

JOURNAL

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To encourage interest in and to disseminate knowledge about rhododendrons and azaleas. To provide a medium through which all persons interested in rhododendrons and azaleas may communicate and cooperate with others through education, meetings, publications, scientific studies, research, conservation and other similar activities.

Membership Benefits

- Chapter affiliation with scheduled meetings
- Journal American Rhododendron Society* published quarterly
- Annual convention and regional conferences
- Seed exchange
- Listing of registration of names and descriptions of new rhododendron hybrids published in the Journal

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by Dee Daneri

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Cover Photo



Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden
Photo: CSRG.- Page 17.

From the President

Ken Webb

Victoria,
BC, Canada



Well, it's the beginning of December and I am starting to think about Christmas. We have already had our Chapter Christmas Party that was attended by about 70 people. This is always an exciting time of year. You get a few extra days off and people seem to go out of their way to be extra nice. You get to make many people happy by giving away gifts.

I was out in the garden on the weekend and poking around, I noticed that *R. searsiae* still has a lot of blooms. This was one of our best performers this year, as it's been blooming for over two months with large mauve/pink flowers, initially with flowers on every stem. This could have something to do with our recent unusual weather—the wettest September, the coldest October and the

driest November!

Concerning 2020, the New Zealanders and the Australians from Adelaide are planning a wonderful trip to their conventions next fall. New Zealand's 76th convention to be held in **Timaru** will start on October the 27th and the Australian's will be held in Tasmania and start on November the 5th. Not to be missed of course, there is our society's 75th Anniversary being hosted by the Portland Chapter in Vancouver, WA, starting on April 30th. Registration opened on Dec 1, 2019, and I'm hoping that many ARS members will attend. This will be a special Convention with both a pre-tour and an after-tour. Check out the website for more information at ars75.org!

Much of my time for the last little while has been trying to make something work with the Hirsutum.info website. We have a group of about 15 or so members who have been trying to work something out so that the ARS can take over that site and continue to develop it by adding pictures and more information. It seems like our best option to date is to improve greatly our own listing of "Plant Data" on our Rhododendron.org website, which has a database of rhododendrons showing a picture and other useful information, including an accurate description and parentage for hybrids. This is a valuable resource and is visited by about five million people a year. If you are not familiar with this website, you should look it up.

Sorry to give you all this homework in your busy lives, but these Convention programs teach us so much about our favorite genus and are so much fun that we should all be trying to attend them. What better way to learn more about rhododendrons, than to hobnob with all the most knowledgeable experts in the world. So, please check out these Conventions and investigate our own ARS website, where you can look up information about our society's activities, arrange to buy seeds and pollen, and try to identify some of your unnamed rhododendrons in "Plant Data".

From the Editor

Glen Jamieson

Parksville, BC
Canada



In my column in the Fall issue, I mentioned that I, along with our chapter's members, were in the final stages of organizing the 2019 Fall ARS conference, which was held in Parksville, BC, in late September. From our perspective and the feedback we received, it went very well, with no major glitches in the presentations, meals and tours! We achieved our upper limit of participants (250) and fortunately, had great weather. It was really nice to see so many friends again, and to meet new people, and so I again encourage everyone to try and attend the 2020 ARS Convention in Vancouver, WA, adjacent to Portland, OR.

This is the ARS' 75th anniversary celebration, and going by the agenda and tours listed in this JARS issue, it promises to be a great success!

On another topic, the closing down or retirement of many of the rhododendron propagators/hybridizers, at least in the Pacific Northwest, has created significant challenges in finding enough quality rhododendrons for our chapter plant sales. This has led to all five chapters on Vancouver Island to initiate or expand rhododendron propagation efforts! Each chapter has now initiated production of 500-1000+ rhododendrons per year, which is also allowing us to focus on the propagation of cultivars that do well in our area that are otherwise often now difficult to obtain. Many of our efforts are still at the cutting rooting stage, and next summer, we will plant up the rooted cuttings into larger containers. The challenge will then be to find a suitable, logistically-close location for their subsequent grow out to a size suitable for sale to the public, which will likely take three to four years. The general public prefers to buy plants that are either currently in flower or that are of a flowering size. These efforts will hopefully solve the shortage of good rhododendrons at our plant sales, with the added bonus in that chapters will be able to keep the full sale price, rather than just the 20% commission charged to non-chapter vendors. Even if we then sell fewer plants, the plant sale profit to each society may actually increase.

Botanical Exploration of Australia's Tropical Mountains: how the hunt for Australian rhododendrons turned into a major win for conservation in North Queensland.

Stuart Worboys
Cairns,
Queensland,
Australia



Andrew Rouse
Melbourne,
Victoria,
Australia



Overview

When one thinks of places where one might search for wild rhododendrons, Australia does not intuitively spring to mind. However, knowing of the great *Rhododendron* species richness found on peaks throughout south-east Asia and the Indonesian archipelago, early Australian botanists predicted that the 1524 m (5000 foot) high peaks of the continent's humid tropics would also support the species. This was proved correct in 1886 when William Sayer and Alexander Davidson, after climbing through dense jungle and suffering torrential downpours and innumerable leeches, discovered rhododendrons near the summit of Mt. Bellenden Ker. The newly discovered rhododendron was named *Rhododendron lochiaie* by Baron Ferdinand von Mueller, the Victorian Government Botanist, in honour of "... Lady Loch... in special recognition of the patronage, given by her Ladyship to Victorian Horticulture and in particular to that very group of [plants], the occurrence of which in the Australian vegetation is now only rendered known, more than 80 years after the discovery of Mt. Bellenden-Ker" (Mueller 1887.) The plants form shrubs, usually less than 0.9 m (three feet) high, with modest trusses of crimson flowers with a slightly curved bell. Subsequently, another form of rhododendron was found on mountains 97 km (60 miles) to the north. This

form has larger scarlet flowers with a straight floral tube, and has been given the species name *R. viriosum*. Debate, however, continues over the validity of this name.

In Australia, rhododendrons are now known from nine peaks and high tablelands, scattered over a 193 km (120 mile) stretch of tropical near-coastal mountain ranges in Australia's vast, north-eastern state of Queensland (which is larger than Alaska, the USA's largest state.) All populations are conserved in national parks that form part of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (Fig. 1). They occur in a variety of habitats: on streamside boulders in mossy forest, in exposed boulder fields and on shallow soils in closed forest. All known populations occur on granitic peaks above 975 m (3200 feet.)

In 2016, the Australian Rhododendron Society (ARS) partnered with the Australian Tropical Herbarium (ATH), a botanical research institution based at James Cook University in Cairns, and with funding from the Ian Potter Foundation, the ARS, and ARS member Simon Begg, undertook a series of expeditions to the high mountains of Queensland's Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. The expeditions were the initiative of the late Simon Begg, a long-standing member of the ARS and its past president (Rouse 2018), who had long sought to re-establish a comprehensive and carefully provenanced living collection of both *R. lochiaie* and *R. viriosum*. The ATH was supportive of the initiative and agreed to work with the ARS in order to overcome the inevitable regulatory hurdles, on the proviso that the collected materials were not sold commercially. It also saw that the funding would not only ensure the conservation and presentation of Australia's native rhododendrons but

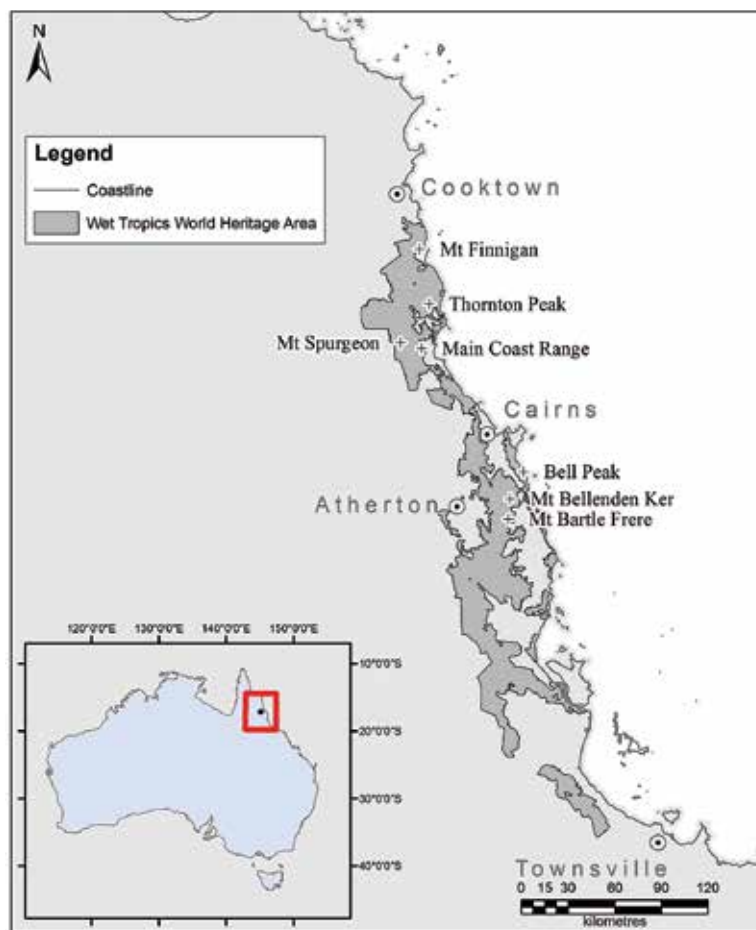


Fig. 1 - Australia's Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.



Boyd's Forest Dragon (*Lophosaurus boydii*), a beautiful rainforest lizard native to north Queensland. Photo: Darren Crayn.

would also provide a unique opportunity for additional survey and research in the rarely-visited tropical mountain habitats of far north Queensland. With the funding provided, they were able to address a much larger and more significant research question: what is the extinction risk to Australia's unique tropical mountain flora from climate change, and are there feasible options available to mitigate these risks?

To get things underway, an expert workshop was convened in March 2016 with the goals of creating a list of plants restricted to the high mountains of the Wet Tropics bioregion and to prioritising survey locations. A 2015 paper by ATH and partner research organisations (Costion *et al.* 2015) had identified 19 species that would lose most, if not all, of their cool wet mountain habitat to global warming. Building on this foundation, the workshop identified 73 flowering plant species, two conifers and 12 ferns whose only known habitat occurs almost entirely above 1000 m (3300 feet) in Queensland's Wet Tropics.

This project has welcomed the participation of stakeholders and expert volunteers in fieldwork, including participants from the Wet Tropics Management Authority, Queensland National Parks, New South Wales and Queensland Herbaria, and the ARS. Importantly, a good working relationship was established with the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation who represent the Traditional Owners of much of the country we worked on.

In The Field

The expert workshop lead to the development of a plan for a field survey program. The plan involved visits to several mountains, from Mt. Bartle Frere in the south to Mt. Finnigan in the north (Fig. 1) for endemic mountain flora surveys, establishment of monitoring plots, and targeted sampling. The ARS and Ian Potter Foundation funding supported planning and logistics, including helicopter transport of scientific gear. Although simple in conception, the surveys proved gruelling, with much of the country steep, very densely vegetated, and rugged. Four of the mountain localities (Mt. Finnigan, Thornton Peak, Main Coast Range and Mt. Bartle Frere) were only accessible on foot. Poor weather and abundant leeches added to the challenge, with low cloud and wind preventing helicopter support for most localities. At all times, safety of personnel was paramount, so that despite the cost and inconvenience, we cut short several trips when incessant rain made hiking dangerous.

The field work on remote, rarely visited tropical mountains attracted the enthusiastic collaboration of several experts and field naturalists. Their knowledge and observations contributed significantly to the discoveries made during this project, with scientific publications and student dissertations using data. Not only did the surveys find new locations for threatened and endemic mountaintop plant species but excitingly, they rediscovered "presumed extinct" species and discovered species new to science. Additionally, genetic analysis of the rhododendron collections by researchers in New Zealand will allow tracing of the genealogy of Australia's rhododendron and the genetic diversity among wild populations, addressing questions regarding how many species are native to Australia, their origin and evolution, and their extinction risk.



Nice specimen of *R. viriosum* growing in the shade of the rainforest. Photo: Australian Rhododendron Society.



R. viriosum, growing on Thornton Peak. Photo: Stuart Worboys.



R. viriosum from Thornton Peak, in cultivation at the Dandenong Ranges. Botanic Gardens. Photo: Stuart Worboys..

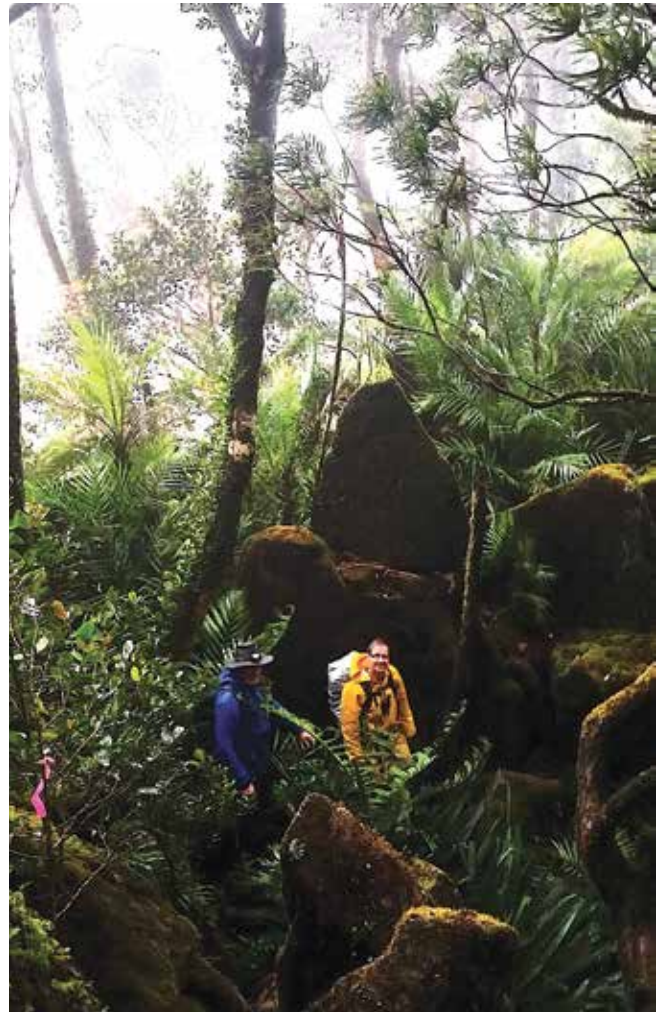
Highlights

The expeditions were a great success, with about 15 ARS members participating alongside the ATH botanists and those from other institutions.

The high elevation boulder fields, where the rhododendrons were most often encountered, are fully exposed to the elements: tropical downpours, high winds, the occasional cyclone (hurricane), and at other times extreme sunlight. Where fully exposed, the rhododendrons are growing in and amongst, but rarely higher, than the surrounding rocks to reduce exposure to the elements. In more sheltered locations such as among boulders at lower elevations in the montane forests, the rhododendrons can occasionally grow as long, leggy plants up to 3.7-4.6 m (12-15 feet) high.

Fortunately, weather did not affect our primary goal of *Rhododendron* collection. Samples were taken from all populations visited, and 40 collections from almost all known Australian populations are being propagated at the National Rhododendron Garden, now known as the Dandenong Ranges Botanic Gardens, near Melbourne in Victoria. Of particular significance were:

- The first confirmed collection of *R. lochiaie* from Mt. Bellenden Ker since it was discovered there 130 years ago;
- The collection of *R. lochiaie* from Bell Peak North in the Malbon Thompson Range. This population only occupies a small rocky outcrop just east of the summit, with stunning views along the coast and the ocean below (above photo).



Hunting for *R. lochiaie* in rugged country near its type locality on Mt Bellenden Ker. Photo: Stuart Worboys.



Dendrobium smiliae, or bottlebrush orchid, seen on the track to Thornton Peak. Photo: Stuart Worboys



R. viriosum growing in a rock crack on Thornton Peak. Photo: Stuart Worboys

This form is a truly spectacular plant, with up to 10 flowers per truss;

- The discovery of a new population of *R. viriosum* on the Main Coast Range;
- The re-discovery of the population of *R. viriosum* from Mt Spurgeon, not collected there since the 1970s.

However, the expeditions weren't only about rhododendrons. The ATH botanists made a number of other significant discoveries, including:

- Discovery of a previously unknown population of the endangered fern *Chingia australis* and the rediscovery of the presumed extinct fern *Hymenophyllum whitei*, both on Thornton Peak;



Fanie Venter and Darren Crayn surrounded by fruiting *R. lochiaie* on top of Bell Peak, overlooking the Coral Sea. Photo: Stuart Worboys.

- Five moss species new to Australia and four species new to science, collected on Mt. Bellenden Ker;
- Rediscovery of the fern *Oreogrammitis leonardii*, not recorded in Australia since it was discovered in 1948.

What's next?

The goals of the first phase of this project have largely been achieved: Australia's native rhododendrons have been collected from across their known distribution, and through field survey, we have greatly improved our knowledge of the distribution of the Wet Tropics' endemic mountain flora.

In 2018, the ATH won an additional grant to expand this ex-situ conservation program. The funding will enable a collaborative flora conservation program between the ATH; botanic gardens located in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane in south-eastern Australia; and other conservation-focussed research organisations. The additional funds will not only enable collection of a range of species of climate-threatened flora, but fund research into their physiology, development of propagation protocols, and long-term seed storage of these species. At the time of writing, the ATH has successfully completed three collecting expeditions, with more planned for 2020. The end result will be genetically diverse living collections of northern Australia's threatened flora, protected in well-managed, temperate zone public gardens.

At the Dandenong Ranges Botanic Gardens, visitors will be able to see Australia's native rhododendrons planted together with other trees and shrubs from their natural habitat. This is a fitting outcome for Simon Begg's vision!

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Andrew Rouse is Vice President of the Australian Rhododendron Society (Victorian Branch).

Sir Peter Craft Hutchison: A Lifetime with Rhododendrons, Trees and Botanic Gardens

John M. Hammond
Starling, Bury,
Lancashire, England



One day in 1960, Ewan Cox answered the doorbell at Glendoick House to find a young man and his mother standing there and, on determining the reason for the arrival of the visitors, he shouted, “Peter, there’s a young man at the door who is keen to go plant-hunting.” So, began a friendship and a botanical adventure that was to span almost 60 years.

Peter Hutchison was born on June 5, 1935, at Rossie, a country house estate at Bridge of Earn near Perth, the son of Sir James Hutchison and Winefryde Craft. His father had served with the Special Operations Executive (SOE) during the Second World War and was given the nickname “Pimpernel of the Marquis” (the French underground movement.) After the war he served as MP for Glasgow Central. Rossie, with its Victorian walled garden, was an intriguing place for a child to grow-up, with its row of Mackenzie & Moncur glasshouses, including: two Tomato Houses, a Stove House adjacent to the boiler, a Carnation House, two large vineries for Black Hamburg and Muscatel cordon-trained grapes, a tiny Rose House and a Peach House. During WW II, the walled garden was given over to food production, then after the war Peter’s father grew Cape gooseberries in the greenhouses that were carefully packaged, and Peter took to the local Post Office to be mailed to the chefs of three high-class London restaurants. Apart from the Head Gardener and his assistant, Peter’s mother was the real gardener, with a wide knowledge of good plants and who had an instinctive eye for making striking plant arrangements.

Peter attended Eton, got a BA at Magdalene College, Cambridge, and served his National Service with the Queen’s Own Lowland Yeomanry. In 1957, whilst an archeology student at Cambridge, Peter was asked by Major Brian Booth, a soldier, explorer and ornithologist who Peter had met whilst on National Service, to join an expedition driving from north to south across the Libyan Desert, in the role of Assistant Archeologist and Botanist. It was an adventurous trip in three long wheel-based Land Rovers, but above all, an eye-opening introduction to plants that defied the desert conditions. However, the only specimens brought back by Peter were dried plant fragments for placing in the drawers of an herbarium, and not living material in the form of seed to be germinated and grown-on with anticipation as wild collections. One day, whilst discussing this with Eddie Strutt, a family friend with a wonderful garden at Galloway House near Garlieston village on Scotland’s South West Coast, Eddie was astonished that Peter did not know Peter Cox who resided at Glendoick, only around 15 miles (24 km) east of Rossie, and was delighted to make an introduction. As they say, the rest is history, and it was not long before the “Two Peters” were planning their first trip in 1962 to Turkey, at the suggestion of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh (RBGE). This trip to Turkey and their first real expedition to Arunachal Pradesh in India, followed by a further 14 expeditions, are detailed in their heavily-illustrated



China reopened its borders in 1980 and made possible the April 1981 Sino British Expedition to China. The Expedition Group Members were: Back row left to right: Peter Cox, Gaby Lock, David Chamberlain, unknown member; Centre left to right: Peter Hutchison, He Qungan, Tien-lu Ming, Tao Deding, Guan Kiayun; Front row left to right: Lu Zhenwei, Roy Lancaster, Guo-mei Feng (Chinese Leader), Bob Mitchell (British Leader), Mrs. Fang Rhizen. Photo: R.B.G., Edinburgh.



Peter Hutchison is explaining the large scale works he had undertaken in the Walled Garden on the Broich Estate to a group of Scottish Chapter members on a garden visit on 24th April, 2012. It had taken the better part of a decade to restore tall sections of wall, whilst the area within the walls has been cleared, the gardens re-laid, new paths, steps and grass laid down, and replanting begun. Photo: John M. Hammond.

West Loch, saying, “One could grow anything in there.” Gillie Mackie-Campbell recalls two rain-soaked individuals appearing at the door of Stonefield House in Tarbert, Euan Cox and his son Peter, of Glendoick, to enquire if they could lease a very small area of ground on which to grow rhododendrons and other shrubs, which did not appreciate the drier, colder climate of East Perthshire. So, that afternoon they drove around Stonefield Estate looking for a suitable place and found a 20 acre (eight ha) area of part woodland and part of an old crofters’ field, which was fortuitous, as this was part of a tract of land Gillie and her husband, Capt. Lorne Mackie-Campbell, had acquired two years earlier that adjoined the Stonefield Estate. Agreement was quickly reached on the lease, subject to the legal formalities being completed, and Peter Hutchison soon collated a hand-written letter he sent to Peter Cox in November 1968 suggesting how the garden should be laid-out, whilst the lawyers were preparing the legal framework. It would be August, 1969, before the lease was signed, the area fenced-off against deer and rabbits, some trees taken out by Lorne and Gillie Mackie-Campbell, and planting commenced. Baravalla Secret Garden was born! Gillie has continued to support and care for the garden after Lorne passed away some years ago and has become the local contact person for the garden.

