

November Rhododendron Society meeting Wednesday, November 14th at The Springs. Join us for Dinner at 5:30 PM and/or meeting at 7:00 PM.

Harold Greer – Russia and its Rhododendrons

Russia is not a place we think of for rhododendrons, but some are native there, and there are a few rhododendron gardeners there. Some 15 years ago, I received an email from someone in Russia named Andrey Karpov. Of course, we all know about Russian spam emails of which being in business I got several a week. But this email seemed different, so I answered it. To make a long story short, I shipped Andrey many thousand dollars in plants and then Andrey started to visit us with his first visit in 2011. Since then, he has visited us five more times and we have become fond friends. Can you think of any of your friends you would spend three weeks with, who have English as a second language? Well, after three weeks, we became even better friends, and the Karpovs are special friends.

Sadly, for the rhododendron enthusiasts, this is more of a Russian travelogue than an educational rhododendron program, but you will still learn about rhododendrons growing in Russia. Through good pictures, music and more you will see a little first hand knowledge of the beauty of Russia and its rhododendrons.



Top Left - *R. caucasicum* in the wild

Right - *R. smirnowii* flowering in the Saint Petersburg Botanical Garden



Bottom Left - The Cathedral of the Annunciation in the Kremlin.



Pre-Meeting Dinner RSVP

Please contact **Harold Greer** by phone at 541-554-2342 or by e-mail at hgreer@greergardens.com, so that Harold can let the staff at The Springs know how many will be in our party.

Your Help is Needed

After serving as secretary of the chapter for 5 years and doing a masterful job, Sherlyn Hilton is now moving out of the area and we need a new secretary. The guidelines for secretary are:

- to serve as a member of the board of directors,
- to record minutes of board meetings and distribute them to board members and other interested chapter members,
- to keep records of the chapter activities,
- to write chapter correspondence at the direction of the chapter president, such as thank you notes. If you can help with this, please notify president Terry Henderson or any member of the board very soon and you will receive many words of thanks.

We send our appreciation to Sherlyn for her outstanding contributions to the leadership of the chapter and wish her well in the next chapter of her life. We will miss you.

Past President Ali Sarlak will be giving a talk in Florence this month:

Date: Tuesday, November 20th.

Topic: The program is about the people, landscape, and plants of Iran with Ali Sarlak of Corvallis. He is a past president of the ARS Eugene chapter.

Location: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, 6:30 for refreshments, 7:00 for the meeting.

Pre-Meeting Dinner: Will be at ICM, 1498 Bay St., at 5:00pm. Please call or email Sandi Hennig by November 16 at 541-997-2489 or flendish42@gmail.com to reserve your place at the dinner table! Be there for great fun, great food, and great company.

Ali will also be giving this talk on November 15th to the Southwestern Oregon Chapter in North Bend.
<http://www.sworegon-ars.org/>

Contributed by Gordon Wylie:

We sadly note the passing on September 28 of a veteran Oregon rhododendron enthusiast, Don Patrick. A long time ARS member from Sherwood, he and wife Dorothy celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary in July this year. Both participated in many chapter and District 4 events over the years. Smith Garden visitors, for example, may recall his unmistakable presence at the Gatehouse and plant sale area during open garden days. A skilled propagator, Don contributed many plants for fund raising efforts sponsored by various Oregon rhododendron groups. Always on the lookout for 'new rhodies', one recalls his delight in carrying off many specimens when Nolan Blansit closed out his efforts exploring new parameters in dwarf rhododendrons.

Sorry I missed placing this into the October Newsletter. - Grace

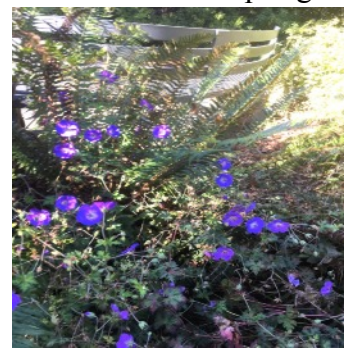
News from Hendricks Park by Emily Aune



It has been a wonderful fall. The mild temperatures combined with dry and sunny days, warm nights, and the absence of strong winds or rains has let the leaves slowly change and be viewed to their full potential. Maples, Viburnum, Dogwoods, Stewardias and Parrotias are among some of my favorites. But, a real show-stopper at Hendricks Park during the fall is the American Smoketree (*Cotinus obovatus*). This small tree, native to the Midwest, turns a brilliant orange with shades of yellow and red throughout the fall. The background of a blue sky really accentuates the color.



