October 2015
Siuslaw Chapter
American Rhododendron Society
P.O. Box 1701
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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS:

Meeting topic: Tuesday, October 20th: 4:00 p.m. Jack Olson: Companion plants for the Rhododendron Garden.

Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 13th - at Jim and Sylvia Smith’s home in Mapleton at 6:30.

Chapter Meeting: The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, October 20th, at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3669 Highway 101 in Florence, at 4 pm for refreshments. The meeting and program to follow shortly. The meeting is free and open to all.

Post-Meeting Dinner will be at 6:30 pm at ICM. Please call Sandi Hennig to make reservations at 541-997-2489 or e-mail her at flendish@q.com. Be there for great fun, great food, & great company.

Gallagher Park Work Party: There will be a work party on Wednesday, October 21st at 10 until noon (weather permitting). Any questions call Gene Cockeram at 541-997-2377 or email toflowerman@gmail.com

Cookie Team: Sandi Jensen and Mike Bones

Other Oregon Chapter Meetings

EUGENE CHAPTER: Campbell Senior Center 155 High Street, Eugene, OR
Second Thursday, Oct to May at 7:30 pm

PORTLAND CHAPTER: All Saints Episcopal Church, 4033 SE Woodstock Ave, Portland, OR, Third Thursday September through May, the program begins at 7 pm.

TUALATIN VALLEY CHAPTER: First Tuesday of the month at 7 pm Washington County Fire District 2 31370 NW Commercial Street North Plains, OR 97133

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON: Third Thursday of each Month
Oct -May: 6:30 pm Social, Linda Hardison, Director of the Oregon Flora Project, will be speaking to us at our October 15 meeting at the North Bend Housing Authority Community room at 7 p.m. She will be bringing Volume 1 – Monocots

WILLAMETTE CHAPTER: Second Wednesday of the month, Sep thru May; Dec and May meetings held elsewhere. Meeting is held at First United Methodist Church, 600 State St., Salem, OR.

Presidents message  by Mike Bones

It is so nice to finally see the fall. I was getting tired of the summer with no rain. It is time to get the gardens started for next year and the years to come. With the ground still warm from the summer and the rains starting to get here, the roots of the rhododendrons/azaleas and other plants are starting to grow. It’s time to get out that shovel and transplant those rhododendrons that you want moved. They are easier to move now rather than to cut them down in the spring. (Oh that hurts!) When replanting the moved Rhody/azalea, be sure to raise the top of the root ball a little higher than what it was before you dug it. Use plenty of bark, under and around the ball. Lastly, give it plenty of water. I try to wait a month before I fertilize it although some do it right away, but make sure that the fertilizer is sprinkled on top of the ground and not down in the hole as those little new roots can burn easily when they come in contact with the fertilizer. There are new rhododendrons and azaleas out there that would make a good addition to your garden. Please remember to choose the proper plant for the place you would like it to grow. (Not to tall or wide for the area.) Here in Rhododendron Heaven on the central Oregon Coast, we don’t have to worry too much about planting the plants in full sun. The more sun, the more blooms and the plant will be fuller because it doesn’t have to reach up for the sun. Bulbs make great companion plants for our favorite Rhododendrons/azaleas. Now is a good time to plant the bulbs but give them good drainage like your other plants. The stores have a wide variety of interesting choices.

Join us for our meeting on October 20th  with Jack Olson from Fall Creek Oregon. He has a garden that looks great year around, using Rhododendrons and Azaleas with so many different and interesting companion plants. Coincidently, “Companion Plants” will be his topic. We will be meeting at a new time for the winter, 4 pm with dinner to follow at 6:30 pm.
Azalea Lace Bug in Oregon: a threat to horticultural and native plants

Azalea lace bug, AZLB, Stephanitis pyriodes, is an Asian species known from the eastern USA for almost a hundred years. There it has been a sporadic pest of ornamental azaleas and species of rhododendron, especially those in hot and dry situations. The very fine sucking mouthparts penetrate leaf cells and extract chlorophyll and other cell contents.

AZLB is behaving very differently in Oregon, where it was first recognized in 2009, than in the East. It has caused widespread and severe damage to ornamental azaleas and rhododendrons throughout the Willamette Valley, with up to almost total loss of chlorophyll from the entire canopy of infested plants. It is attacking plants never before recorded as hosts, including several species of ornamental Gaultheria and Vaccinium and even commercial blueberry. AZLB also attacks native, wild plants in nursery and ornamental settings, such as salal, Gaultheria shallon, western azalea, and both species of Kalmiopsis. Repeated severe damage may diminish the vigor of or even kill favored plants.

