

April 13th, Plants, People & Pizza @ Jack Olson’s Rocky Knoll Farm
 3:00-5:00 @ 84953 Renegade Lane, Fall Creek OR 97438

Jack Olson has an awesome property filled with rhododendrons of all sizes and growth habits, not to mention all of the other awesome plantings he has artfully placed around his home of 17 years, which he has named Rocky Knoll. If you appreciate rocks and rock plants, you can admire the long rock wall Jack has built from rock he has dug up while landscaping. I believe most of these rocks are jasper.

Jack has been passionately hybridizing rhododendrons, which we all know takes quite a bit of time and patience. Jack has offered us a chance to share in his passion by allowing members to evaluate which of his new seedlings are the best! Over the past 25 years, he has named and registered four plants: R. ‘Kahlua’, R. ‘Mead’, R. ‘Glady’ (Gladys Swenson hybrid), and R. ‘Prism’ (Nolan Blansit hybrid), which have all won trophies at shows.

For me, I look forward to learning the characteristics of rhododendrons, so at the May 6th Show I will have a better knowledge base to judge the entries.

When you first arrive, let us know if you wish to have pizza (\$5 per person). Papa Murphy’s Pizza and/or pizza delivered from Fall Creek Market at 4 p.m. I’ve heard people say it is really good pizza. Sitting around with friends talking about rhododendrons and eating pizza at four in the afternoon sounds perfect.

Please bring a chair and your favorite beverage.



Unnamed



R. Mead



Unnamed



R. Kahlua



Unnamed

Which seedling is worthy of a name?



R. Prism



Unnamed

Catch Jack Olson at the Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Group meeting Tuesday April 11th. Jack will be talking about hybridizing rhododendrons Tuesday and then Thursday April 13th you can see the results in person.

Personal Invitation from Vice-President Jack Olson:

For me, there is nothing more exciting than growing rhododendrons from seed. I have now been growing seedlings for over 25 years. It takes lots of time, but it is well worth it. At this time, I have thousands of seedlings. Why have I not put them on the market so people can enjoy them? There are way too many rhododendrons on the market, that in my opinion, should not be there. Some people name plants that just are not worth naming. At this writing, I have named and registered four plants. They all have won trophies at shows. I have nine more to register. My plants at this writing are R. Kahlua, R. Mead, R. Gladys (Gladys Swenson hybrid), and R. Prism (Nolan Blansit hybrid). In order for a hybrid to be named, it must be registered and accepted; otherwise, you have a lot of plants with the same name. It takes some time to register a plant. One must give color of truss, color of leaves, type of leaves, and any other characteristic that makes the plant unique.

On April 13th, I have invited our Chapter, and anyone who shows an interest, to come out to Rocky Knoll. We will be evaluating seedlings. I can't think of anything I would rather do in the rhododendron world. It will be a chance to see what I have been doing the last 17 years here at Rocky Knoll. I have always wanted to look at someone else's new seedlings and see what they are growing. Here is your chance. The program will start around three in the afternoon. We will have pizza from the Fall Creek Market, brought out around four. I have no idea how many plants will be blooming, but it should be a good experience. You will have a form to fill out for each seedling, and your comments will be read and accepted. I think this is a first for our Society chapter.

Thank you, Truls Jensen for “Lessons From On High: Improving Your Garden Using Rock Gardening Techniques And Mountain Plants”

Find “quarter ten” at <http://laneforest.com/bulk-rock-and-gravel/crushed-rock/>

PICKED UP - 1/2 YARD: \$13 | 1 YARD: \$26

Siuslaw Chapter's President Mike Bones – Invites Eugene to Florence for The BIG PLANT AUCTION

Chapter Meeting: Siuslaw Plant Auction - The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, April 18th at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, at 5:30 for refreshments; **6 pm** meeting and program.

Pre-Meeting Dinner: Will be April 18th at Three Rivers Casino & Hotel, 5647 Oregon 126, Florence, OR 97439, USA at **4 pm**. Please email Rosemary Rebello at rosemary.rebello@gmail.com or phone her at 541-261-1849 to reserve your place at the dinner table! Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Siuslaw Show dates for 2017 are held on Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23 and May 20-21, Siuslaw's 110th Annual Rhododendron Festival Show! @ Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St, Florence, OR 97439, USA Be sure to check out the Siuslaw website for the Show Schedule and Key. Siuslaw website: siuslawars.org

Portland Chapter ARS & Daffodil Society's Annual Show and Sale is April 1 & 2, 2017 @ Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, 5801 SE 28th Ave, Portland, OR. Go to www.rhodies.org for times and information.

