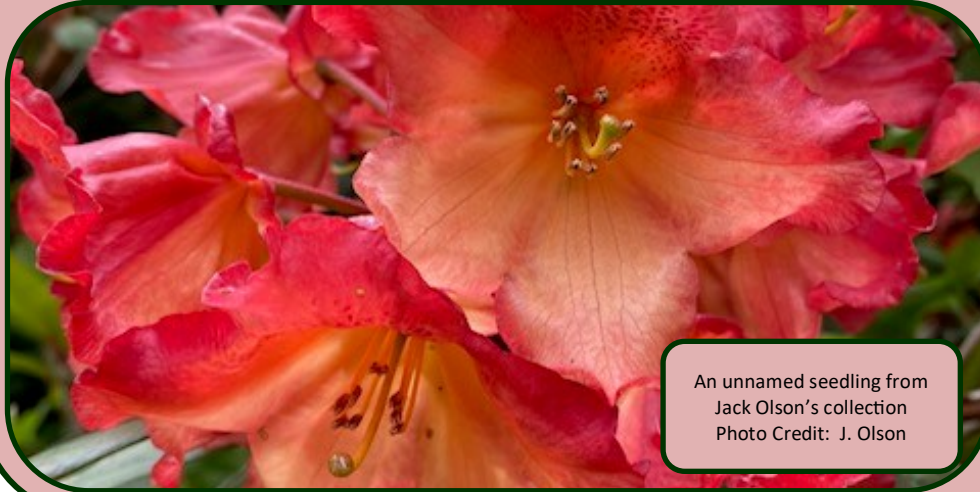


American Rhododendron Society



An unnamed seedling from
Jack Olson's collection
Photo Credit: J. Olson

Eugene Chapter Newsletter February 2023

*~ February Chapter Meeting ~
Wednesday, February 15th, 7:00 pm,
Dinner, 5:45-ish*

Our February Chapter Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15th, at The Springs at Greer Gardens. As usual, you are invited to join in for dinner before the meeting. The dinner will be a "South of the Border" buffet and the cost will be \$25/person. (A detailed menu is on page 3) If you would like to eat with us, please RSVP to Terry Henderson by text or call at 541-953-9316 no later than Tuesday, February 7th. Please be aware that if you RSVP and indicate that you will be joining the group for dinner, the chapter must pay for your meal, even if you don't show up, so please be certain about your attendance if you RSVP! No one wants to leave the chapter paying for someone who is a no-show!!

Our speaker for the February meeting will be Mr. Mark Akimoff of Illahe Rare Plant Nursery in Salem. He will be speaking about companion bulbs for rhododendrons in an alpine garden setting. He will also be bringing a selection of plants for sale (cash or card only). His presentation promises to be very interesting and enlightening!

Chapter Meetings

Our Chapter Meetings are typically held at 7 PM on the third Wednesday of the month, October through March, unless otherwise specified.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

Wednesday, February 15
Wednesday, March 15

Meeting Location

The Springs at Greer Gardens
1282 Goodpasture Island Rd
Eugene, Oregon

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~ ~ *News from Hendricks Park* ~ ~

“Our New Volunteer Coordinator, Cait Wisbeski”

by Emily Aune



As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, Hendricks Park has a new Volunteer Coordinator. Cait Wisbeski has been on the job since early August, when she glided effortlessly into her new position. I described Cait for the Hendricks Park newsletter as “easy going, a quick learner, positive and insightful—a great addition to the Hendricks Park family!” Our volunteers agree!

Cait previously worked with the Portland Nursery and the Audubon Society of Portland as well as with the City of Eugene. She has a wide-ranging background in horticulture, native plants and restoration, finance, planning, and

administration. She also is an experienced volunteer coordinator.

“When I first read the job description for this position, I felt an immediate connection,” Cait says. “I saw a rare opportunity that neatly embodies the diversity of skills and spirit of service I’ve spent my career pursuing: helping people build community through stewardship of their environment. It required relationship building, effective communication, program development, donor relations, and an understanding of how effective outreach can strengthen legacy and enhance impact. My transition into this role has been a source of professional fulfillment and personal joy. I look forward to continuing to grow with, learn from, and serve everyone who makes Hendricks Park a part of their community.”

It is never too late to come and join the volunteer work parties in the Rhododendron Garden of Hendricks Park every Tuesday morning from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon for weeding, new friends, and fun!

*Reassuring Information
From Tom Beatty*

During this recent cold spell many of you may have noticed leaf curl on your rhododendrons. This is normal behavior, most likely occurring to reduce water loss in the leaf tissue. As the air temperature warms, the leaves will return to their normal shape. Also, for those of you who grow rhododendrons under the eaves of your house, don't forget that those plants can become very dry, even in wet weather! Be sure to give these rhododendrons a good drink of water during the winter months and they will reward you with brighter flowers come spring!



*The 2023 American
Rhododendron Society /
Azalea Society of America Joint
Convention*

*"Georgia with Azaleas on My
Mind"*

~ ~ April 19 - 23, 2023 ~ ~

The 2023 ARS/ASA Joint Convention is being held in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 19 - April 23, 2023. The convention is jointly hosted by the Azalea Chapter ARS and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Azalea Society of America.

Atlanta is easy to get to from anywhere by either air or road. The convention hotel is the recently renovated Marriot Atlanta Perimeter Center, located north of downtown Atlanta and convenient to Atlanta's MARTA rapid transit system. The hotel is situated in Atlanta's Dunwoody area, with access to shopping, dining, parks, and more. Special rates have been negotiated for convention attendees.

For more information about the tours, seminars, and speakers being planned for the convention, please visit <https://www.azaleas.org/convention-2023/>, or check out the promotional video which can be viewed at https://www.azaleas.org/wp-content/uploads/conventions/2023/ARSASA_Convention_2023.mp4.

It is not too early to start making your plans to attend the convention!

Please RSVP by Tuesday, February 7th!!

February Dinner Menu

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***South of the Border Buffet***

***Chicken & Beef Filling w/Taco Shells and Tortillas  
Shredded Cheeses, Guacamole, and Pico de Gallo***

***Black Beans Spanish Rice***

***Corn & Black Bean Garden Salad w/Chipotle***

***Ranch Dressing & Dinner Rolls***

To RSVP, please call or text Terry Henderson at 541-953-9316 (please include your name in your text!) Cost is \$25 per person.

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

## *Looking Forward ...*

- February 22 - Board of Directors Meeting
- March 15 - Chapter Meeting and Dinner, Guest Speaker - Glen Jamieson, Editor of the Journal of the American Rhododendron Society
- March 22 - Board of Directors Meeting
- April - No Chapter Meeting
- April 19 - 23 - The 2023 ARS/ASA Joint Convention, Atlanta, GA
- May 6 (pending) - The Eugene Annual Truss Show, tentatively planned to take place in the Gordon Hotel Market Alley. Watch for more information!
- May 13 & 14 - Our chapter will participate in the Hardy Plant Show  
Several volunteers will be needed and appreciated!!
- May/June - Spring Picnic, location to be determined

## *ARS Eugene Chapter Officers*

Terry Henderson, President  
Jack Olson, Vice President  
Emily Aune, Secretary  
Nancy Burns, Treasurer

## *Directors*

Helen Baxter      Dana Manion  
Tom Beatty      Gordon Wylie  
Grace Fowler-Gore      Lorrie Bolivar

Board Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am, and are open to the public. To receive location information for the Board Meeting, please send an email to:

[ARS.EugeneChapter@gmail.com](mailto:ARS.EugeneChapter@gmail.com)

***The next Board Meeting will be held  
on February 22nd, 10:00 am***