There are also many flowering garden treasures to discover. Nice fall flowers include the Colchicum 'Waterlily', hardy fuchsias, Geranium 'Rozanne', and Chrysanthemum 'Apricot'. Even a handful of Rhododendrons are opening up to give us a little sneak-preview of the fuller bloom we will see next spring.



Many of the deciduous azaleas have various shades of red to yellow prior to leaf drop that speckle the hillside. The Rhododendron in the photograph below has bright three-year old leaves, turning a nice pumpkin orange before shedding.



Asticou Azalea Garden Revisited

by Ted Hewitt

Author's Note: In October 2018, Paula and I had the chance to revisit one of our favorite gardens on a trip to Acadia Maine. In 2008, I wrote an article for the Eugene Chapter Newsletter on the Asticou Azalea Garden in Northeast Harbor, Maine, following a previous visit and the garden has become one of our favorite places to visit in this beautiful part of our country. The following is an updated version of this article.

For many gardeners, one of the enjoyable parts of traveling is having the chance to visit other gardens whether they are private gardens that are open as a local fundraiser, a nurseryman's display garden, or a public garden in a park. Asticou Azalea Garden is a garden that was designed and developed in the 1950's by Charles Savage, a third generation innkeeper and self-educated garden designer who developed his passion through books and discussions with designers who either vacationed at his inn or had summer houses on the island. One of his key mentors was Beatrix Farrand, a well-known East Coast garden designer, who had a beautiful garden at her Bar Harbor family estate. However, in the 1950's, she decided, for financial reasons, to dismantle the garden and sell her house which prompted Mr. Savage to purchase many of her mature and interesting plants some of which had been grown from seed procured from the Arnold Arboretum in Boston. On a piece of boggy marshland near his inn on Route 3, he created a beautifully serene garden of about two acres that has been described as a fusion of East and West in the natural setting of coastal Acadia. The combination of formal and informal plantings was a feature of many of Beatrix Ferrand's garden designs in Boston, New York City, and Washington D.C. and a style that is enjoyed by many gardeners in the Pacific Northwest.

As one enters the garden through a classic Asian gate from the small parking area amidst the indigenous, bonsai-like, contorted Pitch Pines (*Pinus rigida*) and Japanese flowering crabapples (*Malus floribunda*), the influence of Beatrix Farrand's naturalistic style is apparent with the bright green tufts of pincushion moss carpeting the forest floor while the eye is drawn down the raked crushed granite path to a small Nomen style Japanese lantern placed behind a granite rock and between two Rhododendron 'Ginny Gee', setting the stage for the Asian style of so much of the garden. As the visitor follows the immaculately groomed pathways through the woodland there are always little views down short side paths to a Japanese lantern or a bough of a pine tree sweeping down over the small pond or a small bridge over the stream that meanders through the garden.

Beside the path is a large Dwarf Alberta Spruce (*Picea glauca*) that Mr. Savage brought from Ms. Farrand's Reef Point Garden that is now



Moss Garden



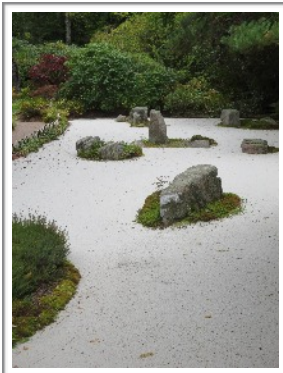
perhaps fifteen to twenty feet tall and 80 years old. Throughout the garden are the rhododendrons and azaleas from Ms. Farrand's prized collection that make the Asian style of the garden so appropriate and, though we have only visited this garden in the fall, we can imagine the splendor of seeing it in bloom in late spring as Mr. Savage carefully designed the plantings to showcase the colors of the blooms as well as the bloom times. Among the azaleas are *R. vaseyi*, *R. 'Viscosepala'*, *R. schlippenbachii*, *R. periclymenoides*, and *R. kiusianum* 'Komo

Kulshan' but in the fall some of the more spectacular plants are the flowering crabapples with their red or yellow-pink fruits and the red berries of the groundcover bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*).