15th Annual Spring GardenPalooza is Saturday April 1, 2017 from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM at Fir Point Farms in Aurora, Oregon. See <http://www.gardenpalooza.com/> for more information.

THE NAME GAME by Gordon Wylie

Springtime trips to the nursery section of big box stores reveal a wide array of plants, shrubs and trees attractively displayed...instant flowers and more permanent landscaping seductively begging a trip home in the family van or SUV. Turn a few shovels of dirt, and the Dogwood, the red rhodie and also a pink brighten the yard and become objects of admiration for you and all the neighbors.

Those reading these comments--avid gardeners and rhododendron enthusiasts--are of course 'knowledgeable'. And we are thus confident in our horticultural information. (Sniff!). We are caught up not only with making and visiting gardens, but also in learning more of the fascinating world, and words, of horticulture. Part of that process is becoming familiar with Mr. Linnaeus' (Swedish botanist Carl, sometimes shown as Carolus, Linnaeus, 1707-1778) binomial system of Latinized words precisely delineating each plant or tree.

Thus, that Dogwood is properly *Cornus nutallii*, the Maple *Acer palmatum*, perhaps one of the hundreds of named forms, such as Koto-no-ito, and that red rhodie is *Rhododendron barbatum*. And so on.... Of course part of the game is to keep track of all those names and, importantly, happily and confidently impress garden visitors with the correct name. To accomplish that feat requires a good labeling system.

The list of label material is extensive; starting with what is commonly a short lived plastic supplied by the originating nursery. Get rid of that right away; if you do not most will soon be broken up or lost and you may be faced with trying to figure out the plant's identity. Better lasting label materials include slats cut from old Venetian blinds, high quality flexible plastic, 'write-on' aluminum, and metal or heavier plastic which may be etched with identifying information. These might be backed up with the ultimate in today's technology: a computer managed database, including GPS locations for every tree and plant. This last is fine for a long lasting permanent record, but not really that helpful out in the real garden.

Some final thoughts about plant labels. Don't use a 'sharpie' or any other ink pen as the writing instrument; the writing washes off in the first few rains. Writing with a good old graphite pencil, on the other hand, lasts for many years. Write on both sides of the label, starting at opposite ends on each side. Make labels more readily found by attaching them at the same compass point of each plant or tree; e.g., the south side. Even if you know the name, make it a habit to look for the label on a plant or several plants each time you are enjoying a close look through your garden. This will reveal labels which should be moved as the plant grows and the inevitable 'missing in action' to be replaced before identity slips into the mists of time. Finally, a simple master list regularly kept up is a great back up to lost labels or memory.

From Mike Bones Siuslaw ARS Chapter
President :

We have updated our flower show key. It is up on our website siuslawars.org. All entries must be in by 9 am (we are letting members bring them in on Friday night...5 to 7 pm).

Rhododendron macabeum
Photo taken March 18th,
2017, Florence, Oregon by
Mike Bones, President of the
Siuslaw ARS Chapter.

Looks like the Siuslaw
Chapter's early show
April 21-22 is going to
have some great trusses.



2017 Spring Rhododendron Show and Banquet

Same Great Location as Last Year!

Hilton Garden Inn
3528 Gateway St.
Springfield, OR 97477

May 6th

Another fabulous flower show with great food, fabulous flowers, new plants, and, most importantly, the camaraderie of your friends!

Banquet Menu

Salad

- * tossed green salad with tomato, cucumber, carrot and croutons
- * arugula salad with asparagus and prosciutto ham
- * cucumber and tomato salad
- * bowtie pasta salad

Entree

- * roasted pork medallions topped with fresh peaches and caramelized onions
- * grilled chicken breast with apples, fennel and sausage
- * smoked gouda ravioli in a marinara sauce

Side Dishes

- * roasted potatoes, rice pilaf, fresh vegetables, freshly baked rolls with butter

Desserts

- * generous assortment of freshly made desserts

Drinks

- * Freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, water and hot teas.
- A no-host bar will be available for beer, wine or mixed drinks. Bar opens at 4:00.