In 1979 Peter Hutchison inherited his father’s baronetcy and joined the family insurance brokers, Hutchison & Craft, founded by his father in 1974, whose headquarters were in Glasgow City Centre. He was to remain as Executive Chairman of the firm until he retired in 1996.

Following the 1985 Act of Parliament that established the current structure of what

and absorbing travelogue “Seeds of Adventure”, published in 2008. On September 10, 1966, Peter Hutchison married Virginia Colville and they made their home at Rossie.

Raising wild collected seed from multiple expeditions has its complications, not least of which was that by 1968 the gardens at Rossie and Glendoick, both located adjacent to the Tay estuary on Scotland’s cold and windy East Coast, were becoming full of seedlings, whilst some of the more tender species needed to be grown-on in a more temperate climate. So, a search began of Argyll, on Scotland’s temperate West Coast, to find a possible site for a garden. Some years earlier, Peter Cox and his father had taken the ferry from the West Loch at Tarbert to the Isle of Gigha to visit the Achamore House garden, and Euan, his father had pointed to the woodlands on the north side of the



Baravalla Garden contains a major collection of rhododendron species, which have been planted over the past 50 years. These plants were carefully provided with plenty of space when originally planted and have been able to grow into spectacular mature specimens. Photo: John M. Hammond.

now is called “governance.” Peter Hutchison became the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh in the same year, and with his botanical expertise met the challenge of establishing and chairing the board with diplomacy, skill and foresightedness, creating a model that continues today. During his nine-year chairmanship, there was a notable expansion in the RBGE’s international taxonomy research programmes, the Education programme grew considerably, a MSc Course was introduced and the organisation embraced taxonomic computing. Major improvements to the Garden landscape and Living Collection were achieved, the Herbarium and Library building was extended to accommodate the work of the organization’s expanding global collaborations, and enhanced facilities were created to cater for a rapidly growing number of visitors.



Benmore Botanic Garden contains several separate “compartment” gardens, and this is the Chilean Rainforest that covers a large hillside running down towards a glen at the western boundary. Peter Hutchison and the Benmore Trust were very supportive regarding its development, in liaison with the International Conifer Conservation Project, seen here in 2014 when it was around 20 years old. Photo: John M. Hammond.

In the midst of all this, Peter along with Peter Cox continued their expeditions in search of plants of the Himalaya and other high peaks in Western China and Tibet, including territory not visited by Western plant hunters since the days of such great names as Kingdon Ward. In turn, this led to the need for six working weekends at Baravalla Secret Garden each year to maintain the infrastructure, care for the plants and to become the repository for the increasing number of seedlings raised from their wild collections. In the early-1990’s Peter and Virginia moved home to Broich, a country house estate at Kippen in Stirlingshire, close to Lady Virginia’s childhood home and together they set about transforming the large woodland garden, with its Victorian walk up the glen alongside the burn, with its waterfall and bridges, leading to the large walled garden that had been neglected for many years. With great determination, Peter took forward the restoration of the tall crumbling brick walls of the walled garden, a major project by any standards, together with transforming the layout of the garden itself. This, in turn, provided additional areas for growing-on seedlings, many of which would ultimately find a home at Baravalla Secret Garden.

Before resigning his role as Chairman of RBGE Board of Trustees, in 1993 Peter became Chair of the Younger (Benmore) Trust and over the next 25 years successfully minimized bureaucracy and maximized the impact of the Trust on Benmore Botanic Garden, an outstation of the RBGE. His outstanding leadership provided inspiration, vision and motivation to achieve some remarkable projects, working closely with the Garden’s Management Team. A substantial development was the conversion of the Courtyard Sawmill into the Courtyard Gallery, which provided a multifunctional space to be used for education, exhibitions, illustrated talks, meetings and other events, which transformed the way the Garden interacts with its visitors. Peter oversaw the stabilization and eventual full restoration of Benmore’s unique Victorian Fernery and drove the fundraising efforts for global research and conservation initiatives. These included the International Conifer Conservation Project (ICCP) and major plantings such as the Chilean Rainforest at Benmore, now 25 years old and a significant feature on the hillside at the back of the main garden.

In 1994 he became Chairman of the Forestry Commission, Scotland, which needed leadership and a sense of direction, as with the vast areas of forestry under its control, there were many issues, policies and conservation matters that required attention. Peter had been active in the International Dendrological Society (IDS) for many years and his knowledge and expertise in forestry and trees enabled him to implement a way forward.

Amongst his many other commitments and interests were involvement with the Burrell Gallery in Glasgow, the Loch Lomond Trust, The Royal Society of Edinburgh, British Waterways and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Peter was a long-time ARS member, also an Hon. Vice-President of the Scottish Chapter, with an ability to act as a facilitator and bring people together to get things done using his business connections., Thus, together with his role as Chairman of many influential organisations, he was able to deal with matters that were beyond the scope of most individuals. Many members will recall the 1996 ARS Convention held in Oban on Scotland’s West Coast, for which Peter was Tours Organiser. He met with the Directors of Parks of Hamilton, a tour bus company, and somehow organised the provision of a fleet of eleven new, full-size tour buses, complete with a tartan attired group of experienced drivers, to handle the week-long programme of garden visits. But Peter’s “*piece de resistance*” was, against all the odds, persuading the Chairman of Caledonian MacBrayne Ferries,

a notoriously difficult organisation to deal with, to part with their standby ferry, sacrosanctly stationed at Gourock on the Clyde Estuary as an emergency back-up for that fleet, to run full-day tours to the Isle of Arran on two days of the week, something that had never been previously achieved.

One of Peter's many glorious legacies was "Seeds of Adventure", the lavishly illustrated book co-written with Peter Cox, telling the story of their extensive travels from 1962 to 2005, which they introduced with much humour and discussion at the 2008 25th Anniversary Conference of the Scottish Rhododendron Society, held at the R.B.G., Edinburgh. Together they made 16 expeditions—often arduous, sometimes dangerous and occasionally funny—in search of plants of the Himalayas and the high peaks of Western China, Tibet and Turkey. With their Chinese and Indian colleagues, "The Two Peters" introduced many plants, especially rhododendrons, new or lost to cultivation, sometimes saving them from extinction, many of which can be grown outside in the temperate regions of both Europe and North America. Winner of the 2008 UK Inspirational Gardening Book of the Year Garden Media Awards, one judge commented of *Seeds of Adventure*, "Even someone who couldn't care two hoots about rhododendrons would be gripped by the sheer bloody mindedness of these two as they suffered awkward locals, ticks the size of pennies, food poisoning, sodden tents and numerous travel headaches in their good-humored quest. The anecdotes are delightful, the photographs of plants, people and views are breathtaking. What an inspiration to us all." In addition, Peter Hutchison had previously written an interesting and informative article for the JARS (1999) titled "Hunting the Plant Hunter: The Search for George Forrest's Grave."

Perhaps Peter's most enduring legacy will be Baravalla Secret Garden; indeed, it was a secret garden as few enthusiasts had visited or knew of its existence prior to it being added to the tour programme for the ARS 1996 Convention. Peter was something of an artist with a pen or pencil, and he recorded the whole of the collections in a sequence of large hand-drawn plans that were kept in a loose-leaf file, which were reviewed and amended as necessary. As "The Two Peters" and Gillie got older, so maintenance of the infrastructure and the garden became more difficult, and in late-2013 discussions began as to how the plant collections could be secured for future years, with Peter Hutchison and his lawyers in the lead. Peter was determined to get the legalities finalized, despite not enjoying good health at times, and eventually a legal framework was agreed and adopted on 28th January, 2016 whereby Peter Hutchison, Peter Cox, Gillie Mackie-Campbell and the Rhododendron Species Conservation Group (RSCG) would be partners in a Limited Company, with the RSCG responsible for maintaining the garden, renewing labels, setting-up database records that include the accession details for all the collections, and meeting the administration requirements laid down by Companies House, Edinburgh.

Sir Peter Craft Hutchison, 2nd Bt. CBE FRSE, passed away peacefully in hospital aged 83 on January 20, 2019, and his son James inherited the baronetcy. Peter's wife, Lady Virginia, passed away peacefully in hospital on April 23, 2019. James has an interest in, and will become a partner in, Baravalla Garden Limited in due course. August 2019 will mark the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the garden by "The Two Peters," and whilst access is still by prior arrangement, Baravalla has become a magical, mature, and to all intents and purposes, an important botanic garden holding major collections of rhododendron species and other genera.



Sir Peter Hutchison (left), Chairman of the Benmore Trust, opens the renovated "Golden Gates" at Benmore Botanic Garden, Argyll, accompanied by Simon Milne, MBE, RBGE Regius Keeper, on 12th June, 2015. The restoration of the Grade A Listed "Golden Gates", made in Berlin in 1870, was an RBGE consultancy commission supported by the Benmore Trust. Photo: R.B.G., Edinburgh.

John Hammond is President of the Scottish Chapter and was Director at Large for many years.

Growing Rhododendron Species Seed from Russia

Michael Heim
Hayward, WI

(Photos by Elena
Polonskaya unless
noted otherwise.)



It was with a bit of trepidation that I ordered rhododendron seed online from Russia. In my experience, ordering seed in-

ternationally has been hit or miss. For instance, about fifteen years ago I sent for wild-collected seed from a company in Magadan in the Russian Far East. I live in northern Wisconsin about an hour's drive from Lake Superior, so obtaining super cold-hardy rhododendrons is obviously enticing. Imagine my disappointment when only two seedlings germinated; two other packets failed to germinate at all.

Recently when I discovered Prof-Seeds in Perm, Russia (near the Ural Mountains), the allure of super hardy rhodies with unusual horticultural merit that were shown on their website was irresistible, even with my misgivings. I need not have worried. Prof-Seeds turned out to be very efficient and knowledgeable, with excellent customer service. The seeds arrived carefully packaged with detailed germination instructions for each of the species and the location from where they were collected in the wild. What more could a rhodyholic ask for? Well, good germination would be nice. As you can see in the photo, to my delight, all three species germinated profusely!

So which three species did I order? *Rhododendron fragrans* (previously known as *R. adamsii*), *R. redowskianum*, and *R. aureum* var. *hypopitys*. Here's a bit of information about these three species.

R. fragrans is found on open south-facing slopes in the subalpine zone of Siberia.

R. redowskianum forms mats on firm scree in the alpine tundra. Its flowers are truly spectacular! Native from southeastern Siberia to Sakhalin and North Korea, it is cold-hardy to at least -47° F (-44° C). This species requires a free-draining sunny site. Summers may be too hot for it even here in northern Wisconsin, although my tiny seedlings have shown no duress at 90° F (32° C). One of the nice things about getting a lot of seedlings is that variation may favor some with greater heat tolerance.

R. aureum var. *hypopitys* grows to 3.5 ft. (1 m) tall, so it's basically a robust variety of *R. aureum*. Native to eastern Russia around the shores of the Amur and Tuta Rivers in Sichote-Alinj, it is found growing in spruce/fir, rarely in larch woods. Reportedly not in cultivation in the U.S.

It will be exciting to plant these seedlings out next spring to evaluate how they perform in various sites here in the northwoods. The coldest temperature that I've experienced here is -45° F (-43° C). All three species should shrug this off with ease.

For others interested in obtaining Russian seed from Prof-Seeds, contact Elena Polonskaya, Svobody Street 102-3, Kirov, Kirov region, Russian Federation, 610002, email: issumbossy@yandex.ru. Elena is also the director of the Vyatka Ericaceae Arboretum (RF, Kirov region).



Growing landscape of *R. fragrans*.



R. fragrans.



R. fragrans - pink form.



R. fragrans - white form.



Growing landscape of *R. redowskianum*.



Plant communities of the habitat of *R. aureum* var. *hypopitys*.

Note: The *R. fragrans* pack in the center of the seedlings photo (below right) contained an earthworm that had hitchhiked in with forest soil that I use. I have since carefully flipped the pack over and liberated the stowaway, with no injury to the tough little seedlings.



R. redowskianum.



R. redowskianum and *Arctous alpina*.



R. aureum plant.



R. redowskianum.



R. aureum flower.



Russian seedlings. Photo by author.

Michael Heim is a professor of natural sciences at the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College and is a member of the Midwest Chapter.

A Curious Sweetness in the Air

Nina Newington
Mount Hanley,
Nova Scotia

Photos by
author.



(Reprinted from the May 2018 Atlantic Rhododendron and Horticultural Society newsletter)

“How many witch hazels?” I asked.

“Nine,” said my wife Alexa, then paused. “At least!”

I should explain. When I left the place I’d been gardening for thirteen years to come to Canada, I sold a lot of plants. My New Garden Fund was begging to be spent. Fruit trees, hornbeams, witch hazels and stewartia were at the top of the list so who was I to dampen this eruption of *Hamamelis* enthusiasm? And why, really, doesn’t anyone with any room at all have at least one? They bloom in February and March; most have a lovely fragrance; many have fabulous fall colour and all make an excellent host for a summer clematis or two. I haven’t regretted our largesse, even when it came to moving them all down the road to our new place. They like the North Mountain [in the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia]. In fact, the fall-blooming American witch hazel *H. virginiana* grew wild in the woods at our first place in Nova Scotia, at the edge of a swamp but always up on a hump of soil or rock. It grew in the company of a rare (for Nova Scotia) swathe of poison ivy (*Rhus radicans*), as it did in the first site I met it in the wild, in a patch of remnant woodland in south-western Massachusetts. There, *H. virginiana* grew with *Carpinus carolinianum*, the American hornbeam, as an understory to tulip trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and red maples (*Acer rubrum*). The poison ivy was so happy it grew up the tree trunks, blooming and berrying far overhead. The gardener was less happy.

Back to more pleasant topics. *Hamamelis virginiana* is native to most of Nova Scotia and a few spots in New Brunswick, as well as west to Minnesota, and south to central Florida and eastern Texas. It prefers moist woodlands. With enough sun, it will flower vigorously in late October or early November. It has classic witch hazel flowers, each one comprising four strappy yellow petals growing out of a reddish-brown calyx. The whole flower is 0.5-0.75 inches (1.3-1.9 cm) long with a variable amount of fragrance. Luminous yellow fall leaf colour precedes the flowers and sometimes hides them. It is pollinated by a moth and the small, tan to gray, hard capsules go dormant throughout the winter and then develop over the next growing season. In the following autumn, they forcibly expel two shiny black seeds 10 to 20 feet (3-6 m), rarely to 40 feet (12 m). The seeds then take an additional year to germinate. An astringent lotion is made from the stems and roots of this species.

Native Americans used the forked limbs of American witch hazel to dowse for underground water. Early European settlers, observing this, tried their hand at it too. Dowsing is also commonly called “witching.” This activity is probably where the common name witch hazel came from. “Wicke” is the Middle English for “lively” and “wych” is from the Anglo-Saxon word for “bend.” American witch hazel was probably called a Wicke Hazel by early settlers because the end of the forked branch would bend downward when underground water was present. Dowsing became an established feature of well-digging into the 20th century. In many places, including here on the North Mountain of Nova Scotia, it is still common practice, though I haven’t seen people use witch hazel specifically.



‘Arnold Promise’.



‘Diane’.



'Feuerzauber' or 'Magic Fire'.



'Jelena'.

H. virginiana is nice but not fabulous for the garden. Being an understory plant, it prefers a cool root run. Here in the Maritimes on a rich, moist soil, it does well in full sun, but anywhere hotter or drier it would prefer a semi-shaded spots on the north side of a building or on a north-facing slope. In common with all the other *Hamamelis*, it requires regular watering when being established. It can be grown from seeds that have been cold stratified. Seeds should be planted in pots and grown on for two to three years before they are mature enough to transplant. Flowering does not start until the plants are at least six years old (https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/plant-of-the-week/hamamelis_virginiana.shtml).

Another species, *H. vernalis*, is native further south in the US. I planted three little seedlings among alders along our stream. They survive periodic flooding. In March, little rusty flowers unfurl with, according to Wilson and Bell (1967) in *The Fragrant Year*, "a sweet yeasty aroma like that of risen bread dough." Their book, incidentally, is the best I know on fragrant plants. It augured well, I thought, when I discovered Alexa had brought a copy of her own to the merging of our households. But, of course, scent is remarkably subjective. To my nose, two out of our three plants don't smell like bread at all, they smell exactly like bubblegum. The other smells of nothing!

The species I love to grow is *H. mollis*, the Chinese witch hazel. "Their fragrance is unbelievable, the pure delicious perfume of jonquil, and it carries many yards," according to Wilson and Bell (1967). Louise Beebe Wilder (1990) in "The Fragrant Path" calls it merely "a dusty sweet scent" but agrees that it is "perceptible at quite a distance." On a warm day I would add, or you have to cup your hand around a blossom, breathe into it, then inhale. People go to greater lengths to get high. It's worth it, though, or you can cut a sprig and bring it indoors. My *H. mollis* 'Pallida' is finally big enough that I cut a couple of largish twigs when it began to bloom in the middle of February. The whole dining corner of our house smelt of lemon sweets for three weeks. 'Pallida', like 'Brevipetala' (which I don't grow but would like to), is almost certainly not pure *H. mollis*. Crossing the latter with *H. japonica* has given rise to *H. x intermedia*, of which there are many named forms. All prefer a moist but not sodden soil and part-shade to sun. They are hardy through zone 5, sucking back their petals when the temperature drops, only to unfurl them again as soon as it gets above freezing. With time they become multi-stemmed, dense shrubs 10-15 ft (3-4.5 m) tall. Thoughtful harvesting of branches for the house can maintain a more open, vase shape. They are a little slow to establish and being grafted, may sometimes revert to the rootstock, usually *H. virginiana*. Last fall I noticed how well my newly planted 'Ruby Glow' was doing. Then I noticed the nice yellow flowers. Closer examination suggested the graft hadn't failed and sure enough, this spring, one gnarly little branch low down produced some rust red blooms. I should cut off the healthy virginiana sprout that came from below the graft but it did produce unusually large and fragrant blooms, so perhaps by pruning, I'll try to have my cake and eat it too.

The forms of *H. x intermedia* range in flower color from pure lemon yellow to deep rusty red. Following that gradient, here are the ones I grow: '

1. 'Pallida', lemon yellow with dark red calyxes, very fragrant and early, rich fall colour;
2. 'Arnold Promise', stronger forsythia yellow, calyxes not very red, but a handsome, very floriferous shrub, always later to bloom. Mine opened at the very end of March this year;
3. 'Westerstede', strong yellow, not different enough from the above to get excited;
4. 'Orange Queen' should be called 'Lemon Queen' said a friend, recently. Very slightly darker yellow petals, red calyxes, fragrant;
5. 'Jelena', overall effect is a lovely coppery buff, especially in front of evergreens. Close up each petal shades from red to orange to buff. Well scented with excellent fall colour;



'Pallida'.

'Pallida' stem and structure.

6. 'Feuerzauber' or 'Magic Fire' is a rich rusty red with some fragrance. Slower to establish, in my experience, but lovely;
7. 'Ruby Glow' was only planted last year so it's too soon to tell. Flowers are a good coppery red.
8. 'Diane' is the best of the red ones for flower and fall colour but she has little to no scent. I planted her as a one-gallon (3.8 l) pot in the old household dump part of my garden, retrieving a perfume bottle, a child's shoe and a fan belt from the hole. She took a couple of years to consider her position but is now growing lustily so I'd say she's a good doer.

Including seedlings, I confess we're now up to 16. I'd happily add 'Moonlight' (pale yellow) and 'Vesna' (orangeish) if I could find them. I'm with Michael Dirr when he says of the *H. x intermedia* clan "Why these plants are not in greater use is beyond me." I suspect that, like hellebores, they are hobbled in commerce by blooming before the nurseries open in the spring. Their fall colour comes after the nurseries close. Still, it's worth checking local nurseries out for them!

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Nina Newington is an award winning author and gardener. British by birth, she lived in Hong Kong, Germany, Israel, England, Nigeria and the US before settling in Nova Scotia.

The most noteworthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied. They always look forward to doing something better than they have ever done before.

Vita Sackville-West, 1892 – 1962

2020 Vision, Spring '20 ARS 75th Anniversary Convention, Portland/Vancouver: Convention Garden Tours

Steve McCormick
Long Beach, WA
(With
contributions
from the tour
destination hosts)



The six chapters of ARS District 4 welcome visitors from far and near to the 75th anniversary celebration of the American Rhododendron Society, with the theme “2020 Vision: Looking forward, reflecting back”.

Along with an extraordinary lineup of international speakers, the daily convention tours, originating from the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, WA, will offer visits to some of the most prestigious and dazzling gardens in the Northwest. Among the outstanding gardens and nurseries included on the Portland area tours will be the treasured rhododendron destinations of Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden (CSRG), Cecil and Molly Smith Garden, Portland Japanese Garden, and Lan Su Chinese Garden, along with other locations new to Portland convention visitors: the Iseli Nursery, the Stewart Garden (formerly Dover Nursery), the Sebright Nursery, and Woodburn Nursery. Brief descriptions of some of these gardens follow:



Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden visitor causeway. Photo: CSRG.

1. Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden (CSRG) <https://www.crystalspringsgardenpdx.org>

William S. Ladd, who served two terms as Mayor of Portland in the 1800s, was the original owner of this garden's property. He called it Crystal Springs Farm, and the oldest rhododendron in the current garden was planted prior to 1917. The Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society initiated the development of a display and test garden in 1950. Sam Jackson, owner of the Oregon Journal, donated 27 acres (10.9 ha) on Terwilliger Blvd. for the garden, but the steep terrain made that site unsuitable. Claude I. Sersanous, one of the committee members assigned to select a new site, suggested the garden's present location in the Eastmoreland neighborhood of southeast Portland near Reed College. Referred to then as Shakespeare Island by students at Reed because of the plays performed there, the roughly five-acre (two ha) site at that time was abandoned



Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden pond. Photo: CSRG.



Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden pathway. Photo: CSRG.

and overgrown with brush and blackberries. Through the efforts of the Portland Chapter and other volunteers and with the support of Park Superintendent C.P. Keyser, the garden was designated in 1950 by special ordinance from the City of Portland to be jointly maintained and administered by the Portland Parks and Recreation Department and the Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. The first rhododendron planting started in October 1950 with the transplanting of three 40-year-old hybrid 'Cynthia' rhododendrons, donated from the home of Mr. Keyser. The first rhododendron show was held in 1956, and the garden was officially named the Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden in 1964.

The CSRG's aim was initially to evaluate rhododendrons over a period of several years, to grant awards to worthy varieties, and to acquaint the public with all kinds of rhododendrons, thus having both an educational focus and being a scientific project. However, the lack of security and adequate plant protection made the testing component of the plan impractical, and that aspect of the concept was soon dropped. The original garden, on what is now called the Island, was designed by Ruth Hansen, a landscape architect and member of the Portland Chapter. The portion of the garden known as the Peninsula was designed by Wallace K. Huntington, a well-known Portland landscape architect, and was dedicated in 1977. The rocks used to build the waterfalls and other features were gathered from both Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams. The garden paths were redesigned in the first decade of this millennium to bring the park into compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, and routes through the park are now accessible by wheelchairs.

