

Spring Picnic Potluck at Hendricks Park

June 3rd at the Francis M. Wilkins Shelter from noon till 3 p.m.

The chapter will provide a sliced ham, so bring something yummy to share and let's all finish this season off with a wonderful potluck.

Please bring your own service and beverage. You might want to bring your chair if you prefer to sit in the garden.

**Looking forward to seeing you.
Family and friends are invited to attend.
We appreciate them joining in our fun!**

Thank you to Steve and John for your presentation:

Rhododendrons in South America

ARS Eugene Chapter, April, 2018

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Music in the Gardens
Long Beach Peninsula
July 21, 2018
<http://watermusicfestival.com/>

News from Hendricks Park
by Emily Aune

New swing set at Hendricks Park

Our beloved swing set has been replaced and updated. The original set was installed in 1971, while elk still roamed the hillside, and the Rhododendron Garden was well underway, at 20 years old. The old set consisted of a metal bar with brackets attached to two fir trees. Through the years, the tree grew around the metal bars, completely engulfing them. Unfortunately, during the horrible winter storm of 2016 the two attached fir trees and swing set toppled to the ground. The Friends of Hendricks Park purchased the new structure and city planners had them safely installed with a fresh play zone. The new set mimics the old style with two large wooden posts sunk in concrete, and two high swings to keep the history alive in the peaceful setting of the picnic area.



First time participant of our show, Lorna, with her raffle prize win.



Grace Fowler-Gore & Ted Hewitt. Oops! Grace forgot to vote! Thank you everyone for helping tally the ballots.

Thank you everyone for participating in our Spring Show.



Photos by Ed Fowler-Gore Pages 3 - 5

And the Winners Are!!

<u>Deciduous Azaleas</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Exhibitor</u>
1) 'Hortulanus H. Witte'	10	Harold Greer
2) 'Nifty Fifty' x unk.	8	Gordon Wylie
3) 'Arneson Gem'	3	Jack Olson
3) 'Mandarin Lights'	3	Terry Henderson
3) 'Irene Koster'	3	Terry Henderson



Evergreen Azaleas

1) purple azalea	12	Dena Fowler-Gore
2) 'Koromo Shikibu'	9	Harold Greer
3) 'Sugar & Spice'	4	Terry Henderson



Pink Elepidotes

1) 'Lem's Monarch'	5	Ted Hewitt
2) 'Harold Greer'	3	Harold Greer
2) 'Roadside Bounty'	3	Jack Olson
3) Three way tie (2 votes) - sorry labels didn't get pulled.		



Red Elepidotes

1) 'Martian King'	15	Jack Olson
2) 'Carmen'	4	Leonard Frojen
3) 'Dark Shadows'	3	Jack Olson
3) 'Grenadier'	3	Terry Henderson



White or Yellow Elepidotes

1) 'Wind Song'	5	Gordon Wylie
2) 'Phyllis Korn'	3	Dena Fowler-Gore
2) 'Horison Monarch'	3	Gordon Wylie
2) 'Golden Horn'	3	Jack Olson
2) 'Sun Quest'	3	Jack Olson



And the Winners Are!!

Other-Colored or Multi-Colored Elepidotes

- 1) 'Wild Ginger' 6 Gordon Wylie
- 2) 'Grandma's Hat' 4 Terry Henderson
- 3) 'Excitation' 3 Jack Olson



Lepidotes

- 1) 'Lady Roseberry' 11 Leonard Frojen
- 2) *R. kiusianum* 'Komo Kulshan' 5 Leonard Frojen
- 3) Three way tie (3 votes) - sorry labels didn't get pulled.



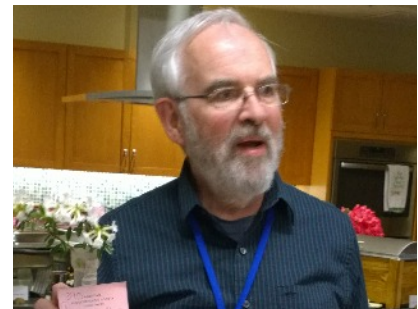
Species Elepidotes

- 1) *R. luteum* 'Blue Gold' 5 Leonard Frojen
- 2) *R. macrosepalum* 'Linearifolium' 4 Noel&Pepper Berkely
- 2) *R. sanquinium* ssp. *didymum* 4 Leonard Frojen



Species Lepidotes

- 1) *R. sargentianum* 7 Ted Hewitt
- 2) *R. oreotrepes* 5 Hendricks Park
- 3) *R. taggianum* 4 Jack Hackett
- 3) *R. kiusianum* 4 Leonard Frojen



People's Choice

- 1) 'Lem's Monarch' 6 Ted Hewitt
- 2) 'Roadside Bounty' 4 Jack Olson
- 3) Three way tie (2 votes) - sorry labels didn't get pulled.