Dinner is \$30 per person, including gratuity. We need an accurate seat count to give the restaurant, so please RSVP Harold by May 3rd.

What to Bring:

- trusses and sprays from your garden to enter in The Show
- bonsai, vireyas, & photos for the display tables
- checkbook and/or cash for plants and dinner

(make checks payable to ARS Eugene Chapter; sorry, no credit cards)

RSVP for dinner by May 3rd to Harold Greer (541) 554-2342 hgreer@greergardens.com

If you discover you can attend at the last minute, but have not given an RSVP, please call Harold to check on availability.

You may pay for dinner and your auction wins at the end of the evening with cash or a check. Treasurer Nancy Burns will handle the finances.

Spirited auction for unusual beauties, a silent auction for unique gems, and a raffle for an extraordinary specimen.

2017 Spring Rhododendron Show and Banquet
 Bragging Rights and Prizes Up For Grabs

NINE CLASSES TO ENTER

- 1 DA Deciduous Azaleas
- 2 EA Evergreen Azaleas
- 3 PE Pink Elepidotes
- 4 RE Red Elepidotes
- 5 WYE White or Yellow Elepidotes
- 6 OME Other-Colored or Multi-Colored Elepidotes
- 7 L Lepidotes
- 8 SE Species Elepidotes
- 9 SL Species Lepidotes

10 Prizes Awarded

- Best DA
- Best EA
- Best PE
- Best RE
- Best WYE
- Best OME
- Best L
- Best SE
- Best SL
- People's Choice Any Class

WIN!

Silent Auction

Bring money and prepare to bid!

WIN!!

Raffle Prize

For another chance to win, buy raffle tickets for \$1 each or \$5 for six and win the Raffle Prize.

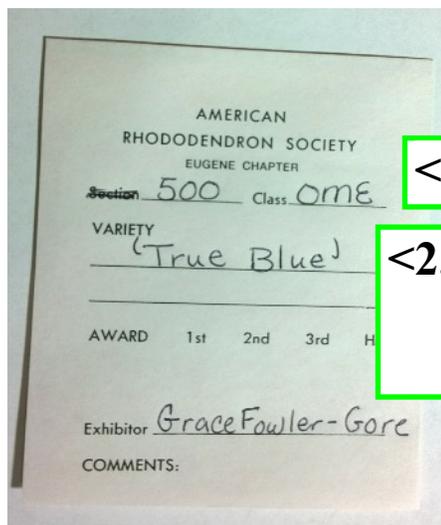
WIN!!!

Awards

First, Second and Third Place in each prize category will be announced at The Show and will be listed in the May Newsletter.

2017 Spring Rhododendron Show and Banquet

Simplified Entry Forms Entry Number Already Filled In.

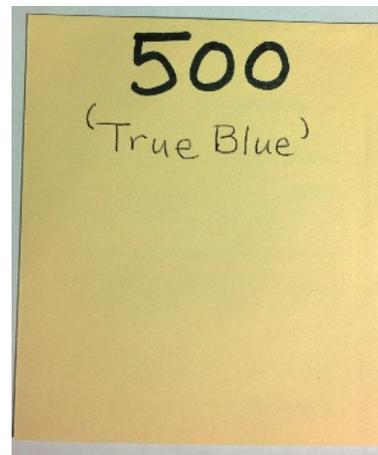


<1. Using CAPITALS, write Class of entry.

<2. Write name of your entry on front

AND on back. >

<3. Write your name.



Sample Entry Form - Front

Sample Entry Form - Back

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| DA - Deciduous Azaleas | OME - Other-Colored or |
| EA - Evergreen Azaleas | Multi-colored Elepidotes |
| PE - Pink Elepidotes | L - Lepidotes |
| RE - Red Elepidotes | SE - Species Elepidote |
| WYE - White or Yellow | SL - Species Lepidotes |
| Elepidotes | |

You may pick up Entry Forms early at the March and April gatherings, so you can fill them in at your leisure.

