



Macrophyllum

January 2006

Newsletter of the
Siuslaw Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
Post Office Box 1701
Florence, OR 97439-0111

WEB SITE: <http://www.siuslawars.org>

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UPCOMING MEETING--- *January 17, 2006 Social Time 6:30 PM, Starts at 7 PM*
Where---Presbyterian Church 3996 Hwy 101 Florence, Oregon 97439
This Month's Program— Mike Bones "Our Rhododendron Family"
*****Rhododendron Door Prizes*****
**Pre-meeting dinner 5 PM at the ICM Restaurant, 1498 Bay St. Florence.
Call Eileen McKenney 541-997-2222 or <mailto:egmc@charter.net> for reservations.

President's Report

Our annual Christmas party was fun. Good food. Good friends. What a great way to start the holiday season! Certificates of Appreciation were given to Ziggy and Freda Ziegelmaier for all of the many things they do that help make our Chapter so enjoyable.

The Bronze Medal, the highest award a Chapter can give, was presented to our Vice-President, Jeannie Shields, for her services to the Chapter.

Here in the Central Oregon coast area we expect January to be our stormiest month of the year. But between the storms we usually have nice weather when we can be outside working in our gardens. This is the time when we should be taking a critical look at our gardens to see if we have any storm damaged plants. Broken branches should be removed by using your pruners to make nice clean cuts. Look also to see if you should replace some of your plants that may not be doing well, are over-grown, or older hybrids that could be replaced with some of the newer beautiful hybrids that have been developed in recent years.

It is not too late to take cuttings from many varieties such as R. yakushmanum and it's hybrids. In fact, some varieties seem to root better from cuttings taken in the winter.

But on those stormy days when being outside is not a pleasant place to be, send for the latest rhododendron catalogs. There are several being offered in the ARS Journal. These catalogs are full of information about our favorite plants, describing in detail the plants' parentage, flower color, eventual size, growth habit and hardiness of the plants.

Our "before Chapter Meeting dinner" will be at the ICM Restaurant this month. Call Eileen McKenny for reservations at 541-997-2222. Please have your reservation requests in to Eileen no later than the Friday noon before the meeting night because the restaurants need to know how many of us to expect. After dinner, we will all go to our regular meeting place, The Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, for coffee and cookies and more visiting until the meeting begins at 7:00 P.M.

Our featured speaker for this meeting will be our own Past President / District Director Mike Bones, who will be discussing " Our Rhododendron Family". I'm not sure if this includes Cousin Myrtle and Uncle Joe or not, but Mike's presentations are always enjoyable and educational. I'm sure you won't want to miss it!

EVERETT HALL

**Siuslaw Chapter ARS
Christmas Potluck and Awards Party
December 11, 2005
Odd Fellows Campground**

Everett Hall had everyone introduce themselves and who came with them.

Pete Peterson and Cheryl Prchal showed the new available jackets and announced we could order and pre-pay for one now. The cost is \$41.00, with a bit more for the larger sizes. It will be \$3.00 extra for your name to be put on it.

Mike Bones as District Director gave a check from District 4 to the Chapter toward renting of the extra rooms for the District wide rhody show in 2007.

Kathy Bones read a thank you note from Larry Landauer for having him come to our chapter to speak last month.

Jeannie Shields and Everett handed out Certificates of Appreciation to Freda and Ziggy Ziegelmaier for all their work they do for the Chapter.

Jeannie Shields was presented with the Bronze Medal for her tireless work for the Chapter. Jeannie is responsible for many of the new programs and ideas the board gets credit for. Our congratulations go to all the recipients of the awards!! A picture of the Bronze Medal recipients present was taken.

The Christmas gifts were handed out.

Good food and fun for all!!!!

Kathy Bones, Secretary

2005 Bronze Award Recipient



Jeannie Shields receiving her Bronze Medal

From Jim Smith and Everett Hall



All Siuslaw ARS Bronze Medal Winners

LARRY LANDAUER

Larry Landauer from the Floral Land Nursery in Forest Grove, Washington was our November speaker. His comedic approach was both entertaining and informative. He spoke on "Dirt 101". He told us that if your soil is **dirt**, use less fertilizer, if it is **sand**, use more fertilizer and organics, and if it is **clay**, use coarse organics-which can be bark or leaf mold. Worms are good. There must be oxygen present in the soil, which is provided by the organics.

The ideal PH for our Rhodies is between 6.5 and 7. If the PH balance is too low, you may need to add lime, so the plants can use the nitrogen. Gypsum (a form of lime) can be added at a rate of 1 Tablespoon per gallon pot of water. It moves slowly, and is not water- soluble. Snowflake Lime is very fast and HOT. Put it on, wait 1 hour and then water at least 1 inch deep. Larry uses the Kelway Instruments "Instant PH Meter" to check his plants. Recent watering or fertilizing will lower the PH reading, so don't check plants immediately after either are applied.

If your plants look puny, are slightly yellow, or if there are too many leaves falling off, you may need fertilizer. Aged cow manure, or commercially bought fertilizer are good, though pig manure isn't, as it contains too much methane. He uses an instrument called "Plant Communicator" to check for

nitrogen in the soil. He recommends 20-10-10 Fertilizer. He also uses a "Taylor Moisture Meter" to check the electrolysis of soluble salts in the soil through conductivity.