Beginning in the 1980s, the garden underwent a series of improvements: stone was placed along the shoreline, the Jane Martin Garden was re-landscaped and the Paddison Water Fountain was installed in the South Lagoon. Both bridges were rebuilt to make them wider and more attractive. In 2005, the Fern Wall was added at the south end of the North Lagoon. Throughout the Garden's history, funds and labor for additions and upgrades have come from both generous donors and volunteers. Throughout, the garden has benefited from the continuing support and assistance provided by the Portland Parks Department.

Today, the CSRG is a popular wedding venue, school trip destination, photography destination, and nature walk. Its more than 2500 rhododendrons, azaleas, and companion plants have all been donated by volunteers and interested individuals, or purchased either with donated funds or from the profits of the two annual plant sales that support the garden. Beginning in early spring and continuing into summer, the garden has a magnificent display of color, giving visitors the opportunity to view many plants rarely seen in the Pacific Northwest. During the fall, its many trees add dramatic seasonal coloring. The spring-fed Crystal Springs Lake surrounds much of the garden, and is habitat for many species of birds.

The internationally recognized CSRG is enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year that stroll by three waterfalls via two picturesque bridges and wander down shaded paths to Crystal Springs Lake. Marveling at the reach of the fountain spray, exploring the garden, and watching the sun set over Portland's West Hills are all favorite pastimes. The CSRG can accommodate up to 450 visitors at any time and offers five different sites for weddings. Long regarded as a popular photographer's destination, its tranquil setting makes it easy to forget that downtown Portland is only minutes away.

2. The Cecil & Molly Smith Garden <http://smithgarden.org>



Cecil & Molly Smith Garden. Photo: Smith Garden.



Cecil & Molly Smith Garden. Photo: Smith Garden.

Molly & Cecil were married in 1941 and shortly after began collecting rhododendrons for planting adjacent to their home near Newberg, Oregon. Cecil was originally a turf-grower by trade and joined the ARS in 1947. They have freely shared their garden and hosted many garden tours, and both received ARS Bronze Medals. Molly especially treasured the several Loderi rhododendrons planted near their house.

Cecil helped sponsor expeditions to the Himalayas and was one of the first to grow *R. degonianum* var. *yakushmanum* and



Portland Japanese Garden. Photo: Jonathon Ley.



Portland Japanese Garden. Photo: Ray Pfortner.

use it for hybridizing. His cross of it with *R. bureavii* resulted in ‘Cinnamon Bear’—the signature plant in the garden, and his hybrids ‘Noyo Brave’ and ‘Yellow Saucer’ are still available commercially.

This woodland garden encompasses about three acres (1.2 ha), sloping to the north, with paths that weave past decaying stumps and fallen branches, which add both natural beauty while contributing to the nutrients to reduce the need for fertilization. A canopy of native Douglas-fir creates an ideal environment for a natural woodland garden of rare beauty, featuring superior forms of species and hybrid rhododendrons. Complimenting the rhododendron collection are choice trees, shrubs, wildflowers and bulbs. Each pathway reveals its own visual treat—a moss-covered log with plants tucked into bark crevices, a fern garden, or drifts of wildflowers. Masses of *Cyclamen*, *Narcissus*, *Erythronium* and *Trillium* flourish here, all perfect compliments to a rare collection of rhododendrons.

The Smith Garden has attracted visitors from around the world, including many visits from Edmund Rothschild and other rhododendron enthusiasts. David Leach also was a good friend and frequent visitor. The garden was featured on the PBS shows “Victory Garden” and “Garden Time”, on the cover of “Horticulture Magazine”, and is included in the book “The American Man’s Garden” by Rosemary Verey, among other publications.

After more than 30 years of stewardship, the Smiths sold the Garden to the Portland Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society at half its appraised value. The Garden is now maintained with the help of the Willamette and Tualatin Valley Chapters.

3. **Portland Japanese Garden** <https://japanesegarden.org>

A Japanese garden is not only a place for the cultivation of trees and flowering shrubs, but one that provides secluded leisure, rest, repose, mediation, and sentimental pleasure. The Garden speaks to all the senses, not just to the mind alone.

Professor Takuma Tono, Designer of Portland Japanese Garden

Portland Japanese Garden was founded as an articulation of a way to feel about nature and as a hope for a peaceful world. It is located within Washington Park in Portland, Oregon, overlooking the city and providing a tranquil, urban oasis for locals and travelers alike. Inspired in the late 1950s by a wish to grow cultural ties between Oregon and Japan, the Mayor of Portland and members of the community conceived the idea of building a Japanese garden. These were the post-war years, the years of growing civil turmoil in America and chaos overseas. They were years when memories of World War II lay fresh and raw on both sides and tensions were still high.

Nature Needs no Translation

The newly formed Japanese Garden Society of Oregon had two reasons for building a Japanese garden: providing the citizens of Portland with a garden of great beauty and serenity while forging a healing connection to Japan on the heels of World War II. The Garden was imagined as blending Japanese and the Pacific Northwest landscapes together to experience



Portland Japanese Garden.

“the other” in a way that was inspirational and rewarding.

At this time in U.S. history, Japanese gardens were similarly being established across the country to help build cultural understanding following the war. With nature needing no translation, it was hoped that interested American citizens could discover Japanese ideals and values firsthand, communicated simply through the forms and experience of a garden.

Professor Takuma Tono of Tokyo Agricultural University was retained to design the garden. His plan included five different garden styles laid out on 5.5 acres (2.2 ha)—a significant departure from single-style gardens in Japan. The design would highlight historical developments in Japanese garden architecture and, through that, address the Garden’s educational purpose.

In 1967, the Garden formally opened to the public for the summer. That year, more than 28,000 people came before the Garden closed for the winter. Portland’s temperate climate and supportive, creative community has helped Portland Japanese Garden become a beautiful, local landmark with soon about 100,000 people visiting annually. At its 25th anniversary in 1988, His Excellency Nobuo Matsunaga, the ambassador of Japan to the United States, visited Portland Japanese Garden and proclaimed it to be “the most beautiful and authentic Japanese garden in the world outside of Japan.”

A Growing Need for More

By 2010, more than 200,000 people were visiting the Garden annually and the problem then was that the garden’s popularity was growing beyond its desirable capacity. To address the problem, Portland Japanese Garden retained the world-renowned architect Kengo Kuma to seek a solution.

Kuma’s design principle of harmony between nature and architecture, as well as his commitment to natural materials and Japanese tradition, made him the perfect architect to create a Cultural Village outside the historical gardens, evocative of the *monzenmachi* or “gate-front towns” outside Japanese temples. Together with the Portland Japanese Garden’s Curator, third generation master garden craftsman Sadafumi Uchiyama, Kuma designed the new Cultural Village, his first public commission in the U.S., to honor the singular experience of each visitor and ensure that serenity is protected for future generations.

Kuma stated:

Given its proximity to nature, Portland, Oregon is unlike any place in the world. The architecture in the Cultural Village serves as a connector to the stunning Oregon landscape, Japanese arts and tradition, and the original Garden which is, in itself, perfect. Working on this project has influenced my approach, especially integrating green and wood. For example, the National Stadium in Tokyo will be rich in vegetation, evoking a feeling of forest in the city.

Kuma and Uchiyama together have created an immersive, fluid journey from beginning to end. To better welcome visitors, the Tanabe Welcome Center entrance features a water garden with cascading ponds, beginning the transition from city to tranquility. The adjacent Jordan Schnitzer Japanese Arts Learning Center is home to a gallery space, a multi-purpose classroom, the Garden Gift Shop, and the Vollum Library, a comprehensive resource on Japanese gardening and related arts. The centerpiece of the Learning Center is a stunning staircase designed to also serve as seating for performances and demonstrations.

The third new building is a new Garden House, where an expanded offering of horticulture classes and workshops takes place. Kuma designed living roofs atop the two structures to absorb rainwater, while transitioning the eye gradually from the forest backdrop to the architecture below. A unique roof tile allowed razor thin, straight lines to be achieved.

At the heart of the Village, visitors will find an authentic, intimate Umami Café to rest and refresh while experiencing gracious Japanese-inspired service firsthand. The café’s unique location floats over the hillside at the east side of the Village, providing scenic views of the area’s surrounding beauty, reminiscent of the Kiyomizu-dera Temple in Kyoto. Constructed using Port Orford cedar and Tyvek, which emulates rice paper, the café floats in nature and fuses harmoniously into its surroundings. The new Cultural Village has extended the Garden’s mission and purpose to provide a heightened sense of tranquility and a more robust educational experience to preserve significant Japanese cultural traditions and art forms.

In the spring of 2017, Portland Japanese Garden opened the Cultural Village with its four new structures, each LEED-certified and existing harmoniously with nature. Featuring spaces for cultural festivals, workshops, and performances as well as a Gift Shop and the Umami Café, the Cultural Village enriches visits and prepares visitors for stepping into the sacred spaces of the Garden itself.

Today, the organization is celebrated globally as a haven of beauty and cross-cultural understanding. With 500,000 visitors a year now, Portland Japanese Garden has grown into one of the leading Japanese cultural organizations around the world. Its meticulously maintained gardens and authentic Japanese programming appeal to Portland locals and international visitors alike.

Choosing Peace in 2020

Portland Japanese Garden is proclaiming 2020 the “Year of Peace” by way of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. The Garden is dedicating all of its cultural programming to this idea, as 2020 marks also the 75th anniversary of the end of the World War II.

What happened 75 years ago was the most disastrous result of what happens when we stop talking to and stop trying to understand one another. Through our Garden and our programs, we can reach a global audience. We can't solve people's problems for them but we can help guide them to answers. It's what our organization was founded on in 1963 and it is what our programs will do in this landmark year.

Steven D. Bloom, CEO



Lan Su Chinese Garden.



Lan Su Chinese Garden.

4. **Lan Su Chinese Garden** <https://lansugarden.org>

Lan Su Chinese Garden is one of Portland's greatest treasures and one of the most interesting sites to see while visiting Portland. One of only six Chinese gardens in all of North America, it is a result of a collaboration between the cities of Portland and Suzhou, its sister city in China's Jiangsu Province, famous for its beautiful Ming Dynasty gardens. Lan Su's name itself showcases this relationship: syllables from both Portland and Suzhou are combined to form "Lan Su". "Lan" (蘭) is also the Chinese word for "Orchid" and "Su" (蘇) is the word for "Arise" or "Awaken," so the garden's name can also be interpreted poetically as "Garden of Awakening Orchids." (蘭蘇園).

Lan Su was built by 65 Chinese artisans from Suzhou utilizing traditional tools and methods. It is the most authentic Chinese garden outside of China. Additionally, much more than just a beautiful botanical garden, Lan Su is a creative wonder — a powerfully inspiring experience based on a 2000-year-old Chinese tradition that melds art, architecture, design and nature in perfect harmony.

Once inside the garden's walls, you'll feel as if you've traveled through time to another era in a faraway world. Lan Su is a window into Chinese culture, history and way of thinking. Lan Su now hosts more than 800 events each year— from tai chi classes to calligraphy demonstrations to cultural performances and more—and virtually all are included with your admission or membership. Ever changing, Lan Su always has something new to offer—by the minute, by the hour, and with the seasons!

5. **Woodburn Nursery** <https://woodburnnursery.com>

Woodburn Nursery & Azaleas began in 1968 after Bob and Jean Fessler built a 25' x 96' (222 m²) greenhouse to grow their florist azalea liners. In 1976, the family switched to dormant azaleas instead of liners, and started raising foliage plants and a few annuals. By the 1980's, Bob and Jean's children began working for the nursery, and by the late 1990's, their grandchildren began working summers on the nursery as well. Woodburn Nursery started pot-n-pot production in 2000 for rhododendrons and other shrubs; one acre (0.4 ha) turned into ten (4 ha), and by 2007, the nursery had installed 185 acres (75 ha) of this type of production.

Today the nursery consists of a total of 500 acres (202 ha), including 120 acres of covered production area, 56 of which is for azalea production. The balance is for nursery stock production. The nursery stock includes 65 acres (26 ha) of can yard and 225 acres (91 ha) of pot-n-pot production. The farming aspect of the business continues to grow strong, and the family currently raises grass seed, green beans, broccoli, cauliflower, sweet corn, onions, peas, blueberries and hazelnuts. Bob and Jean are still active in the business, along with their children and grandchildren.



Woodburn Nursery. Photo: Woodburn Nursery.

6. Iseli Nursery

<https://www.iselinursery.com>

This is a rare opportunity to visit what is considered one of the most outstanding conifer collections and displays in the world. In operation for more than 30 years, Iseli Nursery is one of the leading wholesale growers of exotic plants in the United States. Located in Boring, Oregon, Iseli Nursery is known for its rare and beautiful dwarf conifers, Japanese maples, and Living Art® ornamental trees and shrubs, made available to consumers through quality garden center retailers and professional landscapers throughout the United States and Canada.

Jean Iseli, the founder of the wholesale Iseli Nursery, died in 1986 but is now remembered in the spectacular on-site Jean Iseli Memorial Garden, created by his brother, André. Jean was a gentle, deliberate man and his interest in mathematics when young was transformed in 1975 to an interest in plants, especially rare and dwarf conifers and Japanese maples. Jean voraciously studied plants and communicated with collectors and plant lovers worldwide. Capturing the imagination of hundreds of people, he formulated the collective dream of many by commercializing the rare and sharing them with the world.

There were many who believed that Jean's fanaticism for dwarf conifers would be his financial undoing. He kept urging his employees to grow more, assuring them they would sell themselves once the gardeners of the world saw them. He prodded employees to experiment with unique grafts, multiple scions on mature plants, unique combinations of plant scions on one understock and scions grafted on standards of various heights. He directed experimentation with pleaching and interplanting to present the illusion of trans-species graft compatibility, creating new unique plant forms. Others had previously made some of these presentations as a lark or novelty, but none had done it with such gusto and on such a grand scale.

The nursery became a must-see for all interested in horticultural endeavors, but the nursery enjoyed only modest financial success during Jean's lifetime. Much was spent expanding the plant production facility and the plant numbers—and there were so many plants to propagate. Regretfully, Jean passed away a few years before his foresight and perseverance were vindicated. His employees continued though, and today his efforts continue to be shared throughout the world by those who cherish the



Iseli Nursery. Photo: Iseli Nursery.



Iseli Nursery. Photo: Iseli Nursery.

little gems of nature they produce.

7. **The Stewart Garden** (formerly Dover Nursery)

Welcome to the home and garden of Mike and Maria Stewart, the former Dover Nursery in the foothills of Mt. Hood. After 40 years of growing and shipping probably the most diverse selection of hybrid and species rhododendrons offered in the Pacific Northwest, they are now retired from the nursery business. The Dover Nursery was well known for the beautifully grown rhododendrons sold to retail nurseries throughout the United States and Canada. Some 40,000 rhododendrons per year were produced and shipped, likely to a garden center in your area. The number of varieties offered from their 80-acre (32 ha) property numbered around 1,000. Now, when not traveling to exotic places or speaking to plant groups, Mike and Maria spend much of their time further developing their beautiful display garden and arboretum. Besides enjoying these beautiful rhododendrons, one of their goals is to preserve their collection that represents so many of the great hybridizers throughout the country and the famous plant explorers throughout history. In their garden, you will see a fine selection of mature trees, both coniferous and deciduous, plus dwarf rhododendrons and many companion plants.

Mike and Maria welcome registrants to their beautiful garden to experience what visitors have called “a brand-new awareness of the vast beauty and selection that the *Rhododendron* genus offers.” The visit includes a sit-down lunch including a variety of Northwest wines and beer, all in a covered area among rhododendrons.



The Stewart Gardn. Photo: Mike Stewart

Steve McCormick is VP of the Portland Chapter and a member of the organizing committee of the 2020 ARS Spring Convention.



Sebright Nursery and Garden. Photo: Sebright.



Sebright Nursery and Garden. Photo: Sebright.

Society News

Awards

ARS Silver Medal: Marilyn Dawson

Mt. Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society

Marilyn Dawson is a valuable participant in all activities of MARS and ARS District 1. She worked on the ARS 2015 Convention in Victoria and the 2012 ARS Fall Conference in Nanaimo. She documents all meetings that she attends and is indispensable in planning for the 2019 ARS Fall Conference in Parksville BC.

Marilyn was key in establishing the Greig Rhododendron Species Garden at Milner Gardens and Woodland. She continues to work in the garden, planting and maintaining new plants and guiding visitors.

Marilyn is an exceptionally hard worker, contributing common sense and constructive suggestions in all that she does, and is therefore a very deserving recipient of the ARS Silver Medal.



Ken Webb, Marilyn Dawson, and Linda Derkach. Photo: Marc Columbel.

ARS Silver Medal: Ian Efford

Cowichan Valley Rhododendron Society

Your passion for plants in general and for the genus *Rhododendron* in particular has motivated you as a mentor, speaker and educator. In your many roles in the Cowichan Valley chapter, you have ensured its robust future and increased its profile throughout District 1. Your dynamic leadership has secured exceptional partnerships and spearheaded many initiatives, such as publishing your book on the public rhododendron gardens of Vancouver Island and being a significant contributor to JARS through a wide variety of article topics. For your exceptional contributions, the American Rhododendron Society is proud to award the Silver Medal to Ian Efford.



Ken Webb, Dee Daneri, Ian Efford, and Glen Jamieson. Photo: Marc Columbel.

Bronze Medal Awards

Pilchuck: Doug and Donna Keough

It is with great pleasure that the Pilchuck Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society presents the ARS Bronze Medal to Doug and Donna Keough on May 2, 2019. The ARS Bronze Medal is awarded for outstanding contributions to a chapter. It is the highest commendation awarded by a local chapter of the ARS.

Doug Keough has been president of the Pilchuck Chapter for at least two terms and is current the District 2 Alternate Director. He has led our chapter with diligence, courtesy and always has a friendly smile for all. He has been open and approachable. He is always willing to share his knowledge of rhododendron culture.

Donna Keough, his lovely wife, has served the Pilchuck chapter as well. She has held the position of chapter secretary and editor of our newsletter, the Pilchuck Pollinator. She also has a ready smile and welcomes all.

Doug and Donna have opened their lovely garden for the chapter's annual picnic and other events such as gardens tours. They both work at our truss shows and plant sales.

It is with great pleasure that we thank Doug and Donna for their contributions to the chapter and ARS. Congratulations on being awarded the ARS Bronze Medal by the Pilchuck Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Thank you for everything you do!

Pilchuck: Rose Nicoletti

It is with great pleasure that the Pilchuck Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society presents the ARS Bronze Medal to Rose Nicoletti on May 2, 2019. The Bronze medal is awarded for outstanding contributions to an ARS chapter. It is the highest commendation awarded by a local chapter of ARS.

Rose has served as Vice president of the Pilchuck Chapter for at least two terms. She is such a great organizer! She has arranged many outstanding programs for members' pleasure and knowledge. Always open, approachable and caring, she has worked closely

with the Keoughs to enhance the club members' experiences. She has planned numerous club trips for all to enjoy and has opened her home and amazing garden.

It is with much pleasure that we thank Rose for her contributions to the Pilchuck Chapter and the ARS. Congratulations on being awarded the American Rhododendron Society Bronze Medal by the Pilchuck Chapter. Thank you for all you do!

North Island: Jill Gould

Jill joined the North Island Rhododendron Society in January 2010. She quickly became an active member of the club, attending meetings and helping out with events, including our major fundraisers, the Rhododendron Sale and Truss Show and our Mother's Day Garden Tour. At our Annual General Meeting in 2014, Jill became part of the Executive Board as a Director, taking on the position of Membership Chair, which she held until 2018. Jill's organization skills and friendly manner kept our Membership rolls in good order and welcomed both members and guests at each meeting.

As well as participating in club activities, Jill shared her interest and expertise in a variety of garden-related areas. In addition to an extensive knowledge of plants, Jill has a special interest in entomology. Her contributions to our Newsletter and to a number of educational mini-sessions have been both interesting and informative. Jill is a valued member of the NIRS Propagation group, helping with its many hands-on activities and sharing her skills in that area. Instead of continuing in her 'front of house' role, Jill is currently welcoming members and guests at our general meetings as the official 'Greeter'. We thank Jill for her many contributions to the Club and congratulate her on being awarded the ARS Bronze Medal by the North Island Rhododendron Society.

Willamette: Mary Crofts

Normally, there are two kinds of minutes of meetings presented to the intended audience, only the legally binding details of votes or decisions taken at a meeting, or the extensive details of the discussion leading to the binding decision, the "legislative record". For the past many years, the Willamette Chapter of the ARS has had the wonder of our Chapter Secretary, Mary Crofts, adding mirth, wisdom, and irreverence to the "legislative history" of our Willamette Chapter Meetings. (As well as the normal misspellings and miss-information about rhodys and other things that occurred at a meeting.) So, it is with the greatest gratitude that the Willamette Chapter ARS has awarded Mary Crofts its Bronze Medal In Recognition Of: Your contribution to our chapter in the past years having been our dedicated Chapter Secretary for many years, Your help at Truss shows, your support of the chapter at annual plant auctions and for your years of regularly attending Chapter meetings. May 8, 2019, Salem, Oregon.

Willamette: Dick and Carol Lundin

The heart and soul of most ARS Chapters are its Newsletter, its Meeting Speakers, and its fun and interactions among its members. For the past 13 years, Dick and Carol Lundin have produced our wonderful Newsletter with the best possible descriptions of what the Chapter Meeting speakers will cover, what is new in the Rhody World, and have "covered" all our Chapter's gatherings and life changes. It is with very great gratitude that the Willamette Chapter ARS has awarded its Bronze Medal to Dick and Carol Lundin in recognition of your past 13 years of enriching the life of the Willamette Chapter American Rhododendron Society by informing us and encouraging a life of loving rhodys and all plants with 127 Chapter Newsletters; rewarding the efforts of our members with wonderful Chapter Award decisions; growing rhodys for Chapter plant sales and other events; showing off your wonderful collection of rhodys and azaleas to one and all in season; providing steady useful advice on everything our Chapter needed to consider and engaging in, and supporting every thing the Chapter has undertaken. May 8, 2019, Salem, Oregon

Willamette: Kathy and Roger Lintault

Sometimes, Associate Chapter Members become the heart and soul of a Chapter. This is certainly true of how Kathy and Roger Lintault of the Portland Chapter ARS have greatly helped our Willamette Chapter ARS. Roger has steadily provided good advice, plant material for Chapter Meetings, transport for plant sales, and has represented our Chapter on the Board of the Cecil and Molly Smith Rhododendron Garden.

