



Macrophyllum

Summer Supplement 2009

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

WEBSITE: <http://www.siuslawars.org>

Paul Wilson, Webmaster- (541) 902-9780, rhodyfan@mac.com

UPCOMING Chapter Events

Meeting Topic- Annual Meeting and potluck picnic June 14, 2009

Chapter Annual Meeting – We gather at the *Honeyman State Park Yurt* at 12noon and eat at 1:00 p.m.

What to bring:

1. A table setting for yourself and guest (plate, silverware, napkin, drinking cup)
2. Your favorite beverage(s)
3. Plant or other garden gift for the “*gift game*” (if you want to participate); see game rules below.
4. Meal item- you can bring a hot dish, dessert or salad

Other business at the picnic will be the election of officers for the 2009-10 chapter year.

Gallagher Park Work Party – A work party for June will be discussed at the picnic. We want to get a large group of people together at the park to do early summer cleanup, deadheading and pruning. Many types of equipment will need to be brought to use, like wheelbarrows, hand clippers, long lopping pruners, rakes, brooms, etc. The park is at the corner of Spruce and Hwy 126. Gene Cockeram will be coordinating this project. For more information contact him at flowerman@g.com or 997-2377.

Newport Garden Show- this June the show will be on Friday and Saturday, June 26-27. The chapter may have an informational booth if some volunteers can be found to assist Mike. There are lots of sources of gardening information at this show and Newport is a fun town to visit for a day or weekend. Almost as fun as Florence!

July Wineries Tour- Join the *Wild and Crazy Ladies* this July for the tour! This promises to be a great trip. Judy Johnson and Debbie Drefchinski will guide the tour on **Friday July 17, 2009** to three wineries; tasting wines, buying wines and eating lunch at King Estate Winery as the group enjoys their fabulous view. Meet the ladies at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot in front of the Florence True Value hardware store at the corner of Hwy 126 and Hwy 101. The first stop will be King Estate with lunch in their café; then on to Sweet Cheeks Winery followed by Hinman Winery. Designated drivers with vehicles will be available. Contact for Judy is 997-4203 and for Debbie 997-8376.

August Potluck Picnic- August 2nd we'll be gathering again. Same place, time, and things to bring as the June picnic.

Western Regional Fall Conference- will be held September 18-20 in Federal Way Washington state. Your editor has already sent out the conference invitation and reservation sheet to membership. If you need another copy, please e-mail Merilee at gmmulvey@oregonfast.net

New District Director- congratulations to Bob MacIntyre who is the new District 4 Director for the ARS! Bob is also a member of our chapter and the *Southwestern* chapter and his wonderful wife Marjene produces and distributes the *Southwestern* chapter newsletter! Bob created our new addition to the flower shows, the “Kitchen Table,” where visitors can receive expert information about the care and planting of Rhododendrons and Azaleas. You can contact Bob at remacintyre@yahoo.com

New Western Region Vice-President- congratulations to Don Smart, an associate member of our chapter, who has just stepped into this position.

THE NAME OF THE **GAME** IS.... HAVING FUN AT OUR PICNICS!

The "game" instructions go like this.....If you bring a plant or "something" to add to the game, you're in. Mike and Jim often bring extra so "forgetters" can still play. Tickets are handed out with the other half of the ticket going into a hat. The numbers are called randomly.

The person with the first number called goes out to the circle of items and chooses one to stand behind. The person with the second ticket called has the choice of "stealing" the first one's item or choosing any of the remaining items. This goes on with each additional number called.

Now when a plant is "stolen" the victim has 30 seconds to find a new item. This means anyone being bumped has to hustle to another plant if they intend to steal. When the time runs out, the last person without an item must choose something that no one is behind.

When all numbers have been called the first number has the option to keep his item or "steal" since he never got the opportunity to do that. Sometimes the game goes fast with little stealing and sometimes the game takes a long time with everyone stealing!!!

Everyone has fun! We hope you will join us at the summer picnic at Honeyman Park.

Greetings from Gerdemann Botanical Garden

We wish to extend an invitation to interested Siuslaw Chapter members to come and see what's happening at the Gerdemann Botanical Garden. We're almost finished with the new accessible trail loop in the lower end of the garden and about to begin replacing old bridges along Mitchell Creek.