Schedule

3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Setup

3:30 - 4:45 p.m. Entries will be accepted from 3:30 p.m. through 4:45 p.m. Sorry, but if you come late, you will be able to display your flowers, but they will not be judged. Volunteers will help place your entry & Entry Form in the correct location.

To prevent voter bias, Entry Form is to be placed with only the back number and variety name showing. After voting, the entry form will be turned around to the front to show the entrant and rhododendron name.

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Each attendee may cast a ballot. All ballots must be turned in by the **5:30 deadline**. This will allow a reasonable amount of time to tally votes.

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. 5:30 Flip the entries around to see whom and what you voted for. Socialize while discussing everyone's wonderful entries.

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner

7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Plant Auction

7:30 - 8:20 p.m. Program Speaker: Mike Stewart "Rhododendrons, and Their Journey to Your Garden"

8:20 - 9:00 p.m. Cleanup

Officers	The Board	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



The voting is complete:

Sherlyn Hilton - Secretary

Nancy Burns - Treasurer

Gordon Wylie - Board Member

Thank You for graciously accepting the responsibility of another term serving the ARS Eugene Chapter.

Let's all **welcome** our new board member Emily Aune. You can join her Tuesday mornings at Hendricks Park. She'd love to have your help. <http://friendsofhendrickspark.org/volunteers.html>

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

The Cecil and Molly Smith Garden, world renowned for its collection of species and hybrid rhododendrons, will be open during the blooming season, **Saturdays and Sundays, April 1—May 21, 2017, 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.** This three-acre natural woodland setting also features choice trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and bulbs, including Cyclamen, Trillium, Erythronium and Narcissus which complement the over 600 rhododendrons and azaleas. Established in the early 1950's, the garden contains many rare species grown by Cecil Smith from seeds imported from China and cuttings from England, as well as hybrids he developed. The Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society purchased the garden in 1983 and, along with the Willamette and Tualatin Valley Chapters, now manages and maintains it. A selection of plants featured in the garden are available for purchase. Admission is free for ARS members. There is a modest admission fee of \$3.00 for the general public. Due to the sloping site the garden is not considered handicap accessible. The garden is located at 5055 Raybell Road, St. Paul, Oregon, 97137. 7/10ths of a mile west of Highway 219 between St. Paul and Newberg. Turn west on Champoeg Road and continue straight on to Raybell Road to the garden. Parking and entrance are on the right just past the house with the garden address. For more information, call Dick or Karen Cavender at 503-625-6331 or see <http://smithgarden.org> This spring, don't miss this hidden gem which has been featured in Horticulture magazine and several television programs. By Roger Lintault

ARS Spring Flower Shows and Convention

- 2017 Rhododendron Species Symposium April 7-9
- Willamette Chapter April 21-22
- Siuslaw Chapter April 22-23 & May 20-21
- ARS National Convention April 27-30
- Eugene Chapter May 6
- Southwest Oregon Chapter May 6-7

April 27-30

Rhododendrons in the Redwoods Annual International Convention of ARS is being hosted by the Eureka Chapter. Please see details in ARS Journal Vol. 71, Number 1, Winter 2017 or on-line at www.eurkarhody.org

Goodies Crew

March - **Thank You**

Grace and Ed Fowler- Gore & Sherlyn Hilton

Thank You to everyone who has brought goodies to share this year.

Want to host a potluck at your property? Please contact a board member.

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

Event Calendar 2017

- April 7-9 2017 Rhododendron Species Symposium @ RSBG in Federal Way, WA
- April 11 Jack Olson presenting 'How to Grow Rhododendrons from Seed.'
6:30 @ Campbell Community Center, 155 High Street, Eugene, OR
- April 13 **Plants, People & Pizza @ Jack Olson's Rocky Knoll Farm**
3:00-5:00 @ 84953 Renegade Lane, Fall Creek OR 97438
- April 15 & 29 O. Howard Hinsdale Garden OPEN 10 to 2 & May 13
- April 27-30 ARS Annual International Convention Hosted by Eureka Chapter
- May 6 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."
- May 13 Willamette Valley Hardy Plant Sale - Eugene Fairgrounds
- June Potluck at Chapter Member Home - Looking for a host or hostess!
- July Spring Picnic in Bandon – See details in next month's newsletter.