On the topic of pruning azaleas, he says to only remove 30 percent per year. You should do pruning the day after they finish blooming (rhododendrons too). The plants store nutrients in the leaves, so don't remove them in the fall, they feed on the nutrients all winter. You can "bunch cut" azaleas like a weed eater and not hurt a thing. You must prune the roots the same amount as you prune off the top of the plant. The top reacts to how the roots are cut. There are "dormant eyes" that will remain dormant as long as there are leaves above it. If you cut below the dormant eye, the plant will grow more. You should leave 6" of plant above the ground.

When planting azaleas, do not dig the hole deeper than the pot height, unless the soil is clay. Then you must mix equal soil with coarse organics. Fill the hole and place the plant on top and bring the organics up the sides in a mound. Note- 80 % of the roots are in the top 3" of soil! You should tickle the roots, don't cut them before planting.

---Wendy Grant and Linda Lanning

HERE IS A RECIPE FROM THE CHRISTMAS POTLUCK
Thanks Cheryl Prchal for the Recipe!

Spicy Pecans

- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 4 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon cayenne
- 1 pound pecan halves
- dash Tabasco sauce, optional

Melt butter or margarine in heavy skillet. Stir in rest of ingredients, except pecans. Mix well, add pecans; stir until nuts are well coated. Place in a single layer in an ungreased 15½"x10½"x1" baking pan. Toast pecans in a 300 degree oven 25-30 minutes or until nuts are brown and crisp. Stir frequently.

YIELD: 4 cups

**BELOW IS AN ORDER FORM FOR OUR JACKETS--
COMPLETE AND BRING WITH YOU TO THE MEETING,
or we will have order blanks at the meetings too.**

**SAMPLE JACKETS CAN BE SEEN AT THE JANUARY MEETING
See Pete Peterson**

Order Form
Siuslaw Chapter ARS Jacket

Two types of jackets are available.

Baseball type jackets are hunter polyester lined with navy blue nylon liner.*

Parka type jackets are Toughlan nylon (polyurethane-coated) with black fleece liner.**

Both jackets are embroidered with Siuslaw Chapter American Rhododendron Society embroidered on front.

Name _____
Phone Number _____
E-mail Address _____

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID.

Quantity	Size*	M/W	Tall**	Price	Optional First Name \$3.00	Total
_____	XS	_____	_NA_	\$41.00	_____	_____
_____	S	_____	_NA_	\$41.00	_____	_____
_____	M	_____	_NA_	\$41.00	_____	_____
_____	L	_____		\$41.00	_____	_____
_____	XL	_____		\$41.00	_____	_____
_____	2X	_____		\$43.00	_____	_____
_____	3X	_____		\$44.00	_____	_____
_____	4X	_____		\$45.00	_____	_____
_____	5X	_____		\$45.00	_____	_____
_____	6X	_____		\$45.00	_____	_____

*Baseball type jacket not available in tall sizes. See Pete for info on tall sized jackets.

**Parka type jacket not available in women's tall sizes or size 5X and 6X women's.

Total Order _____

Please make checks payable to "Siuslaw Chapter ARS." Thank you.

Give order to Pete Peterson or mail order to: Siuslaw Chapter ARS, PO Box 1701, Florence OR 97439

The OREGON HEATHER SOCIETY is inviting us to the following event:

HEATHERS FOR WINTER GARDEN COLOR

Slide presentation and heather plant sale

January 21, 1 pm

Eugene Garden Club

1645 High Street

Eugene, OR 97401

Contact Ella May Wulff 541-929-6272 or

ewulff@peak.org

President: Everett Hall

(541) 997-3605

<mailto:evhall@msn.com>

Vice President: Jeannie Shields

(541) 902-8358

<mailto:djshields@myway.com>

Secretary: Kathy Bones

(541) 997-3082

<mailto:kathybones@charter.net>

Treasurer: Cheryl Prchal

(541) 902-7637

<mailto:rhodyholic@yahoo.net>

Board Members:

Mike Bones, Past President,

New Members (541) 997-3082

<mailto:rhodies@charter.net>

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Historian: Yvonne Moore

(541) 997-1225

<mailto:moorey@oregonfast.net>

COOKIE BAKERS:

January- Joanne Wilson, Sandi Huffman, Jeanne McNa, and Jackie Marble.

Note: If you are unable to bring cookies, please contact Jenny Velinty at (541) 997-7573 or <mailto:jenvel@harborside.com>

Gallagher Park could use a few more hands on Thursdays after each meeting. Come out about 10am until noon. Gloves are a must for this. Come on out and see what we are doing to make a real show place of Florence! The park is at the corner of Spruce Street and Hwy 126.
Gene Cockeram -City of Florence Park & Recreation Committee

Board Meetings are the Tuesday before our Monthly meeting at the Bones' Residence at 7PM, any member is welcome to attend.

Siuslaw Chapter ARS Mission Statement

The Mission of the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is to promote the genus Rhododendron by:

- Creating enthusiasm for the genus Rhododendron through meetings, shows, publications, and social activities that provide the opportunities for members to share experiences and build friendships.
- Providing educational opportunities to successfully grow and enjoy these wonderful plants.
- Encouraging propagation and hybridizing of species and hybrid rhododendrons.
- Furthering the planting and use of rhododendrons and azaleas in home, business, and public landscapes.
- Advocating the conservation and preservation of superior plants of our native Rhododendrons and their habitat along the Oregon Coast.
- Advancing and supporting the mission of the American Rhododendron Society.