Kathy has served two years as our Willamette Chapter Program Chair, joined Roger in presenting many programs to the Chapter, created our current Chapter Web Page at www.arswillamete.com, and joined in all our Chapter's fun.

It is with very great gratitude that the Willamette Chapter ARS has awarded its Bronze Medal to Roger and Kathy Lintault: "Roger for your contribution to our Chapter in the past years having been a board member at Smith Garden. Kathy for your two years as a program chairperson, and for your presentations at Chapter meetings. Also, for creating the web site for the Chapter. Your help at Truss shows. Your support of the Chapter at annual plant auctions and for years of regularly attending Chapter meetings." September 18, 2019, Salem, Oregon

When Gardeners garden, it's not just the plants that grow, but the Gardeners themselves.

Ken Druse

Society News

ARS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes—Friday, September 27, 2019

Brief Summary of Board Discussions and Actions

President Ken Webb welcomed 22 members of the Board to the meeting in Parksville, BC. The Board approved the following motions: (effective immediately)

- That Jens Hansen of Denmark be appointed to the position of Director at Large
- That Bill Meyers be appointed to the position of Eastern Vice President

Honors Committee

In response to concerns that not enough ARS medals are being awarded, Dee Daneri, Honors Committee Chair proposed some activities to raise awareness and promote a better understanding of the medals and awards that are available to members of the ARS. An article will be published in JARS (page 29); Dee will speak about awards at the Parksville conference dinner on September 28; Dave Banks will promote in *Rhodo-Notes*. Chapters are encouraged to thank their volunteers with a Bronze Medal. Concern was expressed at the \$40 cost of purchasing a Bronze Medal from the ARS.

(Please note: Subsequent to this meeting, the cost of Bronze Medals to chapters has been reduced to \$15 plus shipping effective immediately.)

ARS Student and Early Career Professional Proposal

Christina Woodward presented an Executive Summary on this project that is intended to encourage interest and incorporate student activities and involvement in the ARS and its chapters. The Board gave approval in principle for this initiative, and invited Christina to submit a proposal for funding.

Amendments to ARS Bylaws

The Board approved First Reading of amendments to the bylaws that would replace the term “*Executive Director*” with “*Office Administrator*”.

Amendments to BOD Policy

The following amendment was approved in order to ensure compliance with IRS requirements:

In the event of the dissolution of a Chapter, undistributed assets shall be distributed to another ARS chapter, or to another non-profit horticulture-related entity in accordance with local laws and regulations.

Board and Executive Committee Meetings

The Board confirmed our current schedule of two in-person meetings per year. Teleconference options will be explored to include our Director at Large, Jens Hansen of Denmark. The Executive Committee will continue to meet via teleconference.

Hirsutum Website

Following discussions at the meeting, we have been informed that *Hirsutum.info* is now officially defunct. Much of the data has been corrupted and is now unsalvageable..

Treasurer's Report

US Chapters are encouraged to file their Tax-Exempt Status to the IRS in order to maintain their charitable status.

Digital Publications Committee

Some issues of JARS are missing from the Virginia Tech website due to changes in the university's new system that does not mesh with the format of JARS. Currently, issues 1 to 63 are available to the public.

ARS 2020 Convention – April 29 to May 3 – Portland, Oregon

Information can be found at ars75.org. Registration opens December 2.

A pre-tour – *Around the Sound* - will be offered April 27 - 28 in Washington State.

A post tour – *Willamette Valley & the Oregon Coast* will be offered May 3 – 5.

District Director Reports

Extensive reports can be found in the agenda for this meeting.

Highlights:

- The Ann Arbor Chapter is again up and running.
- District 10 has accomplished the goal of educating the National Forest Service on the value of our native azaleas and rhododendrons that were scheduled for eradication in some areas of the national forests.

Committee Reports:

- **ARS Store:** Members are encouraged to purchase online through the Walmart Store rather than Amazon that no longer offers 5% cash back on purchases.
- **Research Committee:** Dr. Juliana Medeiros succeeds Harold Sweetman as the new chair of this committee.
- **Editorial Committee:** Don Hyatt and Maria Stewart are the new co-chairs of this committee.

Summarized by Linda Derkach
ARS Secretary

Society News

Honoring Our Volunteers

Remember when you first became aware of the existence of the American Rhododendron Society? Maybe it was a flower show at the mall, with nice people offering to show you around. Or did a neighbor stop by, noticing that you had rhododendrons in the garden? Maybe friends asked you to join them for a chapter meeting.

There is a 99.9% chance that the knowledge, fellowship, and joy you have shared as a member of the ARS can be tracked back to a volunteer.

Almost 75 years ago a group of plant lovers joined together in Portland, Oregon, seeing the need to make people aware of the genus *Rhododendron*. The American Rhododendron Society was born, and by the mid 1990s our membership had grown to almost 6,000. Although overall membership has declined in recent years for a variety of reasons, as has been the case in most gardening societies, our society's membership has now stabilized and interest in rhododendrons remains strong.

Seeing a great need to say thank you to so many people who have enriched our lives through our association with the ARS, many years ago an Honors Committee was formed. So what exactly has that to do with you?

Did you know that ANY member of the ARS is welcome to nominate a person for special recognition by the Society and participate in the preparation of the nomination papers? Just check out Policies of the Board (POB) 9.8...uh...do what? Well, that policy states the following in layman's terms:

Bronze Medal Awards—This award is to recognize a member within your chapter who is always there to help, whether it's the coffee and sweets organizer, the set-up person, or that certain someone who is just always there to help. You can suggest to your chapter's Board of Directors that this individual who is as reliable as the sunrise, needs to be given special recognition. The Bronze Medal can only be awarded by a chapter and only to members in good standing. The medals are ordered through the Honors Committee Chair, and then the chapter is billed \$15 US plus postage and sent the medal, the citation is framed, and both are typically presented to the awardee at a chapter meeting.

Silver Medal Awards—Going beyond the chapter level, some of our members have organized projects or activities which enhance a district or an entire region. Maybe they have special programs which are presented throughout the region, or participate in workshops which extend beyond the chapter. Suggest to your chapter President, and/or your District Director, who you feel is worthy of this award, and be the one who creates the nomination. So, what does "creates the nomination" mean. Just write a letter outlining the contribution this individual has given to the region. Someone that enhancing will also be known by many others. Ask eight others to write a seconding letter. It's nice if chapter officers can get involved, but it's not necessary. This packet of letters is now forwarded to your District Director. That person writes a cover letter and forwards the whole packet to the Honors Chair. The Society allows three Silver Medals annually.

Gold Medal Awards—Yes, you can also nominate someone for the Gold Medal. The ONLY difference in this and the Silver Medal is that we recognize this member of the ARS to have enriched the Society outside the district or region, having impacted international awareness and education concerning the genus *Rhododendron*. All of the rest is the same procedure as for the Silver Medal. The Society allows two Gold Medals annually.

Pioneer Achievement Awards—One does not need to be a member of the ARS to receive the Pioneer Achievement Award. This award focuses on contributions at the scientific or botanical level of contribution. For this award, seconding letters are suggested, but not required. Our great hybridizers, and those who have developed varieties of great climate tolerance or bacterial resistance, etc. are often the focus of this award. Each year the Society allows one Pioneer Achievement Award to be given to a living person and one posthumously.

This is where the Honors Committee comes in. A group of five anonymous members of the Honors Committee review the packet, only to confirm that the letters go beyond just what a great personality this candidate might have. Even beyond the Honors Committee, the whole packet then goes to our Executive Committee for final approval. Once approved, the Silver or Gold Medal is engraved with the individuals name and location of presentation at one of our annual meetings. A calligrapher prepares a citation which is also presented at that time. The Society covers all expenses for Gold and Silver medals and citation preparation. Anyone who has devoted much of their life to the Society most certainly needs to be properly thanked.

Award of Merit—Any time a chapter wants to reach out and say thank you to an organization, a group, or an individual which may or may not be a member of the Society, an Award of Merit can be prepared and presented at the chapter level. Or, the President or Board of Directors of the Society is allowed to recommend an award of appreciation, to be approved by the Executive Committee. This award is prepared by a calligrapher and presented at a suitable meeting. No medals are involved.

The ARS's activities are made possible by people like you. In the spirit that creates a more beautiful planet through our mutual love and devotion to the genus *Rhododendron*, let us never forget to reach out and say thank you to others who have enriched our lives because of their choice to give time and much of their lives to the American Rhododendron Society.

Questions or comments to me are always welcome.

Dee Daneri, Honors Chair, deedaneri@aol.com

Society News

AMERICAN RHODODENDRON SOCIETY
STATEMENT of FINANCIAL POSITION
AUGUST 31, 2018 and 2017
SEE ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

	<u>ASSETS</u>	
Current assets:	2018	2017
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 40,705	\$ 44,288
Money markets accounts	40,172	43,866
Accounts receivable- Chapters	-	-
Inventories	4,025	4,178
Prepaid expenses	8,450	6,759
Investments in Mutual Funds	1,060,096	985,412
Total Current Assets	1,153,448	1,084,503
Property and equipment:		
Office equipment	15,240	15,240
Less: Accumulated depreciation	15,240	15,240
Net Property and Equipment	-	-
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,153,448</u>	<u>\$ 1,084,503</u>
	<u>LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS</u>	
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 669
Accounts payable - Chapters	-	-
Deferred dues 2018 - 2020	21,663	24,949
Total Current Liabilities	21,663	25,618
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted - General Fund	(35,932)	(53,828)
Unrestricted - Designated Life Member Fund	152,720	141,163
Unrestricted - Designated Endowment Fund	753,331	709,118
Unrestricted - Designated Seed Exchange Fund	31,780	28,439
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	901,899	824,892
Temporarily Restricted - RDC Start-Up Fund	-	7,117
Total Temporarily restricted Net Assets	-	7,117
Permanently Restricted - Endowment Publications	102,417	102,417
Permanently Restricted - Endowment Other	127,469	124,459
Total Permanently Restricted Net Assets	229,886	226,876
Total Net Assets	1,131,785	1,058,885
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 1,153,448</u>	<u>\$ 1,084,503</u>

ARS 2020 International Convention: Post-Tour Description of the “Willamette Valley and Oregon Coast Excursion”

Steve McCormick
Long Beach, WA

(With
contributions from
our destination
tour hosts)



Following the closing conference session on Sunday morning, May 3, a motor coach will depart at 1:30 pm from the Heathman Lodge and head south into the Willamette Valley for an optional three-day/two-night expedition visiting key gardens and sightseeing destinations. This tour will include:

1. **Deerly Missed** (<https://deerlymissed.smugmug.com>)

Dave Eckerdt, member of the Willamette Chapter, and his wife, Pat, describe their two-acre (0.8 ha) Salem garden, Deerly Missed, as a *pangram* [a single sentence that makes sense, has as few letters as possible, and uses each letter of the alphabet

at least once, e.g., a quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog]. Their collector's garden is a combination of plants having at least one genus beginning with each letter of the alphabet.

The Eckerdts live in a home begun in 1891. Their garden is some 25 years old and has become a regular stop for touring garden groups. Dave's writing and photography have been included in several horticulture publications including the *Journal American Rhododendron Society*. The Eckerdts promise visits from some critters, plus art and hardscape that contribute to the beauty of the garden. Then the group departs for the evening's buffet supper and rhododendron garden tour at:



Greer Gardens. Photo: Harold Greer.

2. **Greer Gardens** (<https://www.thespringsliving.com/greer-gardens>)

The Greers have been involved in rhododendrons for more than 60 years. Greer Gardens started as a hobby of Harold

Greer's father, Edgar, whose death in 1972 was the impetus for Harold to make a business of a hobby. The Garden grew into an internationally known mail-order nursery, with up to 40 employees shipping plants worldwide on an eventual 14 acres (5.7 ha). The property recently transitioned into a premier senior retirement complex—The Springs at Greer Gardens—which houses a new residence for Harold and Nancy and an adjacent rhododendron garden of Harold's treasured specimens.

In 1989, Harold Greer was the youngest person ever to receive an ARS Gold Medal and the youngest to serve as president of the Society. He was the organizing founder of the Western Regional Conferences some 39 years ago



Deerly Missed garden. Photo: Dave Eckerdt

and is co-chairing the 2020 convention with Mike Stewart. Harold's photos have been published widely, including on the cover of *Smithsonian Magazine*. The combination of his extensive knowledge and his warm and engaging style make him the perfect host for our first evening's dinner event.

3. Village Green Resort & Gardens

(<https://www.thevillagegreen.com/>)

From Greer Gardens, we'll make the short trip to our overnight accommodation in Cottage Grove, Oregon—the Village Green Resort—offering tranquil gardens and rustic craftsman-style architecture. Located in the “Covered Bridge Capital of Oregon,” the Village Green encompasses a beautiful, 14-acre (5.7 ha) garden, a sparkling pool, and fresh, locally sourced cuisine. We'll have breakfast here on Monday morning before heading west to:



Greer Gardens. Photo: Harold Greer.

4. Hinsdale Garden & Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area (<http://www.hinsdalegarden.com/>)

In 1912, Oscar B. Hinsdale, founder of the Umpqua River Navigation Co. and a manager of the Gardiner Mill Co., constructed a three-room house on what would become known as Spruce Reach Island, according to documents provided by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In the late 1940s, his son O. Howard Hinsdale, a bank president and serious botany hobbyist, improved the island with 23,000 cubic yards (17,585 cubic metres) of fill and decorated it with an array of flora imported from around the world. His impressive collection grew to include 500 rhododendrons, 300 azaleas, 50 camellias and close to 100 imported trees.

O. Howard Hinsdale expanded his parents' once-modest home into a 5,500 square foot (510 m²) lodge, which had to be raised—not once, but three times—to prevent it from being flooded by the river. In recent years, the BLM has partnered with the American Rhododendron Society to maintain it. Hinsdale's son, Howard Jr., was the last of the family to live in the house.

The garden was well on its way to being lost were it not for the intervention and advocacy of ARS members. In recent years, the BLM has partnered with the American Rhododendron Society to maintain it. The Oregon Chapters (District 4, ARS) continue to actively participate in the ongoing renovation and maintenance of Hinsdale garden pursuant to a written Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM.

5. The Prchal Garden

Ron and Chery Prchal have created an extensive woodland garden over the past 20 years. They feature over 450 rhododendrons



Village Green Resort & Garden.



Prchal Garden.



Hinsdale Garden.



Chris Trautmann's Mowbray Garden.

and azaleas, specializing in species and dwarfs. Their garden also presents many maples, heathers, hellebores, hostas, and other blooming plants. Tucked away in the garden are many woodcarvings, benches and other garden art. Their property is often referred to as a park with its 150' (46 m) tall cedars, hemlocks and spruce trees dominating the landscape.

6. ICM Restaurant (<http://www.icmrestaurant.com/>)

In Old Town Florence, overlooking the Siuslaw River, the International C-Food Market Restaurant will provide our lunch break. Famous for its "All you can eat Dungeness Crab," ICM has also won awards for its chowder. Now off to our first stop for the afternoon:

7. Chris Trautmann's Mowbray Gardens

First established in 1976 in Cincinnati, Ohio, Mowbray Gardens has always been an arboretum dedicated to the furthering of rhododendrons and conifers. Now living in Florence, OR, Chris strives to display and produce the finest rhododendron flowers hybridizers can achieve, while offering other plant material for sale. Here you'll see the latest and greatest in breakthrough colors along with the many witches' brooms of pine, spruce and true fir—ranging from squat balls of foliage to golden conifers that blaze in color.

8. Darlingtonia State Natural Site (<https://oregonstateparks.org/>)

Darlingtonia State Natural Site is the only Oregon state park property dedicated to the protection of a single plant species, *Darlingtonia californica*, a carnivorous plant and sole member of the genus *Darlingtonia*, in the family *Sarraceniaceae*, and the only member of the pitcher plant family in Oregon. This 18-acre (7.3 ha) botanical park has a boardwalk out into a fen that is home to the species *Darlingtonia californica*, also called the cobra lily, which blooms in the spring and has flowers with five purple petals



Darlingtonia State Natural Site.



Darlingtonia californica.



Sea Lion Caves.



Connie Hansen Garden Conservancy.

surrounded by yellow sepals. *Darlingtonia* are found in serpentine soils and sphagnum fens arising from wet sands on coastal plains. Nearby scenery offers a lush assortment of vegetation, including rhododendron, spruce, cedar and shore pine. Note: collecting *Darlingtonia* is illegal in Oregon.

9. **Sea Lion Caves** (<http://www.sealioncaves.com/>)

Established in 1932, Sea Lion Caves is a privately-owned wildlife preserve and bird sanctuary—part of the Oregon/Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve—located 11 miles (17.7 km) north of Florence, OR. This is America's largest sea cave and a year-round home of the Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*). Winter months find hundreds of sea lions in the cave and during the spring breeding and birthing time, the sea lions move from the cave to the rookery (rock ledges in front of the cave), where they remain through the summer.

10. **Best Western Agate Beach Inn** (<https://www.agatebeachinn.com>)

Following a full day of garden visits and coastal scenery, we'll relax, enjoy dinner and spend the night at the Best Western Agate Beach Inn, the site of several previous Fall Western Regional ARS conferences. Here you can unwind, stroll the beach, take in the view from high above the dunes on the shore, or lounge around the fire pit.

11. **Connie Hansen Garden Conservancy** (<https://www.conniehansengarden.com/>)

Fresh from breakfast at the Agate Beach Inn, we continue north to Lincoln City, OR. Free to the public every day of the year, the Connie Hansen Garden Conservancy is all about appreciating the simple beauty of flowers. It's also a rhododendron lover's dream, as the woman for whom the garden is named had quite an affinity for them.

Now we head to a unique tour destination:

12. **Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum** (<https://www.evergreenmuseum.org/>)

First envisioned by Michael King Smith, a former captain in the US Air Force and son of Evergreen International Aviation



Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum.



Monrovia Nursery.

founder Delford Smith, the Evergreen Museum opened in 1991 with a small collection of vintage aircraft in a hangar at company headquarters outside McMinnville. Its claim to fame is housing the legendary “Spruce Goose”—the Hughes H-4 Hercules, a prototype strategic airlift flying boat designed and built by the Hughes Aircraft Company.

While the plane was intended as a transatlantic flight transport for use during World War II, it was not completed in time to be used in the war. The aircraft made only one brief flight on November 2, 1947, and the project never advanced beyond the single example produced. Built from wood because of wartime restrictions on the use of aluminum and concerns about weight, the aircraft was nicknamed the Spruce Goose by critics, although it was made almost entirely of birch. The Hercules is the largest flying boat ever built, and it had the largest wingspan of any aircraft that had ever flown, until the Scaled Composites Stratolaunch first flew on April 13, 2019.

In September 2006, work began on the space museum building, a twin to the aviation museum. The new building was completed in May 2008 and had its grand opening in June of 2008.

Now we head to our last stop of the tour to take in the vast gardens of:

13. **Monrovia** (<https://www.monrovia.com/>)

Located in Dayton, OR, in the Willamette Valley, Monrovia is a 550-acre (222 ha.) nursery dedicated to growing conifers, maples, broadleaf shrubs and other cold-hardy plants. Dayton is only one of Monrovia’s five growing locations, along with Cairo, Georgia (240 acres, 97 ha.), Granby, Connecticut (160 acres, 65 ha.), Visalia, California (600 acres, 243 ha.), and Azusa, California (home office).

Monrovia partners with leading breeders and plant explorers throughout the world, e.g., Dan Hinkley, to evaluate the potential of new plants for gardeners, as well as watching for new cultivars, and then bringing these unique plants to market. Monrovia prides itself on its propagation and growing techniques, its exclusive custom soil mixes (79 of them), and the care it takes to assure plants thrive once planted in the landscape.

We now board our motor coach for one last time and head back to the Heathman Lodge for a final night of rest before seeing our rhododendron friends off to their own gardens around the world.

Steve McCormick is VP of the Portland Chapter and a member of the organizing committee of the 2020 ARS Spring Convention.



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**Perc Moser, Treasurer, ARS Research Foundation, 301 Caversham Rd,
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Book Review

Church, G. and G. Smith. 2015. *Big-leaf Rhododendrons, Growing the giants of the genus*. David Bateman Ltd., Auckland, NZ: 183 pp.

This impressive coffee-table sized book (24.5 x 30 cm tall; 9.5 x 12 in) contains eleven chapters, with two discussing the 30+ species in detail, one chapter on their hybrids, and the balance on where they come from, the influence of these species in woodland gardening worldwide, their discovery by plant collectors, where to find them in gardens around the world, how to grow and propagate them successfully, suitable companion plants for them and finally, issues around their conservation. The book is very nicely illustrated with photographs by Pat Greenfield, which cover virtually everything one could desire—plants in the wild and in cultivation; close-ups of trusses, leaves, bracts, etc.; key people in their discovery and collection; and propagation techniques.

What I particularly enjoyed was the easy and informative reading style of the book which is due to the collaboration of an international rhododendron expert to ensure accurate content, namely Graham Smith, with plantsman and garden writer Glyn Church, who gives a somewhat folksy and casual flavour to what could otherwise be a rather dry and technical treatise. For example, in some of the species sections, coloured box inserts contain anecdotal information relative to that species, such as Keith Rushforth's description of how he became aware of the new species *R. kesangiae* in 1985. As he pointed out, it was a surprise to him that a plant so common and big (up to 15 m (50 ft) tall) was never recognized by earlier plant explorers as being different!

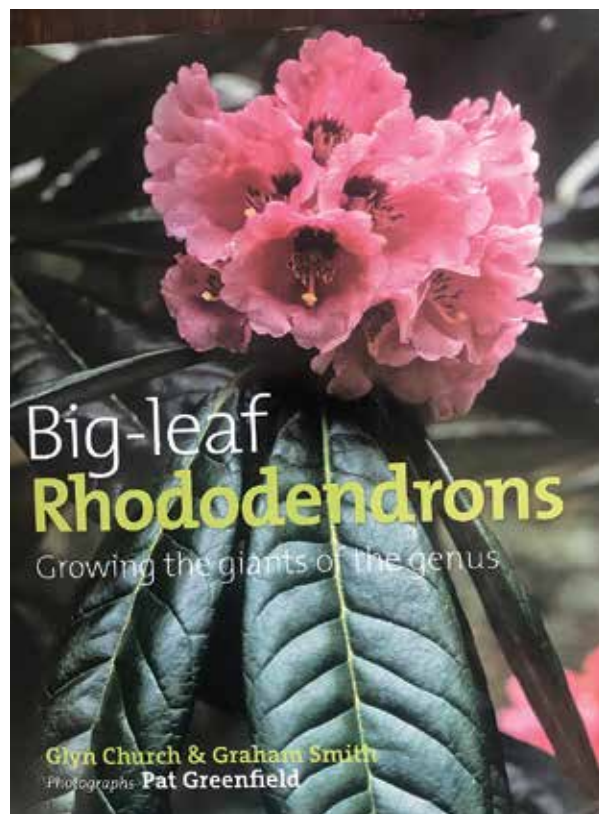
Eighteen *Falconera* and fourteen *Grandia* subsection species, with their subspecies and/or varieties, are individually discussed, including species that are relatively new to cultivation and which are little-known outside of major collections. Gardens around the world where big-leaf rhododendrons can be found are minimally discussed for North America, New Zealand and Australia, but much more extensively covered for the UK, as would be expected given the much longer time period that these rhododendrons have been grown in cultivation there.