There are many unidentified rhododendrons in bloom right now including large mature plants that we've never seen bloom before in the past two years we've been working in the garden while Jim and Janice were living here. Any help with ID would be much appreciated !

Best Regards from

Kathleen & Jerry Sand
(Siuslaw Chapter members)

Visit the wonderful website for the Botanical Garden:

<http://gerdemangarden.org/>

Becoming a Donor...

We will investigate this process in the September newsletter. Our development fund uses donations in many useful ways through the chapter projects in our community.



Species Rhododendron Macrophyllum

Coastal Florence is filled with this famous species that defines the area. Sometimes we take it for granted, so I thought this summer we should once again appreciate our beloved darling and introduce her to our new members who may not be aware of the treasure we possess in Florence!

Predominate flower colors are Pink, Purple.

Bloom time is midseason to late midseason (April to July)

Height in 10 years is at least 5 feet, but this specimen reaches towering heights to become trees

Cold hardiness is -5°F (-21°C)

Plant habit is erect, vigorous shrub or small tree

Sub Genus is Hymenanthes

Geographical origin is California to British Columbia

Watch for an article in the September Macrophyllum about the Largest specimen in the garden of the Grants!

Editor's Corner:

Thank You One And All

Our flower shows are so successful not only because we have a great chapter that puts it all together, but also because of the special people and businesses that provide donations for trophies to be awarded to those lucky participants who win in all the categories! It's time to give a hardy thanks to these donors:

Early Show in April-

Western Lane Community Foundation, Pete & Candy Baumer, Bob & Lynda Bare, Bill & Phyllis Dickson, Merilee Mulvey, Nancy Fullmer, Bill & Sandi Hennig, Jim & Sylvia Smith, and Bill & Judy Johnson.

Florence Rhody Festival Show in May-

Oregon Pacific Bank, Western Lane Community Foundation, Siuslaw News, Siuslaw Bank, Stained Glass Fantasy, C James Nursery, Lakeshore Myrtlewood, Woodsman Nursery, Jennifer Velinty, Sandi & Bill Hennig, Ann Drake, Nancy Fullmer, Bill & Judy Johnson, and Galen & Helen Baxter.

Thank you to those people who judged the shows, a daunting task. Thank you to the many chapter members who put in hours to set up, volunteer as show workers, take down, storage, plant sales, and the many other things that need to be done to put on what Mike Bones tells me is the largest rhody flower show in the world! If you haven't assisted with the show, please consider doing so next year. It is very easy and even the smallest job is very important to the overall show.

Wishing you all a healthy, happy summer. Be safe, drive carefully, and spread kindness to your neighbors, friends, and family. As I have experienced from this wonderful group of rhody enthusiasts, the kindness comes back tenfold.

Best Regards, Merilee/Editor

P.S. The dates for 2010 flower shows are: early show April 24th and late show May 22nd so put these dates on your calendar now and remember to volunteer next year!

President: Mike Bones
(541) 997-3082
rhodies@charter.net

Vice President:
Bill Hennig
(541) 997-2489
just1more@q.com

Secretary: Kathy Bones
(541) 997-3082
kathybones@charter.net

Treasurer: Nancy Fullmer
(541) 997-7579
nfullmer05@msn.com

Board Members:
Jim Smith, Past President
(541) 268-6821
rhodysmith@qwestoffice.net
Judy Johnson
(541)997-4203
Billnjudy4@charter.net

Merilee Mulvey
(541) 997-8025
gmmulvey@oregonfast.net

Sandi Hennig
(541) 997-2489
fiendish@g.com

Book Chairperson:
Ron Sjogren
541-997-1957

Garden Tours:
Judy Johnson (& Debbie Drefchinski)
(541)997-4203
Billnjudy4@charter.net

Newsletter Editor & Distribution:
Merilee Mulvey
(541) 997-8025
gmmulvey@oregonfast.net

Membership; Hospitality:
Sandi Hennig
(541) 997-2489
fiendish@g.com

Show Chairman:
Chapter Board – early show 2009
Jim Smith – late show 2009

Historian:
Debbie Drechinski
(541) 997-8376
No email

Publicity:
Judy Johnson
(541)997-4203
Billnjudy4@charter.net

Store (clothing):
Connie Rosenbalm
(541)-997-8205
riverskip@hotmail.com

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.