grove, a blue poppy garden, the Rutherford Conservatory for tender rhododendrons and a Plant Sales Pavilion. This presentation is sure to whet your appetite for a few more species of rhododendrons and azaleas found in the astounding variety of beautiful plants from all over the world and closer to home at the Rhododendron Species Garden.

Cookie Sign-Up Sheet

January – **Thank You** Helen & Grace

February – Nancy Burns & Linda Wylie

March – Grace and Ed Fowler- Gore &
Sherlyn Hilton

Please feel free to bring goodies to share even if you haven't signed up.

Thank You

If you haven't renewed your membership, you probably will not receive the next ARS Journal and will be dropped from receiving a paper copy of the newsletter mailed to you .

Have you Remembered to Renew Your ARS Membership ?
ARS Dues remain at \$40.00 for a regular membership and \$10.00 for an associate membership (if you have a regular membership in another chapter). Please return the renewal form to Membership Secretary, Nancy Burns.

Please make your checks payable to "Eugene Chapter ARS."

Officers	<u>The Board</u>	Term	Phone	E-mail
President	Terry Henderson	2016-18	541-953-9316	jentersruger@aol.com
Vice President.	Jack Olson	2016-18	541-988-9133	rhodyjack@msn.com
Secretary	Sherlyn Hilton	2015-17	775-846-1950	sherlynhilton@gmail.com
Treasurer	Nancy Burns	2015-17	541-342-1946	nancyinor@msn.com
Past-President	Ali Sarlak	2016-18	541-758-9190	asghar@q.com
	Gordon Wylie	2014-17	541-895-2864	lgwone@gmail.com
	Helen Baxter	2015-18	541-461-6082	galen.baxter@comcast.net
	Grace Fowler-Gore	2015-18	817-975-4936	gracelovesbirds1@gmail.com

Note – two positions are available on the board.



Committees

- *Shows:** Helen Baxter, Sherlyn Hilton, Terry Henderson
 - *Nominating:** Available
 - *Welfare:** Nancy Greer and Harold Greer
 - *Hospitality:** Helen Baxter and Nancy Burns
 - Programs:** Board of Directors
 - Newsletter Editor:** Grace Fowler-Gore
 - Newsletter Printing & Mailing:** Harold Greer 541-686-1540 hgreer@greergardens.com
 - Webmaster:** Ed Gore webmaster@eugene-chapter-ars.org
- ARS chapter websites can be found at www.rhododendron.org

There's
room for
YOU on
the board.
Join Us!

Mark Your Calendar

North America Meets Europe

The **2018 ARS Convention** will be in Bremen, Germany. It will start around May 7, 2018, with optional tours before the convention and after the convention. The schedule may and probably will change slightly in the next couple months.

- 1st Pre-Tour: Optional 5 days visiting Dutch Gardens including Keukenhof Gardens
- 2nd Pre-Tour: Optional 2 days at RHODO 2018 Rhod. Festival & Hachmann's
- 3rd Pre-Tour: Optional 7 days public & private garden visits in Denmark & Sweden
- Convention: 6-day convention in Bremen from May 21 to 26 including 3 tour days
- Post-Tour: Optional 4 days visiting gardens in Finland.

Calendar this now! It is a do-not-miss event. You can choose to start in Holland or Germany with one of the 3 pre-tours or start with the convention. Then you can choose to finish in Germany after the convention or in Finland after the post-convention tour.

That means there are 8 possible combinations ranging from 6 days & nights for just the convention to 24 days & nights if you do everything which includes the 3 pre-tours to the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark and Sweden; the convention; and the post-convention tour to Finland.

American Rhododendron Society
Eugene Chapter
PO Box 7704
Springfield, OR 97475

Event Calendar 2016 – 2017

Monthly meetings 6:30 p.m. Thursday Campbell Community Center
155 High Street, Eugene, Oregon

- Feb. 9** **Monthly Meeting: Elaine Sedlack - "Frank Kingdon-Ward:
Connoisseur Plant Collector"**
- February 14 WVHPG Speaker Steve Hootman - "Plant-hunting in the wilds of Asia and
beyond: Highlights of over 20 years in the field."
- March 9 Monthly Meeting: Truls Jensen - "Garden perennials."
- April 8 ARS Eugene Chapter Spring Rhododendron Show & Banquet
3:00-9:00 Hilton Garden Inn, Springfield Speaker Mike Stewart -
"Rhododendrons, and Their Journey to Your Garden."
- April 15 & 29 O. Howard Hinsdale Garden OPEN 10 to 2
- April 27-30 ARS Spring Convention Hosted by Eureka Chapter
- May 13 O. Howard Hinsdale Garden OPEN 10 to 2
- May 13 Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Sale - Eugene Fairgrounds