Cultivation and propagation techniques mentioned are generally much the same as for other rhododendrons, although the big-leaves tend to need moister, milder and less windy habitats than most other rhododendrons, not really surprising given their unusual physical features. The same applies to suggested suitable companion plants.

The conservation challenges around big-leaves are related to the threats affecting many of the virgin forest species in southern Asia arising from rapid human expansion into previously pristine areas. The authors point out that it's not just local people that are the problem, as tourists and trekkers also have an impact, but the topic is only lightly covered, with just a few paragraphs discussing some of the issues in each country.

In summary, I very much enjoyed reading this book. It is nice to have a specific text devoted to a group of rhododendrons that I really like and which are rapidly increasing in popularity. There is little new factual information in the book except for the great images, but it does a masterful job in bringing together a lot of information that is widely scattered through the literature, and in this respect, makes it very easy to become familiar with this remarkable group of rhododendrons.

Glen Jamieson is the current president of the Mount Arrowsmith Chapter and the editor of JARS.



Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful!' and sitting in the shade."

Rudyard Kipling

Rhododendrons for Beginners:

The large-leaf Rhododendrons - Subsections *Falconera* and *Grandia* in the *Rhododendron* subgenus *Hymenanthès*

Glen Jamieson
Parksville, BC,
Canada

Images from
Hirsutum unless
otherwise noted.



Hymenanthès is a subgenus of the genus *Rhododendron* with a widespread distribution in the temperate Northern Hemisphere. They are elepidotes (without scales) and the subgenus includes two sections, section *Ponticum*, divided into 24 subsections and about 180 species, and since 2005, section *Pentanthèra*. The species in section *Ponticum* are evergreen shrubs and small to medium-sized trees (up to 30 m (100 ft) tall), with medium-sized to large leaves (very large, over 40 cm (16 inches) long, in a few species). The flowers are large, produced in terminal trusses of 5-40 together. Plants in this section are the plants that most people think of when they hear the word rhododendrons, and they are widely planted in

temperate climate gardens.

In previous articles, I discussed the general characteristics and taxonomic relationships of evergreen species rhododendrons in section *Ponticum*, of subsections *Taliensia* (Jamieson 2019a) and *Fortunea* (Jamieson 2019b). As discussed in a recently published comprehensive book on the big-leaf rhododendrons (Church and Smith 2015, see review on page 36 in this issue), gardening interest in these rhododendrons was initiated in the large, older English, Irish and Scottish estates where owners used their gardens to impress friends and colleagues. As the fashion to impress others changed from having long rides in carriages to the actual plants in a mixed woodland garden, owners became interested in special, unique showy plants, and began growing exotic, attention-grabbing species. Large-leaf rhododendrons were particularly suited in this regard, with those having the biggest leaves especially desirable. The fact that they were rather difficult to grow, and did especially well in the acid-soil regions of Great Britain, only added to their uniqueness. Today, these plants are available for most to grow in their own gardens, and failing that, can be seen either in the wild in Asia or in many arboreta or community gardens with an interest in rhododendrons.

Felice Blake, a keen Australian gardener, stated

The genus *Rhododendron* covers an enormous variety of plants from tiny prostrate shrublets to majestic trees which on the whole are slow growing and long lived, and the genus contains many species with superb foliage. When one considers that the flowering season of any individual rhododendron (excluding vireyas) is generally restricted to a few weeks in the year, it always seems puzzling that more consideration is not given to the general appearance of the rhododendrons we grow in our gardens from the point of view of the plants as foliage plants, as after all we look at the foliage throughout the whole year. The average gardener seems only to acquire rhododendrons as flowering plants, and gives no thought whatsoever to the foliage of the plants which he, or she, must look at for all the year around, and this is reflected in so many nurseries stocking rhododendrons which look deadly dull when the plants are not in flower - hence the scarcity of the much more attractive species which in so many instances are just as attractive out of flower as in flower. Some are such beautiful foliage plants that the flowers must be of secondary consideration, and although some species take many years to bloom, this is of little consequence as the plants can be enjoyed the whole year around...

Everyone who has suitable conditions should grow some of the big-leafed species with beautiful indumentum in the *Grandia* and *Falconera* subsections —little does it matter that they take many years to flower. In many of the species in these subsections, the new foliage stands up like cockades of white kid enhanced by red bracts and look as lovely as the flowers they will ultimately bear. Of course, these species thrive best in woodland conditions in cooler areas where they can reach their full potential.... Some of the large leafed species will flower at less than ten years old including *R. grande*, *rex*, *rex* subsp. *fictolactum*, and *magnificum*, (Blake 1985).

In another article, Blake (1987) stated

...most of the large leaved species delighted us with their almost incredibly magnificent flower trusses, but just as fascinating as the flowers is the incredible beauty of the new foliage unfurling. As with so many species rhododendrons the foliage of these big ones provides so much year-round interest that the flowering almost becomes a secondary consideration.... For those who garden in areas with warm to hot summers, I think *R. falconeri* is the species to try, amongst the big-leafed ones. There is a much greater chance of growing it to near perfection than say, *R. sinogrande*, which comes into new growth just about at the beginning of summer. I cannot grow the huge leaves on this one in our present garden [in Australia] in the same way they grew at the higher elevation in our old garden. They need an almost perpetual fine mist as the new growth emerges. However, with *R. falconeri* we are blessed with whorls of leaves three feet across, backed with beautiful indumentum. Maybe those in cooler regions could experiment with the species coming into late growth, such as *R. sinogrande*.

Subgenus *Hymenanthus*

Section *Ponticum* (24 subsections, about 304 species (McQuire and Robinson 2009))

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <i>Arborea</i> (12 species) | 14. <i>Irrorata</i> (16 species) |
| 2. <i>Argyrophylla</i> (20 species) | 15. <i>Lanata</i> (6 species) |
| 3. <i>Auriculata</i> (2 species) | 16. <i>Maculifera</i> (14 species) |
| 4. <i>Barbata</i> (6 species) | 17. <i>Neriiflora</i> (44 species) |
| 5. <i>Campanulata</i> (4 species) | 18. <i>Parishia</i> (5 species) |
| 6. <i>Campylocarpa</i> (7 species) | 19. <i>Pontica</i> (19 species) |
| 7. <i>Falconera</i> (c. 14 species) | 20. <i>Selensia</i> (8 species) |
| 8. <i>Fortunea</i> (27 species) | 21. <i>Sherriffii</i> (3 species) |
| 9. <i>Fulgensia</i> (1 species, <i>R. fulgens</i>) | 22. <i>Taliensia</i> (49 species) |
| 10. <i>Fulva</i> (4 species) | 23. <i>Thomsonia</i> (15 species) |
| 11. <i>Glischra</i> (11 species) | 24. <i>Williamsiana</i> (one species,
<i>R. williamsianum</i>) |
| 12. <i>Grandia</i> (c. 15 species) | |
| 13. <i>Griersoniana</i> (1 species,
<i>R. griersonianum</i>) | |

Section *Pentanthera* (2 subsections, 19 species)

1. *Pentanthera* (18 species)
2. *Sinensia* (one species: *R. molle*)

Both *Falconera* and *Grandia* species are large, lax shrubs or trees, with big leaves that have a pronounced underside indumentum, a dense, many flower inflorescence, and six to ten-lobed, often ventricose (swollen on one side), flowers. Closely related to the *Grandia* subsection, the suggested distinction is based on *Falconera*'s funnel- or cup-shaped hairs, but Cox states this doesn't always apply, although the majority of the *Falconera* have a woolly indumentum while the *Grandia* have more of a plastered one. The two subsections merge in the close alliance between *R. basilicum* and *R. praestans*. With respect to flowering times, at the RSBG near Seattle, WA, Steve Hootman states "The big-leaf blooming season kicks off with *R. semnoides*, *rothschildii*, *watsonii* and the very rarely seen *R. pudorosum* in early March, followed by *R. hodgsonii*, *basilicum*, *arizelum*, *coriaceum*, *rex* subsp. *fictolactum*, *sinofalconeri* and *kesangiae*, and wrapping up with *R. rex* subsp. *rex* and *galactinum* in early May."

McQuire and Robinson (2009) divide species of both subsections into two groups, species with or without winged petioles. Species descriptions in the following are largely from McGuire and Robinson (2009), Cox and Cox (1997), Cox (1990), Church and Smith (2015) and the RSF website (<https://rhodygarden.org/cms/plant-database>).

A. *Rhododendron*, subsection *Falconera* (about 14 species, 12 discussed, red font species are more available)

Falconera have leathery leaves, a seven to ten-lobed corolla, a small calyx, 12-18 stamens and a usually tomentose (hairy) ovary. They are all fine foliage plants, worth growing for their leaves alone until they flower, which can take several years. New growth is fairly decorative. They do not tolerate either very cold or very high temperatures, so grow best in mild temperate habitats.

1) **Group A** (leaves with winged petioles)

R. basilicum
R. heatheriae
R. preptum
R. rothschildii
R. semnoides.

2) **Group B** (leaves without winged petioles)

i) **Group B1** (smaller species with smoother leaves, corollas five to seven-lobed)

R. coriaceum

R. galactinum

ii) **Group B2** (larger species with rugulose leaves, corollas usually eight-lobed)

R. arizelum

R. falconeri

R. hodgsonii

R. rex

R. sinofalconeri

Species Details

1) **Group A** (leaves with winged petioles)

R. basilicum (Epithet: Royal)

This 2.4-9 m (8-36 ft) species from western Yunnan and Myanmar has leaves with thick, spongy, continuous, brown, fawn or rust-coloured funnel-shaped hairs. The petiole is widened at the base and flat above with marginal wings and ridges. Inflorescences have 10-25 flowers, which are usually white to cream with a prominent blotch, although some are pale yellow to rich flesh-rose, with pink or purple stains or veins. Many cultivars have features halfway between this species and *R. praestans* and may be hybrids. It is a fine foliage, flat-topped tree with beautiful new growth and smooth peeling bark, flowering from March to May.

R. heatheriae (Epithet: after Heather, the wife of Keith Rushforth, its discoverer)

This new species from SE Tibet and Arunachal Pradesh has a coppery indumentum and a very short, winged petiole. It grows to 5-8 m (17-26 ft) with rough, flaky bark and leaves 20-30 cm (8-12 in) long. It is closely related to the similar *R. arizelum*. From images on www.rhododendron.dk, flower colour ranges from pink to cream.

R. preptum (Epithet: Distinguished)

Very similar to *R. rex* subsp. *arizelum* and *R. rex* subsp. *fictolactum*, this may not be a distinct species, and has only been collected three times in the wild, all decades ago by George Forrest, initially in Myanmar and later in NW Yunnan. Its petioles are slightly winged or ridged, and is really like a large version of *R. rex* subsp. *fictolactum*. Its flowers are in a truss of 20-30, and are white to mauve-pink, with a crimson blotch and spots, with serrated, rather frilled margins and flowers in April to May.



R. basilicum. Photo: Garth Wedemire.



R. heatheriae. Photo: Claus Staune.



R. preptum. Photo: Hank Helm.

R. rothschildii (Epithet: after Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury)

This species is not common in cultivation but is a good plant, growing to 3m (10 ft) in gardens and up to twice that in the wild. Its large paddle-like leaves are up to 36 cm (14 in) long, and the species is distinguished by a thin, spotty rufous indumentum underneath

its leaves. The flower buds are almost crimson, opening to creamy-white or pale yellow flowers, each with a rich crimson blotch, in April to May. Very similar otherwise to *R. basilicum* and *R. semnoides*, and may be a natural hybrid between *R. praestans* and *R. arizelum*.

R. semnoides (Epithet: resembling *R. semnum* (now *R. praestans*))

This species is closely related to *R. basilicum*, differing by having more fimbriated but still cupped hairs in its indumentum. It is also a disputed species, and may be a hybrid. It occurs further north in SE Tibet and NW Yunnan than does *R. basilicum*, and is thus relatively tough and hardy. It flowers in April—May, and its flowers are also white to creamy white, often suffused with pink, and each with a red blotch inside.



R. rothschildii. Photo: John Farbarik.



R. semnoides. Photo: Stephan Bubert.

2) Group B (leaves without winged petioles)

i) Group B1 (smaller species with smoother leaves, corollas five to seven-lobed)

R. coriaceum

R. galactinum

This species from SW Tibet and NW Yunnan is not the most dramatic nor the best for flower display among the *Falconera*, but is still charming. Its long, narrow leaves have a silvery or grey indumentum when new, which fades to fawn as the leaves age, and a white tomentum. The leaves stay on the plant for three to four years, and the white kid-glove like new growth is quite attractive. The best forms have larger, white flushed rose flowers with a crimson blotch, 15-20 in a truss. It is quite similar to *R. rex* subsp. *fictolactum*, but with thinner stems and branches.

R. galactinum (Epithet: Milky)

This species from West Sichuan does not have the spectacular leaves that other *Falconera* have, being up to only 20 cm (eight in) long, but it does have beautiful flowers, pure white to pale rose, with a rich wine blotch within. It has distinctive short, stubby foliage buds, and unique to the *Falconera*, a glabrous (without hairs) ovary. On the plus side, the species is the hardest of the *Falconera*.



R. coriaceum. Photo: Garth Wedemire.



R. galactinum. Photo: Rinus Manders.

ii) **Group B2** (larger species with rugulose leaves, corollas usually 8 lobed)

R. arizelum (Epithet: Notable)

This fine foliage species from eastern India to western Yunnan is one of the hardier *Falconera*, growing to 3-7.6 m (10-25 ft) in gardens. Its strongly veined dark green leaves have a prominent yellow midrib, are widest towards their tip, and have a tan, velvet-like indumentum. Flowers are cream to a deep soft rose, with 15-25 in a truss. New growth is covered in a soft golden down.

R. falconeri (Epithet: after H. Falconer, Supervisor, Saharanpur Gardens, India)

This species from eastern Nepal to Arunachal Pradesh may reach 12 m (40 ft) in favourable locations, with rough, reddish-brown, peeling bark. There are two subspecies, *falconeri* and *eximium*. Subsp. *falconeri* has very large elliptic to obovate leaves up to 30 cm (one foot) long and 15 cm (six inches) wide, often with a scalloped edge, which are matt dark-green with indented veins and a brown or rusty indumentum. Young leaves are covered with silvery hairs that slowly rub off with time. The inflorescence has 15-25 waxy white to creamy-yellow flowers in late April—May, with the rich lemon-yellow forms most attractive, and these flowers last longer than any other rhododendron, up to a month.

Subsp. *eximium* has two main differences—its young leaves are covered in golden hairs on both surfaces for the first year, whereas subsp. *falconeri* has a hairless, matt upper leaf surface when the leaves mature. Also, subsp. *falconeri* is an upright tree whereas subsp. *eximium* is smaller and usually as wide as high. Finally, initially the flowers of subsp. *eximium* are a rose colour, opening pink but fading at their base to a creamy-white.

Overall, this species is one of the best rhododendrons to grow, and one of the highlights in any rhododendron collection. It is not the most hardy species, so a warm, sheltered site is best,



R. arizelum. Photo: Ken Gibson.



R. falconeri subsp. *falconeri*. Photo: Dr. Stephan Buber



R. falconeri subsp. *eximium*. Photo: Rinus Manders.

R. hodgsonii (Epithet: after B.H. Hodgson, former East India Company resident in Nepal)

This 3-12 m (10-40 ft) species from eastern Nepal to Arunachal Pradesh has bark that is creamy, mauve pink to cinnamon, peeling in large sheets so it is usually smooth and shiny. Leaves are obovate to elliptic, rough and leathery, with a loose evanescent tomentum on younger leaves giving a greyish cast, with a rich brown indumentum. Growth buds are distinctive with long, acuminate tips, green to purple. Flowers vary in colour (see figure) and tend to fade with age. Overall, this is a fine



R. hodgsonii. Photo: Garth Wedemire.



Variations in wild *R. hodgsonii* colour in Sikkim, India. Photo: Glen Jamieson.

species with bold foliage, lovely bark and beautiful flowers in the better cultivars. It is hardier than most *Falconera*, and some consider it more of a character plant than a really beautiful one!

R. rex (Epithet: King)

This 3-12 m (10-40 ft) species from Arunachal Pradesh to western Yunnan has two subspecies, *rex* and *fictolactum*. The former grows to about 6 m (20 ft) in cultivation with not always the most exciting coloured leaves, but this is made up by their up to 45 cm (18 in) length, all with a greyish-brown indumentum. Flowers are white to rose coloured with a dark basal blotch and spotting within, with 20-30 per truss during April-May. Subsp. *fictolactum* has smooth leaves, dark green above with a continuous thick dense russet or brown indumentum beneath. Its flowers are similar to those of subsp. *rex*, but are usually paler and smaller, as are its leaves. Both subspecies are considered to be among the more cold-hardy of the big leaf species, along with *R. watsonii* and *R. galactinum*.

R. sinofalconeri (Epithet: Chinese *R. falconeri*)

Growing to six m (20 ft), this relatively new species has smooth, brown flaking bark and is the most southerly member of the *Falconera*. The Chinese version growing north of the Red River in Yunnan has a rounded leaf and a loose, pale indumentum, whereas the Vietnam form from south of this river has a more pointed, elliptic-shaped leaf with tight, darker coloured indumentum. Flower colour ranges from rich yellow to cream, and is one of the better big-leaves for flower colour.



R. rex subsp. *fictolactum*. Photo: Hank Helm.



R. rex subsp. *rex*. Photo: Everard Daniel..



R. sinofalconeri. Photo: Hank Helm.

Rhododendron*, subsection *Grandia (about 15 species, 12 discussed, red font species are more available)

These species have foliage reaching the utmost grandeur of the whole genus, with some species reaching an exceptionally large size. Leaves have a plastered or fine woolly indumentum, corollas are seven to ten-lobed, the calyx is very small, there are 14-20 stamens and the ovary is tomentose (with dense woolly hairs, except *R. watsonii*). Because of their large leaves and stature, they all need very sheltered locations and room to reach their full glory, which may take many years before blooming.

1) **Group A** (leaves with winged petioles)

R. praestans
R. watsonii

2) **Group B** (leaves without winged petioles)

R. grande
R. kesangiae
R. macabeaenum
R. magnificum
R. montroseanum
R. protistum
R. pudorosum
R. sidereum
R. sinogrande
R. suoilenhense

Species Details

1) **Group A** (leaves with winged petioles)

R. praestans (Epithet: Excellent)

This 6-9 m (20-30 ft) species from SE Tibet, upper Myanmar and western Yunnan has brown flaking bark and leaves 18-38 cm (7-15 in) long, tapering to the base with a coppery, shinny and plastered indumentum and a short petiole. Flowers are white to deep rose, with or without a crimson blotch and spots. It now includes *R. coryphaeum*, and is one of the most wind-resistant and hardy of the *Grandia*, forming a dense shrub with fine foliage.

R. watsonii (Epithet: after W.C. Hanes-Watson, Chinese Customs)

This 2-10 m (7-33 ft) species is usually a shrub rather than tree-like, and has leaves with a very short, distinctly yellowish petiole and a silvery white to fawn, plastered indumentum. About 10-15 flowers in a truss, which are white to flushed pink, with or without a blotch and spots. It comes from W Sichuan and is the hardiest of the *Grandia*, but unfortunately the poorest in flower.



R. praestans. Photo: Crarae Gardens.



R. watsonii. Photo: Garth Wedemire.

2) **Group B** (leaves without winged petioles)

R. grande (Epithet: Large)

This 6-15m (20-50 ft) tree from eastern Nepal tp Arunachal Pradesh has rough flaking bark, with oblong-lanceolate leaves 12-38 cm (5-15 in) long with a shiny silvery indumentum. New growth has a white tomentum and is particularly attractive, and there are nice pink bud-scales on the young growth. Flowering relatively early (February to April), late frosts can hurt the flowers, which are in a truss of 20-25 and can range in colour from cream to deep rose with a purple blotch and spots. It seems particularly sensitive to wind damage, so needs shelter, and is quite variable in both foliage and flower features.



R. grande. Photo: Ken Gibson.



R. kesangiae. Photo: Douglas Justice.

R. kesangiae (Epithet: after the Queen Mother of Bhutan, Kesang Dorjii Wangchuck)

Initially thought to be a natural hybrid between *R. hodgsonii* X *R. falconeri*, this 3-15 m (10-50 ft) species has 20-30 cm (8-12 in) dark green leaves with prominent lateral veins and silver-white, sometimes brown, indumentum. Having a weak petiole, wind protection is advisable. Leaf buds are distinct, being squat and round and often red or purple, unlike any other large-leaf species. This is one of the best of the big-leaves for flower colour and all-round display in April-May, with 15-20 flowers with a basal crimson blotch in a truss. Subsp. *kesangiae* has rich rosy-pink flowers, and subsp. *album* has white flowers with bright red nectaries at the base of the tube. The leaves are also shinier with more prominent veins.

R. macabeanum (Epithet: after Mr. McCabe, a former Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, NE India)

This big, handsome, robust and easy to grow species from NE India is one of the best big-leaves to start with. Growing 3-9 m (10-30 ft) in gardens, it has a chunky plant form, with glossy dark green leaves with a thick, woolly, whitish or fawn indumentum. Young leaves have a nice white tomentum, and mature leaves can be up to 33 cm (13 in) long and 20 cm (8 in) wide. Trusses have 12-20 flowers, which are yellow, yellowish-white to pale greenish-yellow, with or without a purple blotch. It flowers as a relatively young plant, but fairly early in the season, and tolerates windy and colder sites better than most of its relatives. Steve Hootman is now growing the Mt. Saramati alpine form from Nagaland, India, collected at 3700 m (12,000 ft) which may be hardier.