Thus, AZLB may be a not only a major horticultural pest but may also threaten native forests and shrub lands. AZLB is not yet known outside of urban settings.

Because of these concerns, IPPM is asking that staff check potential hosts in the family Ericaceae, especially other than azaleas and rhododendrons, for the presence of AZLB. All life stages are found on the undersides of leaves of hosts, often concentrated along the midrib. Signs of infestation include pale yellow spotting on the top of leaves and tarry, black fecal spots on the underside, along with the spiny immature stages and the adults. Adult life size is shown on the attached images, along with comparisons to other lace bugs that might be found. Only the rhododendron lace bug, a native species, is likely to be found on ericaceous hosts. If suspect AZLB are found, please collect specimens with locality and host data and contact James LaBonte at 503--986--4749 or at jlabonte@oda.state.or.us.

Azalea lace bug damage to Rhododendron sp.

- feeding damage
- fecal spots
- AZLB adult
Azalea lace bug adult

large, black-veined hood

two wing bands

Rhododendron lace bug adult

smaller, pale-veined hood

one wing band

Corythucha sp.

small spines along body edges

square “shoulders”

Immature azalea lace bugs on underside of leaf, near midrib
Dear friends of the Gerdemann Botanic Preserve,

It is still hard to believe that the Gerdemann Botanic Preserve is under my care. I am honored to be entrusted with this precious place, and am truly looking forward to getting to know my new home and the landscape, nearby wild areas and the town.

I first heard about the Preserve when planning a trip to the coast over five years ago. A few plants people in Portland, including designer Sean Hogan, suggested I visit. Soon after, I stepped into a magical wonderland! Seeing so many large, rare plants growing like weeds in this forest landscape transported me!

Over the last 5 years, I have visited Yachats and the Gerdemann Preserve every year. I am so pleased to accept the pruners from Kathleen and Jerry and grateful for their mentorship and counsel.

My background: I grew up in a beautiful area near Bucharest, Romania. My grandparents cultivated a permaculture homestead -- although they wouldn’t have used this vocabulary for it. They had a paradise! We had dinners in the garden, surrounded by edibles, with grape vines growing over the dining table. I remember picking fruit and berries, spreading manure, and helping the family store food for the winter: canning, juicing, and pickling were done together, as a family.

Currently, I own a small business for professional gardening services and landscape design in Portland. I plan to move my business to the Newport area, working at the Gerdemann Botanic Preserve in my free time.

In the coming years, I hope to connect plant aficionados more deeply with the Gerdemann Preserve and the remarkable plants in it. I want to find ways for more people to enjoy this unique place, learn more, and connect with Yachats and the Oregon Coast environment. In order to make the garden more accessible, I also hope to create a website with photos, stories and information about upcoming projects and events. I hope that you will stay connected, and be in touch with me with thoughts, suggestions, and ideas. I hope that we can help each other in the common endeavor of caring for this special place.

Andreea Ghetie
Cell phone: 503-442-1247.

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 in home, business, and public landscapes.
- Advocating the conservation and preservation of superior plants of our native rhododendrons and the habitat along the Oregon coast.
- Advancing and supporting the mission of the American Rhododendron Society.
We had a great time showing and learning how to do cuttings. Both rhododendrons, and geraniums. I hope everyone’s cuttings do well. I am still in the middle of doing geranium cuttings. It is probably a good thing that all of mine don’t make it because I do far too many.

This one is Totally Awesome! Yes, it is

Washington Centennial is such a beautiful bloom!
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THE KISS OF THE SUN FOR PARDON
THE SONG OF THE BIRDS FOR MIRTH
ONE IS NEARER GOD’S HEART IN THE GARDEN
THAN ANYWHERE ELSE ON EARTH

What do you do when you find a plant or bloom like the one above, that you don’t recognize?
Cheryl Prchal has an answer:
Want to identify a flower you like?
Check out these apps for your smart phone...
Likethatgarden and myGardenanswers
Open the app, take a picture of your flower and hopefully this app can identify it for you...
Pretty nifty!!!

My fuchsias are just beginning to recover from the ravages of our summer....just in time to cut them back for the winter!
I miss seeing all the rhody blooms. We only have one or two that are showing color for the fall. I just hope all the buds that are set, will make it through the winter. If they do, our spring blooms should be spectacular!

Remember to send in your membership renewal! The time is upon us! NOW!