Dwarf Species Rhododendrons for the Small Garden

by Ted Hewitt

As with the dwarf hybrids, it is difficult to choose just a few dwarf species to grow in the garden as there are so many that have interesting characteristics to observe as the plant grows. This time I would like to look at just one group of rhododendrons that have commonalities so that I can also review a little of the taxonomic tree of Genus *Rhododendron*. I am not sure why the taxonomists decided to also use the word ‘rhododendron’ for one of the eight subgenera of the genus but they did in referring to those generally with the smaller leaves and then to continue with the largest of the three sections, Section *Rhododendron*. Within this section, there is a very nice smaller group of dwarf rhododendrons, Subsection *Saluenensia*, that includes the species *calostrotum* and *saluenense*.

Rhododendron calostrotum is worthy to have in the small garden in any of its many forms which can range in size from a prostrate 1”-3” tall form to a shrubby bush of 4’. The delightful leaves which can vary from an interesting gray to a brighter green make for an attractive plant all year long but in late April to early May the openly saucer-shaped flowers stand up tall in shades of pink to rose-crimson to purple and are quite large compared to other parts of the plant. We have Frank Kingdon-Ward to thank for introducing this species to cultivation in 1914 after he found it growing in northeast Burma. Since then it has also been found in northwest Yunnan, Tibet, and Assam often on rocky hillsides and meadows but also in moorlands and along streams.



photo by Heinz Müller



One of the most attractive *R. calostrotum* clones is ‘Gigha’ with its handsome blue-green foliage and deep crimson flowers that is named after the Isle of Gigha on the west coast of Scotland. It grows to about 12”-18” high and likes a fair amount of sun though, like most alpine rhododendrons, does not like high summer temperatures. My first ‘Gigha’ enjoyed an open sky with good light but protection from the afternoon sun and was quite happy. In our new garden my ‘Gigha’ is in the rock garden and struggled with the hot afternoon sun last summer. I am hoping that a better mulch will help the situation this summer. The ideal for alpine rhododendrons in a rock garden would be morning sun and

afternoon shade but few gardens enjoy this combination.

Most photos by Ted Hewitt

Another of my favorite dwarf species rhododendrons formerly was *R. keleticum* but this is now considered to be a subspecies of *R. calostrotum*. *R. calostrotum ssp. keleticum* varies from a small compact shrub of about 1' in height to a prostrate ground hugger that roots as it spreads. The leaves on these plants are smaller than the species *calistrotum* at about 3/4" or less, are shiny and very attractive. The flowers are quite similar to the other *R. calistrotum* borne in trusses of 1, 2, or 3 and are bright purple crimson in late April or May. This is a handsome plant in the rock garden, the edge of the woodland garden, at the front of a border, or in a pot where one can enjoy it at close range.



In our new garden, I have *R. calistrotum* 'Gigha', a couple of the mounded forms of *R. calistrotum ssp. keleticum* , one plant of an almost prostrate form of *R. calistrotum ssp.*



keleticum from Bill Hicks, and two forms of *R. calistrotum ssp. keleticum* Radicans Group. Of these two in the Radicans Group, one is prostrate and about 3" high and the other is prostrate and only about 1" high. These last two have significantly smaller elongated leaves and grow very slowly, though they have the same rather large purple-crimson, widely funnel-shaped flowers. It's interesting to see why taxonomists have chosen to place all of these in the same species but I find that I like having separate ideas of what these plants are. Regardless, I like them all and value them in our garden. Certainly the

Radicans Group consists of plants that must be the smallest in the Genus Rhododendron.

R. saluenense, the other species in the Subsection Saluenensia, is also a nice plant for the small garden and one can certainly see the similarity with *R. calostrotum*. *R. saluenense* is usually a little larger and has slightly larger leaves but similar pinkish-purple flowers. The key difference is that it has bristly pedicels. It also likes some sunshine but not the hot afternoon sun.

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Event Calendar 2017 – 2018

June 3 12 pm to 3 pm Spring Picnic at Hendricks Park
@ Hendricks Park Shelter, 2200 Summit Ave, Eugene OR 97403