R. macabeanum. Photo: Garth Wedemire.



R. magnificum. Photo: Stephan Bubert.



R. montroseanum. Photo: Everard Daniel.

R. magnificum (Epithet: Magnificent)

This 3-18 m (10-60 ft) tree along with *R. protistum* is one of the most tender species in *Grandia*, but differs from that species by having longer, narrower leaves and indumentum appearing on much younger plants. It needs protection from both strong winds and early frosts, as it flowers from February to April. It gets its name from its very large leaves, 30-76 cm (12-30 in) long, but these reduce with plant age to about half this size. The dark green leaves on younger plants have a greyish-fawn indumentum as only a narrow marginal band, and blooming seems to coincide with the onset of the development of an indumentum, which may take 20-35 years. Terminal growth buds are distinctive by being tall, pointy and purple-red at their tips. Emerging new growth occurs relatively late in the season, and is draped by long red bracts as they peel away.

R. montroseanum (after the Duchess of Montrose)

A 3-15 m (10-50 ft) species from SE Tibet with very rough flaking bark, it has rigid, rugulose, shiny, dark green leaves with a silvery-white indumentum. Leaves are up to 46 x 23 cm (18 x 9 in) in cultivation, but up to 60 cm (two ft) long in the wild. New growth appears as silvery-white spears. Flowers are pale pink to a rich purplish pink, crimson veined and with a crimson blotch, and some feel it has the most beautiful pink flowers of any big-leaves. It is slightly more hardy than *R. sinogrande* and blooming in February-March, needs warmer habitats to avoid winter damage.

R. protistum (Epithet: Gigantic) (No photo.)

Growing to up to 30 m (100 ft) in the wild but to date to only 14 m (45 ft) in cultivation, this species from upper Myanmar and western Yunnan has huge, matt finish leaves that are not shiny. There is no indumentum on the leaves of an immature plant, which can be up to 70 x 30 cm (28 x 12 in) long and wide, but only half this size when the plant is mature. Initially it was thought that the immature and mature forms were separate varieties, *protistum* and *giganteum* respectively, but it's now realised that the differences are age related. Mature plants are fully indumented, which can take decades to occur. Flowers vary in size and colour, from creamy-white to a rich sensuous pink, red and purple, with many spotted within or with a deep crimson blotch and nectar pouches. Trusses can have up to 30 flowers, and with blooming in February-March, frost damage is possible.

R. pudorosum (Epithet: very bashful) (No photo.)

This rare south Tibetan species in cultivation grows 6-12 m (20-40 ft) high in the wild. It is an attractive plant with shiny rugose leaves with a very thin silvery indumentum, and persistent leaf bud scales lasting for several years which give it a shaggy appearance. Its bright pink trumpet flowers are scented, sometimes have a purple blotch, but do not have nectar pouches. Its reasonably hardy, and has this name because it seems to be bashful to flower, taking upwards of 36 years to often do so!

R. sidereum (Epithet: Excellent)

This is the Chinese version of *R. grande*, coming from Arunachal Pradesh, upper Myanmar and NW Yunnan, but its leaves are smaller and is hardier, and so it also looks like a large leaved *R. arboreum*. Leaves are a matt green above with a silvery indumentum, and it blooms later than in the season (May to June) than *R. grande*. Flowers are creamy-white to yellow to pale pink, usually with a small red eye or larger blotch, with 12-20 flowers in a truss. The yellow-flowering clones are most recommended



R. sidereum. Photo: Everard Daniel.



R. sinogrande. Photo: Ken Gibson.



R. suoilenhense. Photo: Keith Rushforth.

R. sinogrande (Epithet: Chinese *R. grande*)

This species from NW Yunnan, upper Myanmar, SE Tibet and Arunachal Pradesh has the largest leaves of any rhododendron, up to 91 cm (three ft) long and 30 cm (one foot) wide. They are usually shiny, rugose, are a rich bottle-green with a silver indumentum, have a bold yellow mid-vein, and are thick and leathery. It blooms from March to May and the flowers are ivory-white to true yellow, usually with a crimson blotch and with dark nectar pouches. Its trusses are huge, and flowering is often only in every other year, and deadheading helps achieve annual flowering. It prefers a misty, moist habitat, and needs shelter from strong winds and is sometimes killed at -12°C (10° F)—plants older than 5-6 years seem to be hardier.

R. suoilenhense (Epithet: after Mt. Suoilen in north Vietnam)

Discovered in 1991 as a tree growing to 15 m (50 ft) with bold, broadly oblong shiny leaves up to 30-40 cm (12-16 in) long, indumentum, as with *R. protistum*, only appears when the plant matures, which takes less time (five to eight years) than with *R. protistum* (up to 50 years). Flowers are white with a red blotch, and resemble those of *R. sinogrande*, only smaller. It is a vigorous plant, is reasonably hardy, and blooms in late May, even though from so far south!

New species:

R. titapuriense (Epithet: after Titapuri, a series of sacred lakes lying on the Tibet–Arunachal border) (No photo.)

Discovered in 2001 by Ken Cox, this Arunachal Pradesh Pemako Mountain species in the wild may be as high as 30 m (100 ft). It has dense foxy-brown indumentum, tomentum on younger leaves, and the creamy-white flowers have spots. Occurring at a lower altitude than *R. heatheriae*, it is likely less hardy, but young plants survive at -7° C (19° F). It appears to have some affinity with *R. rex*, and so is likely in the *Falconera*.

R. species nova

Four new species have also been found in Arunachal Pradesh, one perhaps similar to *R. sinofalconeri* and about 12 m (40 ft) tall. The second, named *R. grande* affinity, was about the same size, with a silvery, sometimes buff, indumentum. The third, at the time referred to as *R. magnificum* affinity, has been observed near the *R. titapuriense* population, and the fourth, *species nova* HECC#10010, now being sold by both Glendoick and the RSBG, appears to also be nearest to *R. sinofalconeri*, with very distinct foliage and quite early new growth.

Acknowledgements:

Thanks to Steve Hootman for his constructive comments.

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Glen Jamieson is the current president of the Mount Arrowsmith Chapter and the editor of JARS.

Rhododendron Calendar

2020	ARS 75th Anniversary Convention, Vancouver, Washington. Board Meeting. April 30 - May 3, 2020.
2020	ARS Fall Regional Conference, Gettysburg, PA, Board Meeting, Sept. 25 - 27, 2020.
2020	New Zealand Rhododendron Association's 76th convention, Timaru, Oct. 27 - 30, 2020.
2020	Australian Rhododendron Association's conference, Upper Burnie, Tasmania, Nov. 5 -7, 2020.
2021	ARS Spring Convention, Nova Scotia, Canada, Dates to be determined.
2023	ARS Spring Convention, Atlanta, GA. Joint ARS/ASA meeting. Dates to be determined.

Newly Registered Cultivar Names

Michael Martin Mills

North American Registrar of Plant Names

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The following rhododendron and azalea names were approved and added to the International Rhododendron Register before Aug. 2, 2019, by the Royal Horticultural Society, which serves as the International Cultivar Registration Authority for the genus *Rhododendron*. (Information on the registration process follows the descriptions of cultivars.)

Key

(a) – deciduous or evergreen azalea

(r) – elepidote or lepidote rhododendron

(v) – vireya rhododendron

(z) – azaleodendron

X – primary cross

(s) – seed parent of cross, if known

x – cross of an unnamed parent

* – not registered

H – hybridized by

G – grown to first flower by

R – raised by

S – selected by

N – named by

I – introduced commercially by

REG – registered by

Royal Horticultural Society color numbers in parentheses, unless another system is noted

(r) ‘Franklin’s Flower’

Elepidote rhododendron: Hershey’s 284* (s) X ‘Mount Siga’. H (2011), G (2018), N (2019), REG (2019): Percival B. Moser III, Bryn Mawr, PA. Flrs 7/lax truss, campanulate to broad funnel, 2 inches (51mm) long x 3 inches (76mm) wide with 5 rounded lobes, wavy margins. Bud: moderate yellowish pink (39C) shading to deep yellowish pink (39B) at tip. Inside: pale yellow green (155A) with strong purplish red (61B) dorsal flare beginning at base. Outside: yellowish white (NN155A). Calyx: 0.25 inch (6mm) long, moderate yellow green (138B). Truss 4 inches (102mm) high x 7 inches (178mm) wide. Lvs 3-3.5 x 1.5-2 inches (76-90 x 38-51mm), elliptic, convex, rounded base, obtuse apex, flat margins, moderate olive green (146A), semiglossy. Shrub 2 x 2 feet (0.6 x 0.6m) in 7 years; intermediate habit. Hardy to 0°F (-18°C), buds to 10°F (-12°C), heat tolerant to 95°F (35°C). Flowering midseason (early May in Philadelphia). Etymology of name: an evocation of the Grateful Dead song “Franklin’s Tower.”

[* Hershey’s 284 – not registered. Pink elepidote, shading to near-white in center; parentage unknown; believed to have been grown from seed by Ralph Hershey or his son Everett Hershey of Hershey’s Azalea Farm, Gap, PA.]

(r) ‘Indian Harbour’

Elepidote rhododendron: (*R. brachycarpum* x *R. aureum*) (s) X *R. campylocarpum* subsp. *caloxanthum*. H (1995), G (2002), N (2018): Walter Ostrom, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia; REG (2019): James Ellison, Canning, Nova Scotia. Flrs 8-12/flat truss, open funnel, 2 inches (50mm) long x 2.7 inches (68mm) wide with 5 lobes, some slightly emarginate, slightly wavy margins. Bud: brilliant yellow green (154C) shading to light yellow green (154D) at base. Inside and outside: pale yellow green (4D), with a cluster of spots, deep red (53A), fading to strong



‘Franklin’s Flower’. Photo: Percival B. Moser III



‘Indian Harbour’. Photo: James Ellison.

greenish yellow (151A), in dorsal area of throat. Calyx: 0.1 inch (1.6mm) long, light yellow green to moderate yellow green (138D-139D). Pale yellow style and filaments, dark stigma and anthers. Truss 3.1 inches (80mm) high x 4.7 inches (120mm) wide. Lvs 3.8 x 1.4 inches (96 x 36mm), elliptic, convex with slightly depressed midrib, rounded base, broadly acute apex, downcurved margins; moderate olive green (137A), semiglossy, above; moderate yellow green (146C), below; new growth strong yellow green (142A). Shrub 4 feet (1.2m) high x 6 feet (1.8m) wide in 15 years; open habit, lvs held 2 growing seasons. Hardy to -5°F (-21°C), buds to 0°F (-18°C). Flowering early season (early May in coastal Nova Scotia). Etymology of name: for the town in Nova Scotia where the cultivar was hybridized.

(r) 'Midnight Moonbeams'

Elepidote rhododendron: 'Besse Howells' (s) X 'Catawbiense Boursault'. H (1996): Brandon Warkentin; G, REG (2019): W. Warkentin family; N (2019): C.A. Warkentin; all, Fonthill, Ontario. Flrs 13/dome truss, broad funnel, 1.75 inches (44mm) long x 2.25 inches (57mm) wide with 5 rounded lobes, wavy margins. Bud: deep purplish red (61A) at apex shading to strong purplish red (61B) at base. Inside: moderate purplish pink (N74D), with strong purplish red (72A) dorsal blotch, 1 inch (25 mm) tall x 0.75 inch (19mm) wide. Outside: moderate purplish pink (N74D) with strong purplish red (61B) midveins. Calyx: 0.1 inch (3mm) long, light yellow green (150D). Style vivid purplish red (61C), stigma dark red (59A), filaments moderate purplish pink (N74D), anthers white. Truss 5 inches (127mm) high x 6 inches (152mm) wide. Lvs 5 x 2.25 inches (127 x 57mm), elliptic, rounded base, broadly acute apex, wavy margins, grayish olive green (NN137A), matte, above; moderate yellow green (N148B) below. Shrub 1.7 x 1.7 feet (0.5 x 0.5m) in 5 years; intermediate habit, lvs held 2 growing seasons. Hardy to -15°F (-26°C). Flowering midseason (late May in Niagara Falls area).



'Midnight Moonbeam'. Photo: William Warkentin;

(a) 'Miss Dean'

Deciduous azalea: *R. canescens* open-pollinated. S (2013), G (2013): Vernon Bush, Huntsville, AL; N (2019), REG (2019): Huntsville Madison County Botanical Garden Society Inc., Huntsville, AL; I (2017): Earl Sommerville, Marietta, GA. Flrs 12-16/flat truss, trumpet (elongated tubular funnel), 1.3 inches (33mm) long x 1 inch (25mm) wide with 5 broadly acute lobes, wavy margins. Bud: strong purplish red (58C). Inside: very pale purple (73D), strong purplish red (58C) in throat. Outside: very pale purple (73D) with light purplish pink (73C) veins; tube darkening toward base. Calyx: 0.4 inch (10mm) long, light yellow green. Pistil 2.1 inches (53mm). Fragrance: light. Truss 2 inches (51mm) high x 3 inches (76mm) wide. Lvs 1.6-2.75 x 0.6-1.25 inches (41-70 x 25-32mm), elliptic, cuneate base, broadly acute apex, wavy margins, moderate olive green (147A), semiglossy; new growth strong yellow green (144A). Indumentum: hairs, moderate, uniformly distributed on both sides of leaf, light yellow green (150D). Shrub 3.25 feet (1m) high x 2.7 feet (0.8m) wide in 5 years; intermediate habit. Hardy to 8°F (-13°C). Flowering early season (late March-early April in northern Alabama). Etymology of name: for Dean Bush, wife of Vernon Bush. Note: seedling of *R. canescens* wild-collected on Putman Mountain in northern Alabama. Flowers are deeper pink than typical *R. canescens*.



'Miss Dean'. Photo: Glen Keith Bush.

(a) 'Purple Whimsy'

Evergreen azalea: *R. kiusianum* 'Komo-kulshan' (s) X 'Primitive Beauty'. H (2003), G (2014), N (2019), REG (2019): John S. Kaylor, Sykesville, MD. Flrs 3/terminal, single, strap-petal, 1.4 inches (32mm) long x c.1.5 inches (c.38mm) wide with 5 narrowly elliptic-oblongate lobes, flat margins. Bud, inside, and outside: deep purplish pink (N74C), with vivid reddish purple (N74A) spots on 2-3 dorsal lobes. Calyx: 0.1 inch (3mm) long, moderate yellow green (139C). Purplish style, notably exserted. Lvs 1.4 x 0.6 inches (34 x 16mm), ovate, cuneate base, acuminate apex, flat margins, moderate olive green (137A), matte. Indumentum: sparse whitish hairs, upper side of leaves, pedicel and calyx. Shrub at least 1.5 feet (0.5m) high x 1 foot (0.3m) wide in 15 years; intermediate habit. Hardy to -5°F (-21°C), heat tolerant to 100°F (38°C). Flowering midseason (early May in Baltimore).



'Purple Whimsy'. Photo: John S. Kaylor.

(r) 'Reileyridge Neon Pink'

Elepidote rhododendron: 'Scintillation' (s) X ('Janet Blair' x 'Crest'). H (2007): H. Edward Reiley, Woodsboro, MD; G (2018), REG (2019): Mary L. Reiley, Woodsboro, MD; S (2018), N (2018): Sonny Coble, Gettysburg, PA. Flrs 13/ dome truss, funnel, 1.75 inches (44mm) long x 2.25 inches (57mm) wide with rounded, cupped lobes, plain margins. Bud: strong red (53D). Inside: strong purplish pink (55B) shading to light purplish pink (55C) in throat, with moderate yellow (162A) blotch and moderate yellow (161A) spots in dorsal lobe. Outside: deep purplish pink (55A) shading to strong purplish pink (55B) at base. White style and filaments; burgundy anthers; reddish ovary. Truss 3.25 inches (83mm) high x 5 inches (127mm) wide. Lvs 4 x 1.5 inches (102 x 38mm), elliptic, cuneate base, acute apex, flat margins, moderate olive green (137A), matte. Shrub 5.5 feet (1.7m) high x 3 feet (0.9m) wide in 12 years; intermediate habit, lvs held 2 growing seasons. Hardy to -5°F (-12°C). Flowering late season (early June in Maryland).



'Reileyridge Neon Pink'. Photo: Mary L. Reiley.

(r) 'Swizzle Twist'

Elepidote rhododendron: 'Tony' (s) X 'Catawbiense Boursault'. H (1996): Dylan Warkentin; N (2019): C.A. Warkentin; G, REG (2019): W. Warkentin family; all, Fonthill, Ontario. Flrs 15/ball truss, broad funnel, 1.75 inches (44mm) long x 2.5 inches (64mm) wide with 5 rounded lobes, wavy margins. Bud: vivid purplish pink (N66B). Inside: strong purplish red (63A), with dark purplish red (N79B) dorsal blotch. Outside: strong purplish red (63A) with vivid purplish pink (N66A) midveins. Calyx: 0.2 inch (4mm) long, light purplish pink (68D). Style moderate purplish pink (65A), stigma deep red (60A), filaments strong purplish red (63A), anthers moderate orange (N167C). Truss 5 inches (127mm) high x 6 inches (152mm) wide. Lvs 4 x 2.25 inches (102 x 57mm), elliptic, convex, some curled, rounded base, broadly acute apex, downcurved margins, grayish olive green (NN137A), matte, above; moderate yellow green (148A), below. Shrub 1.3 x 1.3 feet (0.4 x 0.4m) in 5 years; intermediate habit, lvs held 2 growing seasons. Hardy to -15°F (-26°C). Flowering midseason (mid-May in Niagara Falls area).



'Swizzle Twist'. Photo: William Warkentin.

References

Names conform to the rules and recommendations of the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants, Eighth Edition* (2009). Color names are from *A Contribution Toward Standardization of Color Names in Horticulture*, Robert D. Huse and Kenneth L. Kelly; Donald H. Voss, editor (ARS, 1984).

To register a rhododendron or azalea name

North Americans: Electronic registration may be submitted at www.rhododendron.org/plantregistry.htm. The site also provides instructions and forms for downloading and completing manually. Those submitting paper applications should use only the current form (revised 2019). The quickest way to obtain paper forms is to ask a friend with Internet access to go to the ARS website and print the form and instructions. Questions, completed paper forms, all photographs and requests for paper forms should be directed to Michael Martin Mills, North American Registrar, arsregistrar@gmail.com; 632 Burnham Road, Philadelphia, PA 19119; 215-844-6253. There is no fee.

All others: Please direct inquiries to Sharon McDonald, International Rhododendron Registrar, sharonmcdonald@rhs.org.uk; mailing address: RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB, United Kingdom.

2020 ARS Photo Contest Rules

The Contest is open only to ARS members in good standing as of the contest closing date. Judges and their immediate family (spouse, parents, siblings, and children) and household members are not eligible. By participating in the Contest, each entrant fully and unconditionally agrees to and accepts these Official Rules and the decisions of the Judges, which are final and binding in all matters related to the Contest. There are no prizes except bragging rights, and the Editor of JARS has the right to publish runner up and winning entries.

All photos submitted must have been taken prior to July 31, 2020, and not have been entered in a JARS photo contest previously, a change made last year, and is being continued on a trial basis at the request of some ARS members. Entries must be received by midnight PST, July 31, 2020. All entries should prominently feature either rhododendrons, azaleas and/or vireyas in the composition. Competition categories: 1) Flower, truss or spray; 2) Plant in bloom; 3) Landscape or plants in the wild or in gardens; 4) Foliage; 5) People, Insects, or Animals; and 6) Other, for creative or artistic effects of any kind that involves these plants. This could involve the use of software products like PhotoShop.

Photo Guidelines: 1) The Photo must be in .jpg, .jpeg, or .gif; 2) Images submitted should be sent by email and be of modest size, about 1024 to 1280 pixels in length and 480 to 768 in width, which would correspond to a dpi of at least 300 for a 3 x 5 in (7.6 x 12.7 cm) photo; 3) Cropping of digital images and minor adjustments to exposure and color balance is permitted for entries in all categories. Advanced image editing features available in software products like Photoshop should not be used except for entries in category six; 4) The Photo caption and/or description must not exceed 200 characters in length. Provision of some details about the camera and settings for each entry is also desirable, and for submissions in category 6, include a brief explanation of how the image was created; 5) The Photo cannot have been submitted previously in an ARS contest (chapter contest submissions are acceptable); and 6) The number of entries by any individual per category is restricted to two.

Please email entries to Glen Jamieson at ars.editor@gmail.com. Entries must be received by midnight, July 31, 2020.

Errata:

Attentive readers may have noticed that on Vol. 73, P. 208, the *Boothia* species *R. sulfureum* was also spelt as *R. sulphureum* (the photo).

McQuire and Robinson (2009), the ARS Plant Data website, and others use the former, whereas other websites (e.g., <https://plants.jstor.org/stable/10.5555/al.ap.specimen.us00116755>) use the latter.

The American sulfur (in British English, sulphur) seems to be most accepted, and is what is listed by Chamberlain *et al.* (1996), but both spellings are sometimes used for this species.

ARS 2020 SEED EXCHANGE

Seed donations accepted through December, 2019.

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2019 ARS Photo Contest Results

Winner

Best in Contest

Kathy Woehl

Valley Forge Chapter

Japanese Azalea Spray.
Hot Pink Elongated Truss.



Runner-up

Best in Contest

Gus Thompson

Mount Arrowsmoth
Chapter

'One Thousand Butterflies'.



1) *Flower, truss or spray*

Co-winner

Kathy Woehl
Valley Forge Chapter

Japanese Azalea Spray.
Hot Pink Elongated Truss.



Co-winner

Gus Thompson
Mount Arrowsmoth
Chapter

‘Cloudburst’.



The Three 2019 ARS Photo Contest Judges:

1) Doreen Wynja is a consummate professional photographer with an eye for beauty, composition and intriguing settings. Her photos have routinely drawn the viewer in since 1987. She is principle photographer for Monrovia, has her images in several magazines & books including the latest, 'The Tapestry Garden', that of the O'Byrne's. Doreen frequently works with Fine Gardening, both on the cover and among the pages as well with several commercial clients. To contact or see her imagery, go to www.EyeoftheLady.com where you'll find an ever-growing Horticultural Library of her images and several other galleries to stroll through.

2) Stewart Yee lives in Vancouver, BC, Canada, and has a BSc in marine biology (1982) from the University of British Columbia and a diploma in freelance photography (1991) from the Pacific Western Academy of Photography. He spent about ten years as a part time photographic assistant and as a professional freelance wedding photographer in the 1990's, and is now a passionate nature and travel photographer.

3) Dr. Glen Jamieson, JARS Editor and keen photographer.

2) Plant in bloom

Winner

Kristian Theqvist
Finnish Chapter

R. maximum 'red form'.



Co-runner-up

Kathy Woehl
Valley Forge Chapter

Frank Brouse's Pink
Rhododendron



Co-runner-up

Don Hyatt
Potomac Valley Chapter

Bonsai.