Mr. Savage had the original marshland dug out to create a small pond as well as the Great Pond which now serves to reflect the tall, stately pines as well as the colorful fall foliage of the smaller trees, deciduous azaleas, Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*) and viburnums. In the spring I can imagine that the blooms of the pond-side azaleas and the large flowering cherry tree reflect as well. Being right beside Route 3, the Great Pond serves to open the garden to the view of motorists as they approach the town of Northeast Harbor with the light creating a stunning reflection. In a prominent spot between the two ponds is a huge specimen of a Sargent's weeping hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis* 'Pendula') with a trunk of perhaps twelve inches.



With his love for the style of the gardens of the Far East, known to him only through his books, Mr. Savage created a sand garden similar to the celebrated garden of Ryoanji in Kyoto that dates from about 1480. With the white sand raked daily, the setting of the rocks as islands in the middle of the sand seem to reflect the rocky islands of Acadia as seen from the tops of the ancient, rounded mountains of the national park. Though the garden is not overly large, it is easy to spend a considerable amount of time here enjoying a microcosm of Acadia with the interplay of the water, the trees, the sculpted hills, the granite rocks, and the walking paths but also there is the artistry of Asian beauty with the attention to detail and the immaculate grooming of the garden.





Asticou Azalea Garden, Northeast Harbor, Maine

photo by Ted Hewitt

Last November we asked, if anyone has a rhododendron ‘Hendricks Park’. Members – Emily is still on the lookout for the rhododendron ‘Hendricks Park’. If anyone is growing this and can offer cuttings, or has a plant that Hendricks Park could purchase, please let Emily know.

Emily Aune can be reached by phone at 541-255-5315 or by e-mail at emily.r.aune@ci.eugene.or.us.

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	2017-19	775-846-1950	sherlynhilton@gmail.com
Treasurer	Nancy Burns	2017-19	541-342-1946	nancyinor@msn.com
Past-President	Ali Sarlak	2016-18	541-758-9190	asghar@q.com
	Gordon Wylie	2017-20	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
	Emily Aune	2017-19	541-255-5315	emily.r.aune@ci.eugene.or.us

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

Looking for two new ARS Eugene Chapter board members.

The Secretary position is now available to be filled.

Ideally, our chapter has ten board members meeting once a month.

Are you one of the new board members????



Thank You Mike Bones for your talk and photos from the Spectacular Rhododendron Gardens and other Great sights from the Tours of the ARS German Convention 2018 – North America Meets Europe.

Cottage Grove Christmas Bird Count

Grace Fowler-Gore is coordinating the Cottage Grove Christmas Bird Count (National Audubon Society citizen science project) on December 29, 2017. If you are a birder and would like to participate in the bird count, please contact Grace either by e-mail at

GraceLovesBirds1@gmail.com or by telephone at 817-975-4936.



Photos by Ali Sarlak of birds in his garden.

American Rhododendron Society
Eugene Chapter
P. O. Box 50004
Eugene, OR 97405

Event Calendar 2018 – 2019

***Happy
Thanksgiving***

Nov. 14 Harold Greer – Russia and its Rhododendrons
*****NOTE THIS IS NOT THE THIRD WEDNESDAY**

Dec. 19 Holiday Potluck @ The Springs

Jan. 16 Jason Martinez –
The Rhododendron Garden of San Francisco Botanical Garden @
Strybing Arboretum.

Feb. 20 Steve Krebs from Ohio

March 20 Speaker & Topic TBA

April 17 Speaker & Topic TBA

May 4 Flower Show and Banquet

May 11 Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Sale @ Eugene Fairgrounds

Hope to see you.