3) Landscape or plants in the wild or in gardens

Co-winner

Kark Bernady

Greater Philadelphia Chapter

Rhododendron catawbiense

Grassy Ridge, Roan Mountain,
NC



Co-winner

Kathy Woehl

Valley Forge Chapter

Frank Brouse's Pink
Rhododendron with white
Cornus kousa and ferns.



Co-winner

Gordon Walters

Great Lakes Chapter

Unlabeled rhododendrons.



4) Foliage

Winner

Kristian Theqvist
Finnish Chapter

R. clementinae.



Runner-up

Kristian Theqvist
Finnish Chapter

R. proteoides on Baima
Shan, China.



5) *People, insects or animals*



Winner

Kristian Theqvist

Finnish Chapter

Trapped on a *R. fortunei* seed pod.



Runner-up

Kristian Theqvist

Finnish Chapter

Sten and an *R. rex* subsp *fictolacteum*.

6) *Other; for creative or artistic effects of any kind*



Winner

Gus Thompson

Mount Arrowsmoth Chapter

'One Thousand Butterflies'.



Runner-up

Kathy Woehl

Valley Forge Chapter

Yellow deciduous bloom.

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If you aren't certain whom to contact—contact either Katherine or Dave! This is an evolving new structure and I'm certain there are things that we haven't thought about. Dave Banks
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7:00 – 8:15 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet
8:30 a.m. – Tour A – Crystal Springs, Japanese Garden & Lan Su Chinese Garden
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12:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Registration open
2:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Plant sale open
5:00 p.m. – Dinner on your own
7:00 p.m. – No host social
7:30 p.m. – Welcome with speakers Mike Stewart and Harold Greer

8:30 p.m. – Around the World with Rhododendrons
Part A – *Rhododendrons in Russia* – Andrey Karpov
Part B – *Rhododendrons in South Africa* – Michael Schleyer
Part C – *Rhododendrons in Japan* – Japanese Rhododendron Society
Part D – *Invitation to Tasmania* – Jeff Jenkinson

9:40 – 10:15 p.m. – Registration and Plant sale open

Thursday, April 30th –

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon – Registration open
7:00 – 8:15 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet
8:30 a.m. – Tour C – Iseli Nursery, Stewart Garden, Crystal Springs. Lunch at Stewart Garden.
Tour D – Iseli Nursery, Stewart Garden, Mt Hood and Columbia River Gorge. Catered lunch at Stewart Garden

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Plant sale open

6:45 p.m. – No host social

7:15 p.m. – Banquet

8:15 p.m. – *Exbury Gardens* – Tom Clarke

We know that Exbury is a famous garden. To keep it that way requires someone with much knowledge. Tom will show us the wonders of the garden, its famous and beautiful plants and what it takes to keep it in its pristine beauty.

9:15 p.m. – *Glendoick Gardens* – Kenneth Cox

The Cox family and Glendoick Gardens have long been synonymous with the best and most unusual rhododendrons. Expeditions to the wilds of China and other native locations of rhododendrons plus years of hybridizing have made Glendoick the home to rhododendrons unknown elsewhere. Three generations of the Cox family have developed and nurtured this fabulous garden.

Friday, May 1st –

7:00 – 8:15 a.m. – Breakfast Buffet

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. – Registration open

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Plant sale open.

Plant inspection at 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Workshops – Clinics

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

- A. *Rhododendrons in Bonsai pots* – hands on participation – Mike Bones → \$10.00 fee bonsai clinic only
- B. *Soils* – Gisele Schoniger
- C. *Camellias* – Robert Herald
- D. *Garden Forecast: Hotter, Drier, Wetter* – Linda Derkach

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

- A. *Rhododendrons in Bonsai pots* – Mike Bones
- B. *Soils : What makes Health Soils?* – Gisele Schoniger
- C. *Photography* – Don Hyatt
- D. *Propagation* – Dennis Bottemiller

10:30 – 11:15 a.m.

- A. *Rhododendrons in Bonsai pots* – Mike Bones
- B. *Azaleas – The Special Rhododendrons* – Harold Greer
- C. *Photography* – repeat of session C above – Don Hyatt
- D. *Propagation* – Dennis Bottemiller

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Break

12:00 p.m. – Lunch at the Heathman Lodge

1:00 p.m. – *Science of Rhododendrons* - Sessions 1, 2 & 3

Captivating Subjects by Exceptional Speakers

Session 1 – *Rhododendron Genome* – Valerie Soza

Genes duplicate in several ways and result in new gene functions. This has led to the huge amount of morphological diversity we observe in plants. Using new sequencing technology and a genetic cross, we have sequenced the *R. williamsianum* genome and mapped its sequences to chromosomes. This genomic resource has revealed two types of gene duplication in Rhododendron: ancient whole genome duplication and tandem gene duplication. We will highlight examples of new gene functions that have resulted from these duplications that may have contributed to flower shape diversity in Rhododendron.

1:50 p.m. – Break

2:10 p.m. – **Session 2 – *Disease Resistance in Rhododendrons***

Steve Krebs – While rhododendrons are not difficult plants, there are some things like wet soils and high temperatures that allow all diseases to prosper in rhododendrons. Steve has spent many years experimenting and developing plants that are more resistant to the diseases that plague our favorite plants.

3:00 p.m. – Break

3:10 p.m. – **Session 3 – *Rhododendron Adaptation* –**

Juliana Medeiros – When we have less water, warmer or colder temperatures in which to grow our rhododendrons, we find we need to discover ways the plants can adapt. Juliana has done much to understand how plants adapt and what can be done to help that process so we can enjoy more wonderful rhododendrons.

4:00 p.m. – Free time

6:30 p.m. – No host social

7:00 p.m. – Banquet – More exceptional food!

8:00 p.m. – *Rhododendron collection at the RSBG* – Steve Hootman

Steve will explain the wonderful collection at the RSBG, showing where they came from in the wild, many of which Steve was the first to find. This is not a description of the RSBG (that he will tell us on Sunday), but where the plants came from and the exceptional plants that are there.

8:45 p.m. – *Rothschild Rhododendrons at Exbury* – Lionel de Rothschild

The word “Exbury” brings to mind a world famous rhododendron garden and many wonderful rhododendrons that originated there. We are honored and blessed to have Lionel de Rothschild, the Rothschild family patriarch, as our speaker tonight. You will have few opportunities to hear such a famous person. Here you will hear the background of the garden, starting with the present Lionel’s grandfather Lionel Nathan de Rothschild, through his son Edmund who saved the garden after the war, and now to the present Rothschild family. This opportunity is worth the entire convention cost. Not often do we get to hear from such a person about a garden that entertains the Royal Family and has such a collection of rhododendrons.

Saturday, May 2nd – Breakfast on your own

7:00 – 9:00 a.m. – Registration open

8:30 a.m. Rhododendron Species Foundation Annual Meeting

11:30 a.m. – Lunch at the Heathman Lodge and “Guess the Species Game”

12:15 p.m. – *Woodland Gardens* – Kenneth Cox

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Plant sale open

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – ARS Board meeting

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – *Tour E Japanese Garden and Lan Su Chinese Garden*

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Scientific research exhibits (Poster Session), plant sale room

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Phytosanitary certificates issued.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Pick up inspected plants.

6:45 p.m. – No host social

7:15 p.m. – Banquet

8:15 p.m. – Awards and ARS topics

8:45 p.m. – “Wild Rhododendrons!” Keynote speaker – Jens Nielsen

After 25 trips to China, Jens knows the wilds of the rhododendron world very well. For the last 10 years he has focused on rhododendron species published by Chinese botanists in recent years. Many of these new species are known only in small populations well away from the rhododendron species rich area of SW China. It will be those little known species and the areas where they are found that will delight you in his presentation. Through great pictures, you will see those species in the wild and in the garden. Here is a chance to see plants you have not seen before.

Sunday, May 3rd –

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Plant sale open to public

Rhododendrons in Cascadia

The area from Northern California to British Columbia

8:30 a.m. – *New Rhododendron, development and distribution*

We need new rhododendrons to add to our collections and these three hybridizers will show us the best of the best!

Don Wallace, program leader

Jack Olson

Chris Trautmann

9:30 a.m. – *Propagation and Chapter distribution of plants*

Ken Webb

Since we don’t have as many nurseries offering new or rare plants we need another source. Some of the ARS chapters are helping in this area of getting these plants out. Ken will give some pointers on how his District helps distribute plants.

9:45 a.m. – Brunch

10:15 a.m. – *Mendocino Botanical Garden* - Dennis McKiver

A garden on the north coast of the California in Fort Bragg, this is a wonderful botanical garden in an area with few hard freezes. Dennis will give us details of what it is like to raise rhododendrons there.

10:45 a.m. – *Humboldt Botanical Garden* – Tim Walsh

A bit north, but still in California is Eureka as in “Eureka I found gold”. And you have gold in this beautiful botanic garden. Tim will make this garden come alive for us.

11:15 a.m. – *Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden* – Steve Hootman

Still further north we find the greatest collection of rhododendron species in the world. Steve, the curator of the RSBG will show some of the wonderful plants that they grow in this idyllic garden which is a good representation of “Cascadia”. You MUST stay to the end for this exceptional presentation.

11:45 a.m. – Final Greeting and farewell

1:30 p.m. – *Willamette Valley and Oregon Coast Excursion*

Monday night at Cottage Grove, Tuesday night in Newport. Tour ends back at the Heathman Lodge Wednesday evening.

Descriptions of “How To and More Clinics” Listed in Alphabetical Order

This section, always a popular part of the convention, stresses the “how to” and “what with” of growing and enjoying your garden. These clinics are designed to allow you to ask questions and learn directly from the speaker in smaller groups where it is easy to interact with the speaker.

Camellias: *The Revival of an Aristocrat* –

Speaker Robert Herald

— In the 19th century camellias were considered a “Queen of Flowers”, but some interest was lost over the years. But now there is renewed enthusiasm for these aristocrats that flower during the winter months and into early spring. Robert will show and discuss the many flower types and flowering times from fall, through winter to spring. You will see what you have been missing to add color to the garden during the grayest months of the year, all from a knowledgeable speaker who will delight the audience with information and beauty.

Rhododendrons in Bonsai Pots –

Speaker Mike Bones

— A favorite way to raise plants is in miniature as bonsai, but to many it is so mysterious and confusing. While there is certainly much to know about bonsai, it doesn’t take a life time of learning to enjoy this fascinating art. Mike says he does not do bonsai, but rhododendrons in small pots, and that anything goes as long as you like the results. You will make a small bonsai to keep. Since you get to take home a bonsai there is a fee of \$10.00 for this class.

Soils: *What makes Healthy Soils?* –

Speaker Gisele Schoniger

— Her talk will address *how humor, & humility can save the human race and grow great rhodies, too*. What is “healthy” soil and how do you know if you have it? Gisele will speak on the power of organics in your garden and refresh our understanding of the basics of how to build and nurture healthy soil --soil prep, fertility, mulching, and how to feed the biological system for maximum results. It’s always good information to have and to refresh our own knowledge of how our gardens work.

Garden Forecast: *Hotter, Drier, Wetter; Garden Sense for a Changing Climate* –

Speaker Linda Derkach

— As the climate changes, Linda will offer some strategies that will help gardeners adapt their gardens and be good stewards of land and water resources, and continue to grow rhododendrons, hydrangeas and other water loving plants without guilt.

Photography in the Garden –

Speaker Don Hyatt

— Imagine all the wonders of the natural world that you can capture in photographs. Imagine that you have enough knowledge of photography to capture the essence of the natural world. Imagine that you have the opportunity to hear Don Hyatt talk about capturing the natural world in photographs. You do have that opportunity! Don is an enthusiastic teacher and he will give two clinic sessions on digital photography for you to enjoy.

Propagation –

Speaker Dennis Bottemiller

— Nearly everyone who is interested in plants whether native or exotic at some point wants more of them. Propagation is a great way to get more of the plants you want and the purpose of this talk is to illustrate some of the variables in plant growth, culture and physiology which can be manipulated to propagate rhododendrons by seed, cuttings or grafting.

Speakers

Mike Bones says, “dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones, don’t you hear the word of the Lord”. Only he changes it to “from the Lord” and he certainly is the Lord when it comes to planting plants in small pots. Mike has mastered multiple jobs including the head host for the Three Rivers Casino. You will understand why when you meet him. He currently runs the “dry” Bones Nursery (they have little water, but wonderful plants). This “bonsai” presentation will be sold out fast, and it is the only one that there is an extra charge for!

Dennis Bottemiller recently retired from the nursery, Dennis Bottemiller is the former Nursery / Propagation manager at the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way WA where he was responsible for cutting and seed production of species rhododendrons. He obtained a degree in Production Horticulture from Washington State university in 1989 and was an intern at RSBG in 1987 which lead to his nursery position upon graduation. Dennis took a seven year break from RSBG to manage collections and structures at the W. W. Seymour Conservatory in Tacoma WA. This experience grounded him in conservatory culture and prepared him for the adventure of building and maintaining the Rutherford conservatory at the rhododendron garden which opened to the public in 2010 and where he holds his current position as part-time conservatory curator.

Tom Clarke is the head Gardener at Exbury. Tom says he has been lucky enough to be a professional horticulturist for 28 years. He completed a 3 year apprenticeship with the National Trust and worked in some fabulous woodland gardens in the west of Cornwall including Glendurgan, Tregothnan and most recently Treilissick where he developed his love of temperate woody plants including, of course, Rhododendrons. He is exceptionally knowledgeable, and a great presenter.

Kenneth Cox was born into a family of renowned plantsmen, Kenneth Cox is grandson of plant hunter, writer and nurseryman Euan Cox and son of Peter Cox VMH. The three generations were and are considered the world’s leading experts on rhododendrons. Kenneth is managing director of the family firm Glendoick Gardens Ltd in Scotland, a garden centre and mail order nursery specializing in Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Ericaceous plants, Meconopsis, Primula and other plants collected by the Cox family including Ken’s nine expeditions around the world. He is also the author of numerous books. Kenneth is married with two sons and in his spare time plays several musical instruments.

Linda Derkach is the current Secretary of the ARS and passionate lifelong gardener and contributing member of Vancouver Island Master Gardeners. As an active member of the Mt. Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society, she has served as president and newsletter editor and has been actively involved in organizing the annual garden tours. Linda was one of the primary organizers of the 2019 ARS Fall Conference in Parksville, BC. With daughter Elaine, she has toured iconic gardens all over the world including many in England, Australia, New Zealand, France, Italy and the myriad gardens toured during ARS conventions and conferences over the past 12 years. A keen photographer, Linda takes every opportunity to increase her knowledge of plants, garden design, organic gardening and our environment. She gardens at the seaside in Qualicum Beach on beautiful Vancouver Island.

Harold Greer is retired from 50 years at Greer Gardens in Eugene, Oregon. He is a past president of the American Rhododendron Society, and served on the board of directors for over 25 years. He also holds the title of being the youngest person to ever serve as president. He is the organizing founder of the Western Regional Conferences which happened 30 years ago, so you can guess his current age. He is a recipient of the American Rhododendron Society Gold Medal and is recognized internationally as a rhododendron expert. Harold has contributed enormously to the world of rhododendrons through books, plants, service and dedication. He is an experienced photographer and his pictures have been published in many books and publications including the cover of the Smithsonian Magazine.

Robert Herald has been gardening his entire life. He received a degree in botany from Iowa State University with emphasis on ornamental horticulture. Robert has spent most of his professional career working in public horticulture. He worked for Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, for 17 years, becoming head gardener. Then he took a job to develop a modern plant records system at the Chanticleer Foundation in Pennsylvania. In 2011 he moved to Portland, Oregon. He has a broad range of knowledge of plants and has taught a variety of horticultural subjects.

Steve Hootman is the Executive Director of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden in Federal Way, Washington. Under his direction, the Botanical Garden has become one of the finest and most complete collections of species Rhododendrons in the world. He has led many rhododendron expeditions into Asia and is considered to be one of the world’s best collectors and expedition leaders. His knowledge of rhododendrons and many other genera is exceptional. Steve is very generous and is always willing to speak to rhododendron groups throughout the country and abroad. He is a recipient of the American Rhododendron Society’s Gold Medal Award.

Don Hyatt has been gardening since age three. Among many other degrees, he has a BS in Horticulture. He taught mathematics and computer science for more than 30 years. Now retired, he has devoted even more of his time to rhododendrons and azaleas. Don has studied the native azaleas of the eastern mountains most of his life and knows them like the back of his hand. He has also been a successful hybridizer, introducing well known azaleas such as ‘Yellow Cloud’ and ‘Mandarin Maid’. This is a speaker you will not want to miss, as he not only has knowledge, but wonderful pictures.

Jeff Jenkinson is from Australia where he grows rhododendrons “down under” where spring happens when it is fall in the Northern Hemisphere. Jeff is deeply involved with rhododendrons there and will tell us of the trials and glories of growing rhododendrons in that area. He is another speaker in our international series on rhododendrons.

Andrey Karpov lives in Rostov-on-Don in southern Russia just upstream from the Sea of Azov which drains into the Black Sea. He is a cardiovascular surgeon of world renown and travels the world sharing with and learning from famous surgeons around the world. He developed a keen interest in rhododendrons in a country that has few native rhododendron species and even fewer in gardens. He has imported many rhododendrons from North America which he grows in his beautiful home garden. Andrey also has learned to propagate rhododendrons and now has hundreds of young plants which he has rooted. He has spoken at two Western Regional Rhododendron Conferences in the past and has delighted each audience. This is an opportunity to hear from a knowledgeable speaker with a different insight into growing rhododendrons. This will be his eighth trip to Oregon to visit rhododendrons.

Steve Krebs is one of the most prominent and accessible, currently active investigators of rhododendrons. Steve joined the Holden Arboretum after completing his Ph.D. in Plant Breeding and Genetics/Horticulture at Michigan State University. Well into his third decade at the Leach Station, his research currently focuses on stress adaptations, both to continue David Leach’s commitment to breeding rhododendrons for continental climates, and because of anticipated environmental changes. The Leach Station is staffed and equipped to support extensive and diverse display gardens, in addition to large breeding populations and research plots. The Station continues its founder’s commitment to breeding superior rhododendrons and azaleas for continental climates (i.e. cold winters and hot summers).

Dennis McKiver is an active member of and volunteer at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens. Each spring he leads weekly tours of the gardens with an emphasis on how to plant and raise rhododendrons and which ones will do the best in different climate zones. Dennis McKiver has been a member of the Noyo Chapter, in Fort Bragg, California since moving to Forest Lane in 2001. Dennis has over 1,000 varieties of rhododendron hybrids and species growing on his property. Dennis has a BS in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University and spent 30 years as a California Game Warden with retiring in 2014.



Speakers Continued

Juliana Medeiros leads the plant ecophysiology lab at the Holden Arboretum and holds adjunct appointments in the Biology Departments at Case Western Reserve University and Kent State University. Her work investigates the impact of spatial and temporal variation in climate on plant physiology and anatomy, primarily focused on Rhododendron, but also including other woody plants. In addition to her research activities, as a founding Co-Chair of the Rhododendron Research Network through the American Rhododendron Society, Dr. Medeiros is also active in developing scientific programs for public audiences and building collaborative infrastructure that brings researchers together to foster new partnerships. She is committed to advancing and promoting research in the genus and is also actively involved in outreach programs for adults and K-12 students. Juliana is a member of the Great Lakes Chapter of the ARS.

Jens Nielsen is a world rhododendron authority. He started traveling to Northwest Yunnan at age 20 to seek out the superior forms of rhododendron species. After more than 25 trips to that rhododendron rich area of the world, he started focusing on seeking out the less known rhododendron species more recently published by Chinese botanists that are found only in small populations well away from the species-rich areas of Southwest China. Jens has worked as a propagator at the famous Brodick Castle. He also was an interim Garden Manager for the National Trust for Scotland, followed by several years at the renowned Glendoick Gardens. Jens was recently the head gardener for the Hutts Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park, an amazing garden of 45 acres and some 20,000 plants. He currently runs his own business designing and establishing gardens for the best garden connoisseurs. He is a true plantsman and rhododendron authority. To quote Steve Hootman, "Jens Nielsen is one of the most knowledgeable and intrepid of the new generation of plant hunters."

Jack Olson has been a fan of rhododendrons for more than 50 years. A teacher by profession, he has enjoyed gardening most of his life. In the last 20 years, he has become extensively involved with hybridizing and is realizing some fantastic results of his hybrids. He loves red leaves on his rhododendrons and has worked to achieve hybrids with outstanding characteristics such as that. He gardens on a magnificent tree covered piece of land near Eugene, Oregon.

Lionel de Rothschild is the son of the late Edmund Leopold de Rothschild (1916-2009) and is closely involved with running the Exbury Estate created by his father and grandfather Lionel Nathan de Rothschild (1882-1942). A trustee of The Rothschild Archive London, he has published works on horticulture, photography and the Rothschild Family Tree. Lionel is a wealth of knowledge and it is an unusual opportunity to have a person of this stature speak to us. His credits and achievements are too long to list here.

Gisele "G" Schoniger is Manager and Organic Gardening Educator at Kellogg Garden Products. In her 33 years in the Garden Industry, Gisele has accumulated a wide range of experience and knowledge. She earned her degree in Ornamental Horticulture from California Polytechnic University. She has owned an Interiorscape company, worked for the State Department of Agriculture, practiced as a horticultural therapist with senior citizens and launched an outstanding sales career by helping establish top-selling organic gardening products. Gisele shares her wealth of gardening wisdom as an educator to the industry and consumers in the western region of the country. Her workshops are upbeat, educational and entertaining.

Valerie Soza completed her undergraduate studies in Environmental Studies and Anthropology at Pitzer College, Claremont, California, in 1997. Subsequently, she served as Botanical Field Studies Coordinator and Herbarium Curatorial Assistant at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont from 1997 to 2003. Dr. Soza received her Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Washington (UW), Seattle, completed her postdoctoral research at UW, and now is a Research Scientist at UW. Valerie's research attempts to understand the evolutionary history of species and the potential roles that flower morphology and biogeography play in speciation of angiosperms. Currently in the (Ben) Hall lab, she is using molecular data to understand the tropical diversification of Rhododendron (Ericaceae) in Southeast Asia and to identify genes involved in flower symmetry changes in this group.

Mike Stewart of Dover Nursery in Sandy, Oregon, is a rhododendron expert. Mike, along with his wife Maria, recently retired from Dover Nursery which was known for its outstanding selection of rhododendrons, both species and hybrids. He is a Gold Medal recipient (the highest award from the ARS) and a professional with excellent speaking skills that everyone enjoys. Mike is very active with the ARS, having been a recent International ARS president. He never knows when to say no in the service of rhododendrons and is the Past President of the Rhododendron Species Foundation. What he says is always worth hearing!

Michael Schleyer is a South African marine biologist, retired but still active in the field. While corals and coral reefs in the western Indian Ocean occupied most of his professional career, he and his wife first encountered rhododendrons over twenty years ago and were captivated by their splendor. Azaleas are commonly grown in South Africa but rhododendrons are little known and very difficult to come by. Indeed, South Africa varies dramatically in its climate and soil types so the care and maintenance of rhododendrons poses many challenges. Mike and Margie have thus become enthusiasts and pursue the collection and propagation of rhododendrons as a hobby, sourcing material from far afield.

Chris Trautmann first established Mowbray Gardens in 1976 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mowbray Gardens has always been an arboretum dedicated to the furthering of rhododendrons and conifers. Now living in Florence, OR, Chris strives to display and produce the finest rhododendron flowers hybridizers can achieve, while offering other plant material for sale. Here you'll see the latest and greatest in break-through colors along with the many witches' brooms of pine, spruce and true fir—ranging from squat balls of foliage to golden conifers that blaze in color.

Don Wallace is the owner of Singing Tree Gardens, a small retail nursery, located in McKinleyville, California. Over the past 20 years Don has planted, propagated, hybridized, and grown from seed many rhododendrons. He is the past president of the Eureka chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, and participated as one of the Show Chairmen at the Western Regional Conference in Eureka back in 1999. Don has been involved in photography for 25 years, and travels each year to photograph many gardens up and down the Pacific coast. Currently, Don is active in hybridizing rhododendrons for fragrance, as well as new and exciting colors of flowers.

Tim Walsh was on the first board of directors for the Humboldt Botanical Gardens Foundation, a charitable foundation formed in 1991. The Humboldt Botanical Garden occupies 44.5 acres, adjoining the College of the Redwoods campus, about 5 miles south of Eureka. The Garden enjoys a combination of Mediterranean and Pacific Marine climates, allowing a diverse group of plants to thrive, with many species unique to the region. The Garden features rhododendrons and their companion plants prominently. He and his wife, June, have been actively involved at all levels of the Garden, including hands-in-dirt. Tim became President of the Eureka Chapter of the ARS in his early years, then later became Treasurer of ARS. He is currently Director for District 5. Tim and his wife, June, hosted the 2017 ARS International Convention in Eureka.

Ken Webb is the founding member and continuing leader of the Victoria Chapter's very productive propagation group. Under Ken's leadership, a large number of members have learned to grow rhododendrons from seeds and root cuttings and to graft difficult-to-propagate plants, and as the result of shared knowledge, significantly improve their rhododendron gardening skills. The chapter has benefited from the efforts of the propagators' group in the form of plants for the monthly raffle and bargain table, and for sales at its annual Show and Sale. Ken was awarded the Bronze Medal by the Victoria chapter for his years of service. He and his wife, Madeleine, have in recent years attended many of the American Rhododendron Society Fall and Spring meetings. Ken's gardening skills are well demonstrated in his splendid garden on Old West Saanich Road. Ken is the current president of the America Rhododendron Society.



Tours and Gardens

Tour A — Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden, Japanese Garden, & Lan Su Chinese Garden

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden — Located on approximately seven acres in a beautiful woodland setting of southeast Portland, the pathways of Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden wind through more than 2,000 rhododendrons, azaleas, and companion plants. The garden offers extraordinary vistas of mature rhododendrons, magnolias and other related plants. Surrounded almost completely by a magnificent shimmering, crystal clear lake, supporting a towering grove of trees, featuring three spectacular waterfalls and a high fountain, the site provides a delightful oasis in the city.

Portland Japanese Garden — This garden is known as one of the most authentic Japanese gardens outside of Japan. It contains 5.5 acres of tranquil beauty in the south hills of Portland which provides a bonus of a beautiful view of Mount Hood and downtown Portland. There are five distinct garden styles within the garden, the Flat Garden, Natural Garden, Tea Garden, Strolling Pond Garden, and the Sand & Stone Garden. Influenced by Shinto, Buddhist, and Taoist philosophies, you will feel a deep sense of being part of nature when you enter this garden. Stone, water, and plants are the essential elements used to create a Japanese garden. Secondary elements of water basins, stone lanterns, pagodas, bridges, and arbors create a human scale, so that one feels part of the environment. This is one of the finest gardens of its type around so you will surely want to see it.

Lan Su Chinese Garden — This is one of the few gardens built in Suzhou-Ming Dynasty style that have been built outside of China. In 1999 the garden was started with many of the buildings being built in Suzhou and shipped to Portland along with 500 tons of rock. More than 65 Chinese workers came from China (along with two Chinese cooks) to construct the garden. Authentic plant material was added locally to finish this superb genuine Chinese garden which has been visited by several million visitors since its opening. You will wander through many individual gardens and across bridges and through gateways which open up to unanticipated views. Water, in the form of ponds and falls, is a major element that delights the visitor both visually and audibly. A number of garden buildings are also open for your viewing. This garden is a true authentic piece of Chinese art, that you won't want to miss.

Tour B — Sebright Gardens, Smith Garden, Woodburn Nursery & Azaleas

Sebright Gardens — This magnificent garden and nursery has approximately four acres (1.62 ha) of botanical display gardens and carries several hundred varieties of hostas. There are over 945 hosta varieties listed just on their website, six of which are distinct Sebright Gardens introductions: 'Emerald City Chick', 'Full Frontal', 'Gentle Giant', 'My Maria' (new for 2018), 'Sweet Thing', 'Tangerine Tango', & 'Tears of Joy'. To compliment hostas, Sebright also offers over 150 varieties of hardy ferns & 117 varieties of epimediums. This garden is a true delight to the beholder.

Smith Garden — More visual treats await your visit to the Cecil and Molly Smith Garden. A canopy of native Douglas firs creates an ideal environment for a natural woodland garden of rare beauty, featuring superior forms of species and hybrid rhododendrons. Complementing the rhododendron collection are choice trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and bulbs. Each pathway reveals its own treasure; a moss covered log with plants tucked into bark crevices, a fern garden, and drifts of wildflowers. Masses of cyclamen, narcissus, erythronium, and trillium flourish here, all perfect companions to a rare collection of rhododendrons.

Woodburn Nursery & Azaleas — Here is your opportunity to see one of the leading nursery operations in the country, specializing in implementing and inventing the very latest technology used in the industry. In 1968 Bob and Jean Fessler built a 25' x 96' (222 m²) greenhouse to grow their florist azalea liners. By the 1980's, Bob and Jean's children began working for the nursery, and by the late 1990's, their grandchildren as well. Woodburn Nursery started pot-n-pot production in 2000 for rhododendrons and other shrubs; one acre (0.4 ha) turned into ten (4 ha), and by 2007, the nursery had installed 185 acres (75 ha) of this type of production. Today the nursery consists of a total of 500 acres (202 ha), including 120 acres of covered production area, 56 of which is for azalea production. The balance is for nursery stock production. The nursery stock includes 65 acres (26 ha) of above ground container stock and 225 acres (91 ha) of pot-n-pot production. Here is a chance to see a large scale rhododendron and azalea nursery. After seeing this you will know why Oregon is known as the nursery state.

Tour C — Iseli Nursery, Stewart Garden (formerly Dover Nursery), Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden

Iseli Nursery — This is a rare opportunity to visit what is considered "one of the most outstanding conifer collections and displays in the world." In operation for more than 30 years, Iseli Nursery is one of the leading wholesale growers of exotic plants in the United States. Located in Boring, Oregon, Iseli Nursery is known for its rare and beautiful dwarf conifers, Japanese maples, and Living Art® ornamental trees and shrubs, made available to consumers through quality garden center retailers and professional landscapers throughout the United States and Canada.

Stewart Garden — You will be charmed by one of the most exceptional collections of rhododendrons in the country. Perfectly planted and cared for plants will delight you. At the same time, you will see the newest hybrids from hybridizers on both the East and West Coast along with a collection of exquisitely grown species. This is a delightful display garden with many mature plants under a canopy of native fir trees with an outstanding view of Mount Hood in the background. With beautiful Mount Hood as a backdrop, this is the perfect setting for this wonderful garden. This is a most extraordinary location with fabulous rhododendrons.

Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden — See description under Tour A

Tour D — Iseli Nursery, Stewart Garden, Mount Hood & Columbia Gorge Scenic Tour

Iseli Nursery — See description under Tour C above.

Stewart Garden — See description under Tour C above.

Mount Hood & Columbia Gorge — This tour explores the utmost in the beauty of the Pacific Northwest. After leaving the Stewart Garden in the foothills of Mount Hood, you will tour around the south side of the mountain where *Rhododendron macrophyllum* grows in the wild. Then through the ski village of Government Camp, where you will turn north on the east side of the mountain to Columbia Gorge and the town of Hood River. This Gorge cuts through the Cascade Range with mountains of 12,000' elevation. Flowing some 1243 miles (2000 km) from its source in Canada, this river is the lifeblood of the Northwest. From Hood River, you will go west down the Columbia River, through this famous Gorge where you will see Cascade Locks and Bonneville Dam. You will pass the magnificent 620' Multnomah Falls, on your way to the Heathman Lodge. This tour will view some of the finest scenery in the Northwest. You won't want to miss this tour.

Tour E — Japanese Garden & Lan Su Chinese Garden

Japanese Garden — See description under Tour A above.

Lan Su Chinese Garden — See description under Tour A above.



Convention is hosted by the six Oregon chapters of District 4

Registrar, Loni Welsh
905 N Harbour Dr, Unit 5
Portland, OR 97217-8400
Phone: 503-705-0695;

Information — ARS2020Reg@gmail.com

Convention Website www.ARS75.org

"Around the Sound" and "Willamette & Coast Excursion" ***See the website www.ARS75.org for more complete information & pictures***

Around the Sound Tour – April 26th – April 27th

Includes one night in a luxury hotel and five meals

8:30 a.m. – Board a luxury motor coach for this pre-conference tour.

Tumwater Falls Park – After you leave the Heathman Lodge, you will make your way through magnificent Western Washington to Olympia. There we will stop at Tumwater Falls Park which is a beautiful park with rhododendrons and a wonderful waterfall and fish ladder. What is a fish ladder? It helps the salmon swim upstream past the falls. Nine Million dollars was recently spent on this project. Lunch will then be at the Falls Terrace, overlooking the falls and park.

Whitney Gardens – About an hour's drive from Tumwater, following a scenic drive up the west side of the Hood Canal, we will arrive at Whitney Gardens, the famous destination rhododendron nursery and majestic seven acre (2.8 ha) garden at the foot of the Olympic Mountains. Among rare trees and ponds, you will see a beautiful array of rhododendron hybrids and species. Whitney Gardens features an abundance of azaleas, magnolias, maples, conifers, kalmias, camellias, perennials, trees, shrubs and ground covers.

Far Reaches Farm – Located just outside Port Townsend on the Quimper Peninsula. Port Townsend, famous for its Victorian homes, this specialty nursery features over a thousand taxa in their collection. Many of these have come from their own seed collecting expeditions and exchanges with botanic gardens around the world. Wander through the display gardens and you're guaranteed to see a plant or two you have never seen before. Far Reaches will arrange for pick-up of plants purchased online at least two weeks prior to the tour stop (keeping in mind the limited space on the bus). Hosts and owners Kelly and Sue are often featured speakers at area plant gatherings. As part of our visit here, take the opportunity to sample some of the area's locally produced wines during a brief happy-hour party.

The Point Hotel – A short drive from Far Reaches, we arrive for our dinner and overnight stay at The Point Hotel, a beautiful new resort near the town of Kingston. A buffet dinner will be in a private dining room. Tuesday morning you will experience a full buffet breakfast in the same banquet room before boarding the coach. There is also a casino in a separate building. The hotel is smoke free.

Heronswood – The process of making a garden called Heronswood began on September 1, 1987. That evening, the cofounders, Daniel Hinkley and Robert Jones, took possession of the house and property, pulled open the gate, and startled a great blue heron from the nearby pond. Over the course of two decades, Heronswood Nursery and Garden has showcased a vast inventory of rare and unusual trees, shrubs, vines and perennials, mostly plants Hinkley had collected in his lengthy biannual botanical adventures throughout Eastern Europe, Asia, Central and South America, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

Bloedel Reserve – This beautiful garden is a wonder of nature created by the imagination, vision, and a passionate love of the natural world by founders Prentice and Virginia Bloedel. Internationally recognized for the inspirational beauty of its refined gardens, natural landscapes, and preserved forests, Bloedel excels in the environmental stewardship of its 150 acres (60.7 ha).

Fay Bainbridge State Park – Lunch will be served at this waterfront park.

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden – This garden is home to the largest collection of species rhododendrons in the world, displaying over 700 of the approximate 1000 species of rhododendrons. It is a magnificent garden displayed in a Pacific Northwest forested setting along with many rare companion plants such as Meconopsis and giant Cardiacrinums. Curator Steve Hootman will lead our tour through the garden. After ample time in the garden, your tour will enjoy dinner as part of the tour before making the final drive to The Heathman Lodge where the convention will begin the following morning.

Willamette Valley & Oregon Coast Excursion

May 3rd – May 5th

Includes two nights in a luxury hotel and six meals

1:30 p.m. – After the final proceedings of the conference you will board a luxury motor coach for a trip south through scenic Western Oregon

Deerly Missed – Dave Eckerdt and his wife Pat developed this two-acre (0.8 ha) garden some 25 years ago and the garden has become a regular stop for touring garden groups. The garden includes a vast collection of plant material, much of which are very rare in cultivation, along with many rhododendrons. Also garden art and other hardscapes contribute to the beauty of the garden.

Greer Gardens – For more than 60 years, Greer Gardens was a source of rare and unusual rhododendrons and other plants. The property recently transitioned into a premier senior retirement complex—The Springs at Greer Gardens—which houses a new residence for Harold and Nancy and an adjacent rhododendron garden of Harold's treasured specimens. You will have time to wander. Dinner will be held at the upscale dining room at The Springs. Excellent food and company will make this an evening to remember.

The Village Green Resort & Gardens – For the night you will travel a short distance south to Cottage Grove, Oregon, where you will stay the night in a beautiful garden hotel. This hotel is associated with the Oregon Garden Resort and is situated in magnificent gardens. The night and breakfast will be here.

Hinsdale Garden – This Monday morning you will drive toward the Pacific coast along the beautiful Umpqua River to arrive at the Hinsdale Garden, a garden that was nearly lost after the death of O. Howard Hinsdale. In recent years, with the help of the ARS and the BLM who now owns the garden, it is being restored to its former beauty. Across the road is a viewing area for Roosevelt elk

The Prchal Garden – Ron and Chery Prchal have created an extensive woodland garden over the past 20 years. They feature over 450 rhododendrons and azaleas, specializing in species and dwarfs. Their garden also contains many maples, heathers, hellebores, hostas, and other blooming plants. Tucked away in the garden are many woodcarvings, benches and other garden art. Their property is often referred to as a park. After this garden, you will lunch at the ICM restaurant in Florence.

Chris Trautmann's Mowbray Gardens – Chris strives to display and produce the finest rhododendron flowers hybridizers can achieve, while offering other plant material for sale. Here you'll see the latest and greatest in break-through colors along with the many rare exquisite conifers.

Darlingtonia Wayside – Home to the rare and unusual carnivorous *Darlingtonia californica* plant.

Sea Lion Caves – Sea Lion Caves is a privately-owned wildlife preserve and bird sanctuary. This is America's largest sea cave and is home to Steller sea lions.

Best Western Plus Agate Beach Inn – You will enjoy dinner and the night in the ocean view hotel, the site of several Western Regional ARS meetings. It has recently completely renovated and is now a new hotel. Mountain view rooms included in tour cost. Ocean view rooms at extra cost. See registration form.

Connie Hansen Garden Conservancy – This garden is all about appreciating the simple beauty of flowers. It's also a rhododendron lover's dream, as the woman for whom the garden is named had quite an affinity for them.

Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum – Evergreen Museum opened in 1991 with a small collection of vintage aircraft in a hangar at company headquarters outside McMinnville. Its claim to fame is housing the legendary "Spruce Goose"—the Hughes H-4 Hercules, a prototype strategic airlift flying boat designed and built by the Hughes Aircraft Company.

Monrovia – Located in Dayton, OR, in the Willamette Valley, Monrovia is a 550-acre (222 ha.) nursery dedicated to growing conifers, maples, broadleaf shrubs and other cold-hardy plants. You will be amazed at this gigantic plant growing operation. Then we return to the Heathman Lodge after this inspiring scenic trip through Oregon and along the Pacific Coast.

Seating is limited on both of these trips so reserve immediately

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

75th Anniversary Convention, American Rhododendron Society
APRIL 29TH through MAY 3RD, 2020 Hosted by the District 4, the Oregon Chapters

Non ARS members are INVITED and MOST WELCOME

Name _____

* Between lines below list name as desired on name badge

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Chapter _____

If ARS National Officer, Director, or Chapter President, please indicate above
While all the options below are available, none are required to attend the convention, except registration

* Registration: \$59 before April 1th, \$69 after April 1th

Bonsai Workshop — You will receive a pot & plant for this fee Limit 75 people

A. Crystal Springs, Japanese, Chinese April 29th All Day Tour,
Includes Box Lunch

B. Sebright, Smith Garden, Woodburn April 29th All Day Tour,
Includes Box Lunch

C. Iseli, Stewart, Crystal Springs April 30th All Day Tour,
Includes Lunch at Stewarts

D. Iseli, Stewart, Mt. Hood & Columbia April 30th All Day Tour,
Includes Lunch at Stewarts

E. Japanese Garden, Lan Su Chinese Garden

Breakfast Wednesday April 29th

Breakfast Thursday April 30th

Breakfast Friday May 1st

Lunch Friday May 1st

Lunch Saturday May 2nd

Banquet Thursday April 30th

Banquet Friday May 1st

Banquet: Saturday, May 2nd

Brunch: Sunday, May 3th

Around the Sound Pre-Convention Tour - Two day tour
Circle whether you want a king or two queen beds at the at the hotel

Willamette Valley and Oregon Coast Scenic Tour - Three day tour
Circle whether you want a king or two queen beds at the at the hotels

Name of registrant number one

Name of registrant number two

Total Number To Attend		Totals
	\$59/69	
	\$10.00	
	\$55.00	
	\$55.00	
	\$55.00	
	\$55.00	
	\$38.00	
	\$18.00	
	\$18.00	
	\$18.00	
	\$29.00	
	\$29.00	
	\$40.00	
	\$45.00	
	\$50.00	
	\$29.00	
	\$345.00	
	Single Supplement \$55.00	
	\$389.00	
	Single Supplement \$110.00	
	Ocean view room \$10.00	
	TOTAL ENCLOSED	

\$59/69

\$10.00

\$55.00

\$55.00

\$55.00

\$55.00

\$38.00

\$18.00

\$18.00

\$18.00

\$29.00

\$29.00

\$40.00

\$45.00

\$50.00

\$29.00

\$345.00

Single Supplement \$55.00

\$389.00

Single Supplement \$110.00

Ocean view room \$10.00

TOTAL ENCLOSED

* In boxes above place an X for each person for each event

Please enter the number of persons attending who want **Vegetarian** meals

Please enter the number of persons attending who want **Gluten Free** meals

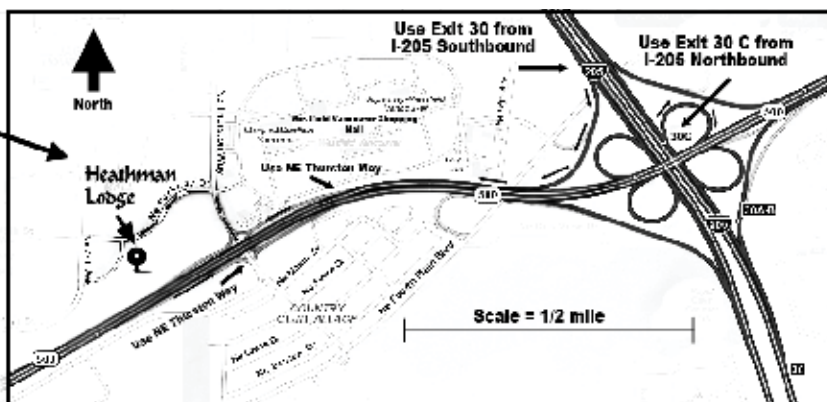
Online registration available at the convention website www.ARS75.org

Make Checks Payable to: Portland Chapter ARS (U.S. funds only).

Send to: Registrar, Loni Welsh, 905 N. Harbour Dr. Unit 5, Portland, OR 97217-8400

Phone: 503-705-0695 E-Mail: ARS2020Reg@gmail.com Info: ARS2020Reg@gmail.com

We will try to make all events available to everyone who wants to attend, but if it becomes impossible to expand an event to accommodate everyone, you will be notified as soon as possible for an alternate choice or a refund will be included in your packet that you pick up at the registration desk.



THE HEATHMAN LODGE

Reservations 888-475-3100 or 360-254-3100

Fax 360-254-6100

www.heathmanlodge.com

7801 NE Greenwood Drive

Vancouver, WA 98662



Single / Double Occupancy \$139.00

Business Level Upgrade (includes continental breakfast) \$149.00

Additional Person \$10.00

**Please mention ARS Convention Group Code:
2004AMERIC for these reasonable discount rates.**

Reserve before March 27, 2020 to assure these rates.

The Heathman Lodge and Hudson's restaurant is an outstandingly beautiful facility. We are pleased to offer such high quality and excellently prepared foods representing the Pacific Northwest for our 2020 ARS Convention

Convention website www.ARS75.org

Photo Contest

David Anderson is planning a great photo display. See details on the website

Committee

Co-Chairs – Mike Stewart & Harold Greer

Committee Members: Maria Stewart, Nancy Greer, John Stephens, Steve McCormick

Registrar – Loni Welsh

Secretary – Maria Stewart

Treasurer – Loni Welsh

District 4 Director – Brenda Ziegler

Tours - Ann & Ray Clack; Around the Sound Tour - Steve McCormick; Coast Tour - Mike Bones

Plant Sale – Maria Stewart, Dick Cavender

Publicity – John Stephens & Steve McCormick

Website – Steve McCormick

Conference Coordinators – Nancy Greer & Maria Stewart

Convention logo design - John Stephens & Steve McCormick

Journal Articles – Steve McCormick

Foliage Display - Siuslaw Chapter

Photo Contest – David Anderson

Plant Display – Mike Stewart

Programs – Mike & Maria Stewart, Nancy & Harold Greer, Steve McCormick, John Stephens

Raffle – Mike Bones

Speaker Moderators – Wally Reed

And many others to be recognized at a later time. While few names appear on the list above, this event could not happen without countless fine people.

Thank you!

**Non ARS members are ESPECIALLY INVITED and ENCOURAGED to attend
American Rhododendron Society membership NOT required!**